

Graduate College Council Minutes

September 2021

Unapproved as of October 4, 2021

To be approved at upcoming October meeting

Meeting called to order 3:30 PM

Quorum Assured.

Agenda and June 2021 Minutes approved

Chairperson's discussion and overview of Council (Emily Davis, see her slides)

- Bylaws info on purpose of meetings.
 - Bylaws call for a parliamentarian. We have never appointed one. Emily would like to hear from anyone who would step up.
 - Council acts by majority votes, except 2/3 for changes to bylaws.
 - Much of the actual work of Council occurs in committees.
- Listing of current committees, with discussion of charges, membership, and status.
 - Executive, Curriculum, and Student Life are in bylaws.
 - Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee (DEI) was voted as standing committee last year, but not in bylaws.
 - Awards is operating but not mentioned formally in bylaws
 - Online Education and Data Management have been established but not voted as standing
 - Executive Committee charge reviewed, and current membership noted. Please inform Emily of any changes.
 - Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee charge reviewed, and current membership noted.
 - Please inform Emily of any changes. Committee chairperson may have cycled off, Emily will try to help Committee to choose its new chair.

- Graduate Student Life charge reviewed, and current membership noted. Please inform Emily of changes. Some seats are open. Past chair will continue to serve on Committee, but new chairperson needed.
 - Note: Ryan Zurakowski is COE, not DBI as listed on slide.
 - Ryan verbally offers to serve as chair, Emily appoints him.
- DEI Committee was approved last year as a standing committee.
 - Slide lists membership as open at this point.
- Awards Committee has LaRuth McAfee as chair, and Harsh Bais as remaining member still serving.
- Advisory Committee on Online Education is operating as ad hoc committee.
 - George Irvine has been chairing and formed a membership.
 - Jack Baroudi, Jill Higginson, Nigel Kaplan, Rachel Karch MacKline, Chungking Wu, Aveda Heyne are current members. More members would be welcome.
 - Committee last met in April. Considered a draft of an online program development guide.
 - Another meeting is anticipated this fall.
- Data Management ad-hoc committee is not running at this time.
- Dean's report (Lou Rossi, see his slides)
 - Thanks to Emily for stepping up as chairperson, and all Council members for participating.
 - COVID 19 update
 - Spike in positive test rate of two weeks ago has subsided.
 - We know what works: masking and vaccines. We require vaccines (or an exemption) for students. 91% of students are vaccinated according to UD dashboard, and 88% of employees.
 - Indoor masking is required. Coping with non-compliance in a friendly way is a continuing need.
 - Over summer, Grad College signed with 150 others on the Statement of Principles and Commitments of Graduate Deans relating to mental health and wellbeing.
 - Student Life has launched Campus Coalition for Metal Health and Wellbeing.
 - Grad College is engaging with UD EmPower student leaders and GSG on related topics (especially clarifying status of graduate students in their various activities).

- Strategic plan update
 - Outlines process of last year (see slides).
 - Progress will be presented to Faculty Senate in draft form in October, and one more round of feedback will be requested
 - Expect the Plan to be adopted in late Fall 2021.
 - Request from floor to see draft. Chair asks if newly-formatted version could be posted to shared drive. Dean states will be posted within a week.
- Recruiting report (see slides for details).
 - Graduate enrollment is up by 6% for Fall 2021 year over year. Largest class historically, based on available statistics. Appears to be due to marketing campaign, faculty level recruitment efforts, and tuition rate realignment.
 - Question from floor about any upcoming recruiting events in humanities. Dean responds College tracks opportunities and organizes presence as judged worthwhile, and faculty invited to participate. He does not know of humanities opportunities right now. Similar for the social sciences. Emily notes that there seems to be faculty interest, if such opportunities arise please keep faculty informed.
 - LaRuth McAfee notes that Grad College will be at Black Doctoral Network on Oct 14. Program directors were alerted at recent Program Directors Meeting.
 - New Student Orientation was held in person to begin the Fall.
- Upcoming consideration: Holistic achievement and success.
 - Recruiting efforts that emphasize diversity must be complimented by continuing efforts after recruitment.
- Upcoming consideration: Establishing norms for doctoral support.
 - Moving to 12 month support for doctoral students (that is a challenge).
- Upcoming consideration: Paving more pathways into non-academic careers.
- In response to comment from floor, Dean re-states that the funding emphasis should be for doctoral programs and masters should self-pay.
- Question: Are there plans to continue tuition scholarships for doctoral students? Answer: Have not stopped.

