

**GRADUATE COUNCIL**  
**Minutes**  
**Thursday, November 18, 2021, 3:30 pm**

<https://uncw.zoom.us/j/82354630227?pwd=djY4UUNaVVZxaHBXV09JQ0NgcWxUQT09>

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Council Members:** Dr. Barreto, Dr. Bolton, Dr. Ferner, Dr. Hawkes, Dr. Lee, Dr. McClure, Ms. Post, Dr. Sackley, Dr. Shefsiek, Mr. Silva, Dr. Sweeney, Dr. Williard

**Non-Voting Members:** Dr. Holman, Dr. Kamel, Dr. Lammers, Dr. Newsham, Dr. Richie

**Graduate School Staff:** Ms. Byrnes, Ms. Phillips, Dr. Donlin Washington

Dean Finelli presided.

**1. Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

- a. **September 23, 2021** -- *Motion to approve:* Dr. Williard; *Seconded:* Dr. Hawkes; **All in favor? Yes; Opposed:** No.
- b. **October 21, 2021** -- *Motion to approve:* Dr. Williard; *Seconded:* Dr. Hawkes; **All in favor? Yes; Opposed:** No.

**2. Announcements:**

**Graduate School Update:**

- i. **Ph.D. in Applied Coastal and Ocean Sciences:** The Board of Governors voted to approve this new Ph.D. program. Heavy recruitment is not anticipated initially but the program is anxious to start.
- ii. **Graduate Council Apportionment Proposal:** The proposal was presented in the Associate Deans meeting this morning. Next steps – to be presented to the Dean’s Council for feedback, then to Faculty for feedback. The Grad Council will likely mail ballots in the Spring for a vote.
- iii. **Curriculum Proposals Upcoming:** The curriculum proposals are moving along – currently 18 at our level. They (as well as any that come up in the next couple of weeks) will be distributed at the next Curriculum Meeting on 12/9.

**3. New Business**

**a. Program Revision Proposal from Gerontology:**

**Summary by Dr. Newsham, College of Health and Human Services**

<https://uncw.curriculog.com/proposal:3964/form>

Revise requirements for Masters, Applied Gerontology to require repeat of GRN 590 to ensure graduates meet the AGEC (national accrediting body for gerontology programs) requirements of 270 practicum hours. This is a reversion to how the program operated in the past.

<https://uncw.curriculog.com/proposal:3983/form>

Changes are to clarify requirements of the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Gerontology and to allow students to select the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Gerontology as an alternative to the Master’s program for 4+1 students who see a certificate as a better option after completing their Bachelor’s degree.

**b. Program Revision Proposal from Biology and Marine Biology:**

**Summary by Dr. Kamel, College of Arts and Sciences**

<https://uncw.curriculog.com/proposal:3814/form>

Remove the GRE and the oral exam requirements for all programs (Bachelors, Masters, Ph.D.). Other universities (for example – Duke and Yale) are also eliminating these requirements. Applicants will be evaluated on a variety of metrics for admission. Credit hours for the Ph.D. program will also be reduced from 78 to 60 hours. Most are dissertation credits with no pedagogical value. Up to 30 hours can be transferred to the Ph.D. program from the Master’s program. This is in line with peer programs and is not tied to stipends so there is no negative impact. Currently, the Biology revision is in Curriculog; Marine Biology revision to follow.

**c. Program Revision Proposal from Data Science:**

**Summary by Dr. Lammers, College of Arts and Sciences**

<https://uncw.curriculog.com/proposal:3828/form>

Requesting minor change – to remove the timeline by semester so courses can be moved around to accommodate practicum. This will allow the program to re-sort courses more flexibly. The catalog would need to be changed.

**d. Graduate Faculty Appointment for Dr. Cynthia Demetriou:** An eligible person desiring membership on the Graduate Faculty may be appointed (or reappointed) to a 5-year membership by the Graduate Dean with advice and consent of the Grad Council. Dr. Demetriou’s resume (experience and scholarship) was discussed. **Dean Finelli recommended Dr. Demetriou for hire** and called for a vote. **Approved? Yes. Opposed? No.**

**e. Second Degree Policy:** Not discussed. Move to later agenda

**f. Thesis/Dissertation Embargo Policy:** Citing creative reasons, a Creative Writing student has requested that the University withhold his Master’s thesis from being released publicly. The University’s current thesis/dissertation embargo policy provides students with four options:

1. Release immediately (internally and worldwide)
2. Release electronically in UNCW and 1-3 years worldwide
3. Release in UNCW only, release “some” worldwide, then 1-3 years worldwide
4. If Intellectual Property, secure for 1 year. Student agrees not to publish their work for a period of 1 year to allow for patent filing. This appears to be the most restrictive.

The Council discussed both pros and cons. Pros -- educational value; scholarship should be made available to the University and community; current policy provides flexibility. Cons -- keep creative work from public view until theses (in this case, a novel) can be used for the student’s purpose; setting a precedent; possible sensitivity (not in this case) of material. The Dean will provide the Council’s feedback to the Provost.

**4. Old Business**

**a. English Proficiency Policy:** A reference to earning a graduate degree was omitted from the policy that we approved and seconded at the October 21, 2021 Grad Council meeting. The words **in bold** will need to be added to the policy:

“Students from foreign countries where English is not the primary language or that did not earn their baccalaureate degree **or graduate degree** from a regionally accredited US institution . . .”

*Motion to approve:* Barreto; *Seconded:* Sweeney; **All in favor? Yes; Opposed:** No.

**5. Other**

**a. Cameron School of Business Credit Cap Waiver Request:** To exempt out of current 15 credit cap. for Executive MBA program. Dr. Ritchie provided a summary of the change in credits in lieu of a written request. Proposed change: Fall 13-1/2 + 3 Summer; Spring 13-1/2 + 3 in Summer (totaling 16-1/2 credits per year). The waiver of purpose of residencies cannot be used as a course credit.

*Motion to approve:* Ferner; *Seconded:* Hawkes; **All in favor? Yes; Opposed:** No.

**6. Adjournment**