

*Graduate Council*  
**GRADUATE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**

Friday, September 24, 2021 • 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting

**Members of the Graduate Council Present:**

Paul Steimle, chair	Dennis LaJeunesse
Seth Armah	Lori Lupe
Aaron Beveridge	Neelofer Qadir
Vidya Gargeya	Salih Rakap
Diane Gill	Selima Sultana
Brad Johnson	Robert Wells
Muktha Jost	Kervins Clement
Alicia Kaplan	Naglaa Rashwan

**Ex Officio & Non-Voting Members Present:**

Kelly Burke	Graduate School
Greg Bell	Graduate School
Jodi Pettazzoni	Office of Assessment, Accreditation, and Academic Program Planning
Megan Carlton	University Libraries

**Ex Officio & Non-Voting Members Absent:**

Lisa Henline University Registrar's Office

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Item</u>
11:00 a.m.	<b>I. Approval of Minutes from August 27, 2021</b> Motion to approve August 27, 2021 minutes (LaJeunesse, Johnson). Minutes approved.
11:03	<b>II. Report of the Chair – Paul Steimle—No Report</b>
11:08	<b>III. Report of the Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School – Kelly Burke</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enrollment and student credit hour generation</li></ul> Dean Burke discussed the budget cut exercise and the importance of making cuts strategically to avoid enrollment losses. She stated that she has sent enrollment targets to the Deans of the academic units and that they can respond with realistic commitments. Dean Burke emphasized that student credit hour generation is more important than enrollment headcount in terms of funding. She recommended that departments to look for ways to increase student credit hour generation, such as embedding certificates in programs in an effort to encourage students to take more than 9 hours in a semester. Dean Burke offered to meet with interested departments regarding enrollment strategies, such as providing post-baccalaureate entry to PhD programs. Departments can expect to

hear from their Deans in October regarding enrollment targets.

- 11:23      **IV. Report of the Graduate Student Association—Naglaa Rashwan**
- Since the Graduate Council has new members, Naglaa provided a presentation on the operations of the GSA. She stated that graduate students are eager to support UNCG regarding budget concerns and want to facilitate a supportive climate to aid in retention. GSA has monthly assembly meetings and also monthly “come talk with GSA” meetings as a more casual space. The leadership meets monthly with the Faculty Senate Executive Chair, interacts with the Student Affairs Advisory Board, and also has representatives on several university-wide committees, including SGA. Kervins Clement inquired about mental health support efforts and also expressed a desire to create space for the Haitian community in light of recent events. Dean Burke shared that an announcement will be coming in early October regarding a third wave of COVID support funding, which will include graduate, international, and DACA students.
- 11:33      **V. Report of the Graduate Curriculum Committee – Brad Johnson and Dennis LaJeunesse**
- *GCC Information Items (from September 17, 2021 meeting)*
- Co-chair Dennis LaJeunesse reported that 7 proposals were reviewed at the September 17 meeting and that all were approved. He also discussed that trainings have been provided to emphasize that departments perform the deepest level of curriculum review and that new/revised program and course checklists (along with an SLO rubric) are available on the Curriculum Guide website. Substantive change workshops were held on September 13 and 16 and a recording will be available online. Jodi Pettazoni reported that online delivery for the MAT in Special Education was approved off-cycle to address the program being out of compliance. Jodi emphasized that departments should be aware that moving a program online requires an approval process.
- 11:43      **VI. Report of the Policies & Procedures Committee—Megan Carlton**
- Previously Published Works Guidelines
- Chair Megan Carlton stated that the committee has reviewed the matter of previously published works and determined that publishing standards vary widely based on the discipline. The committee recommends leaving guidance to student advisory committees but has added a checkbox to the [Dissertation Proposal Form](#) and added information to the [Graduate School website](#). Associate Dean Greg Bell shared the committee will continue discussion regarding graduate assistant appointments and required training.
- 11:53      **VII. Report of the Student Appeals Committee—No Report**
- 11:55      **VIII. Report of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee – Vidya Gargeya**
- Vidya Gargeya reported that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee had a meeting regarding the budget cut exercise. The Provost was at the meeting and also at a Chairs meeting; the Provost asked for a focus on enrollment and also on employability. She has requested information on alumni employment history. Dean Burke stated that she is working on

obtaining data regarding doctoral placements. She reported that employment data is more challenging to obtain regarding master's students but that return on investment data is helpful. Discussion followed regarding a prior academic program review and current strategic goals, communication gaps between administrators and faculty, and concerns related to high admission standards resulting in slower enrollment growth. Dean Burke reiterated that it is important for departments/units to make a compelling case for their programs regarding research/enrollment for the budget cut scenario.

12:05 pm     **IX.    New Business/Other**—no new business

12:30        **X.     Adjournment** – adjourned early at 12:12 pm