- Question: How is College interfacing with Development efforts? Answer:
Most philanthropy related to graduate students is in the individual colleges,
but there are exceptions. Ties to industry to develop pathways into industry
jobs is one. This is long-term work, don't expect payoff in short term.
Comment: Coordination between the UD units is needed.

- No new business
- Meeting adjourned at 430PM

Graduate College Council Meeting

9/20/21

Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Secretary's Report – (1 min)
 1. Approval of agenda
 2. Approval of June meeting minutes
3. Chair's update on committees and call for volunteers – (20 min)
 1. Current Executive Committee
 2. Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee
 3. Graduate Student Life Committee
 4. DEI Committee
 5. Awards Committee
 6. Advisory Committee on Graduate Online Education
 7. Graduate Committee on Data Management
4. Dean's report and questions (Rossi) – (20 min)
 1. Update on Covid-19 and Vaccination Issues and Policies, Q&A period
 2. Graduate student mental health
 3. Strategic plan update
 4. Update on current initiatives—holistic achievement, 12-month support, support for non-academic pathways
5. New business
 1. Oct 11, 3:30 meeting
 2. Any Graduate Council Members may bring an item before council for discussion
6. Adjourn

From Our Bylaws

1. Purpose of meetings

The purposes of Council meetings are to 1) discuss issues relevant to all aspects of graduate education, 2) develop and propose university-wide policies, which support and improve common aspects of graduate programs, for submission to the Faculty Senate, and 3) approve proposed interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary graduate programs for submission to the University Faculty Senate Graduate Studies Committee. These meetings will be open to all faculty with secondary appointments in the Graduate College.

4. Procedures for Council meetings

- e. The Chair of the Council shall appoint a **parliamentarian**, subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee, whose responsibilities will be to advise the Chair in procedural matters during meetings. If the parliamentarian is not already an elected Council member, then they do not have the right to vote.
- f. The Council approves motions with majority vote of those present and voting either yes or no, except for amendments to these bylaws, which requires a two-thirds majority vote.
- g. Matters may be brought before the Council by the Dean, Council members, the Executive Committee, or College faculty members. Items may be introduced either at the end of a Council meeting under Introduction of New Business or by contacting a Council member and submitting it directly to them. If the former method is used, then the item shall be routed to the applicable subcommittee, if applicable, and/or placed on the agenda of the next Council meeting with time permitting. If the latter method is used, then the Council member shall forward the matter to the Council officers for subcommittee referral and/or consideration at a future meeting.

Current Standing Committees

1. Current Executive Committee
2. Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee
3. Graduate Student Life Committee
4. DEI Committee
5. Awards Committee
6. Advisory Committee on Graduate Online Education (ad hoc?)
7. Graduate Committee on Data Management (ad hoc?)

Fun Fact! “Recruiting and appointing members of standing committees is the responsibility of the Council or a subcommittee delegated by the Council, excepting the Executive Committee members who shall be elected only by the full Council as stipulated in section IV.A, below. Standing committee appointments must be confirmed by vote of the Council.”

