

**GRADUATE COUNCIL**  
**Minutes**  
**Thursday, October 21, 2021, 3:30 pm**

<https://uncw.zoom.us/j/82354630227?pwd=djY4UUNaVVZxaHBXV09JQ0NqcWxUQT09>

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**Non-Voting Members:** Dr. Holman, Dr. Lantz, Dr. Richie

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

Dean Finelli presided.

**1. Announcements:**

**Grad Council member change:** Dr. Carroll is leaving UNCW; replaced by Dr. Ferner (term until 2024).

**Graduate School Update:**

- i. **Graduate Faculty approval and tracking process:** Current list includes 567 faculty. Process will begin in January with emails to Chairs, followed by emails to Faculty in February. Tracking will be automated in Teams. End of Spring semester, Dean Finelli will submit report to Grad Council. Goal is to update the faculty list in Grad catalog for Fall (in August).
- ii. **Graduate program review process:** New process is being developed. Each program will get its own channel in Teams where required docs, program scheduling and timelines will be added. Reviews will be spread out over several years. History and Grad Liberal Studies programs are priority as they are overdue. Review schedules will be released by end of year.
- iii. **Curriculum proposals upcoming:** See New Business.

**2. New Business**

**a. Presentation by Dr. Lantz, CHHS regarding Doctor of Physical Therapy proposal**

<https://uncw.curriculog.com/proposal:4496/form>

DPT degree lines perfectly with CHHS' mission and strategic plan alignment and will fulfill a critical need for Physical Therapists in our region. Currently, there are four degree programs in the University system – most recently in 1998 at WCU. Approval process takes about 2 years. We are currently in the request for preliminary authorization to the Grad Council.

**b. Presentation by Dr. Richie, Cameron School of Business regarding changes to MBA program**

<https://uncw.curriculog.com/proposal:4496/form>

Currently, there are 4 different programs with 1 degree (specializations appear on transcripts). To simplify the pitch for students and address the demand for F2F classes, the proposal is for 1 MBA degree plus an experiential program (local and international) that students can opt into. A selection committee will vet the most qualified students.

**3. Old Business**

- a. Proficiency Policy** – Includes updated language and adds Duolingo as part of the English tests. The updated policy removes financial responsibility and teaching assistant language. A suggestion to add internet-based or paper tests was agreed to. There was a motion to approve and seconded. **The motion was approved.**
  
- b. Graduate Council Apportionment Proposal** – Current council has 13 members, proposing 15 members. 5 divisions would be created that align with college affiliations and seats would be equitably allocated across units. The Dean did not call for a vote at this time as the proposal would require a change to the by-laws that would involve ballots to be mailed out within 30 days. The Dean did receive affirmation from the Council that we should proceed with the proposal. He will discuss with the Colleges and build support with the Associate Dean’s Council, Carol McNulty and Cynthia Demetriou. In the meantime, the Dean will get the balloting system in place so we are ready to go once a vote is taken.

**4. Other**

**5. Adjournment**