The Executive Committee shall have the following authorities and responsibilities: i. to establish the agenda for Council meetings; ii. to refer appropriate matters to a standing or *ad hoc* committee of the College; iii. to call special meetings of the Council; iv. to make recommendations to the Council for action on any matter related to the College; v. to investigate any condition that could affect the College's academic freedom or that of any of its members. The committee shall report its findings to the College Council and faculty; vi. to discharge any other responsibility or authority that the Council assigns to the Executive Committee

CANR – Harsh Bais

CAS – Emily Davis (chair)

Biden – TBD

CEOE – Saleem Ali

CEHD – Rena Hallam

COE – Julia Maresca (Bramie Lenhoff in fall)

CHS – Tom Buckley

Lerner – Paul Laux (secretary)

Graduate Student rep – TBD

Interdisciplinary Curriculum

Committee: This committee shall be composed of one faculty member from each of the other colleges, who shall serve renewable two-year terms, one graduate student, and one representative chosen by the Dean. This committee shall review and evaluate:

- i. graduate courses and curricula that originate within the Graduate College (e.g., Multi-College interdisciplinary programs);
- ii. new or provisional University-wide academic policies and degree requirements;
- iii. changes in the structure of academic programs that originate within the College;
- iv. developments in graduate teaching and curricula that may affect the University; and
- v. other matters related to graduate educational affairs.

CANR – Shree Inambdar

CAS – Richard Braun (stepped down)

Biden & CEHD – Laura Desimone

CEOE – Clara Chan

COE – Julie Maresca (sabbatical, so?)

CHS – Jennifer Horney

Lerner – Siyan Wang

Dean's rep – Mary Martin

Graduate Student rep –

Graduate Student Life Committee:

This committee shall make recommendations bearing upon the care and support of graduate, professional, and post-doctoral students. It shall advise the College Dean on the implementation of rules and regulations enacted by the Graduate Council or the Faculty Senate. The committee shall advise upon graduate student financial aid, graduate student housing, graduate student counseling and placement, and graduate student health and mental health. It may meet with the directors of administrative units responsible for these matters at the request of the directors or at the discretion of the chairperson of the committee.

Recommendations, which may be in the form of resolutions, may be routed from this committee either through the Council or directly to the Faculty Senate Committee on Student Life for consideration for approval.

Three Faculty Members:

1. Amy Griffin (CAS)
2. Ryan Zurakowski (DBI)
3. TBA

Three Graduate Students:

1. TBA
2. TBA
3. TBA

Dean's rep –

Vice Pres. for Student Life or designee –

DEI Committee: Approved in December 2020 and agreed we would NOT add it to the bylaws.

Purpose of the Committee: To promote diversity, equity and inclusion at the graduate level through the:

1. Development of holistic admission standards,
2. Establishment and maintenance of best practices in DEI programming
3. Support of undergraduate research opportunities for students of color,
4. Establishment of pipelines from regional and national HBCUs into our graduate programs,
5. Seeking and sustaining minority-focused funding mechanisms (grants, foundational resources) for supporting graduate students of color.

This committee will work in close association with the Assistant Dean for DEI as well as the Graduate Student Life committee, with outreach to College and University DEI committees.

Proposed Composition:

LaRuth MacAfee or her designee (grad college liaison)

4-5 grad council members/faculty at large

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

2 graduate student representatives (from GSG or at large)

- 1.
- 2.

Awards Committee:

LaRuth MacAfee (chair)

Harsh Bais – still serving?

**Advisory Committee on Graduate
Online Education:**

Brief update from George Irvine (chair)

**Graduate Committee on Data
Management:**

As far as I know this is not running.

Graduate College Council

Dean's Remarks
20 September 2021

Update: COVID 19

- Campus positivity rate spiked the week before last and then subsided.
- We know what works.
- Vaccination or an exemption is required of students.
- Students: 91% vaccinated. Employees on campus: 88% vaccinated.
- Indoor masking is required. Please help your students remember.

Mental Health and Well-being

- UD's Graduate College has joined over 150 other institutions in signing onto The Statement of Principles and Commitments of Graduate Deans.
- Dovetails with the Campus Coalition for Mental Health and Wellbeing activities from Student Life.
- Engaging with UD EmPower student leaders and the GSG.

The screenshot shows the website for the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS). The header includes the CGS logo, social media icons for LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter, and links for Member Login and Online Portfolios. The main navigation bar contains links for Member Engagement, Best Practices, Benchmarking, Public Policy & Advocacy, Global, and About CGS. The page title is "Home / Best Practices / Graduate Student Mental Health and Well-being".

The main content area features a sidebar on the left with links for Admissions and Recruitment, Graduate Student Mental Health and Well-being (highlighted), Diversity and Inclusion, Degree Completion, Professional Development for Graduate Students, and Career Pathways. The main content area has a header "Graduate Student Mental Health and Well-being" with a tree icon. Below this is a paragraph: "A growing body of evidence indicates that mental health challenges are common among graduate students. Unfortunately, many barriers exist to effective support and care. Beginning in 2019, CGS and The JED Foundation undertook a project to create an evidence base to inform future policies, programs and resources. Below are the results of that project, including the report, 'Supporting Graduate Student Mental Health and Well-being: Evidence-Informed Recommendations for the Graduate Community.'"

Below the paragraph is a section titled "Report and Recommendations" with a list of items: "Executive Summary and Recommendations", "Supporting Graduate Student Mental Health and Well-being: Evidence-Informed Recommendations for the Graduate Community" (Final Report), "Communications Toolkit", "Call to Action and List of Signatories" (Updated August 13, 2021), and "Webinar: Supporting Graduate Student Mental Health and Well-being: Evidence and Recommendations to Catalyze Action (Recording and slides)".

Below that is a section titled "Consultant Papers" with a paragraph: "CGS and JED commissioned three essays on aspects of graduate student mental health and well-being. Authored by experts in their fields, these explore cultural and organizational issues surrounding graduate student mental health, issues specific to international students, and legal issues." Below this is a list item: "Unique Challenges and Opportunities for Supporting Mental Health and Promoting the Well-being of International Graduate Students" by Jerry J. Lee (Institute of Artistics).

On the right side of the page, there are two sections: "Graduate Student Mental Health and Well-being" with a link "New Report Available for Download READ MORE" and "Graduate School and You: A Guide for Prospective Graduate Students" with a link "READ MORE". Below these is "Online Graduate Education" with a link "Available online in the Member Library READ MORE". At the bottom right is a "Subscribe to our News Network newsletter" form with a text input field and a "GO" button.

<https://cgsnet.org/graduate-student-mental-health-and-well-being-0>

Strategic plan update

Early fall 2020: Mission and vision statement revised and adopted.

Fall 2020: Working groups charged to explore each of the five goals in our vision.

Spring 2021: Coordination, consolidation, refinement with working groups' objectives, action items and priorities.

Late spring 2021: Draft released to Graduate College Council, program directors and graduate students for feedback.

Summer 2021: Graduate College team uses feedback to revise draft plan, refine and re-prioritize action items.

Sep/Oct 2021: Strategic plan is being moved into a uniform format.

Oct 2021: Present progress and trajectory to the Faculty Senate.

Oct 2021: We will request one more round of feedback from GCC, program directors, graduate students and the university community. We will also gather feedback from other college deans' offices.

Late fall 2021: Adoption of Graduate College Strategic plan.

Recruiting for Fall 2021: Post-action

Enrollment by College and Plan Type
As of 9/8/2021

Term	Primary Academic Group	Grand Total	Certificate	Certificate - Online	Doctoral Degree	Master's Degree	Master's Degree - Online	Non-Degree Graduate	Specialist
Fall Semester 2021	Total	4,565 +6%	90 +61%	23 -23%	2,174 +3%	1,405 +10%	679 +6%	179 +5%	15 +7%
	Agriculture & Nat Resources	221 +7%			56 -11%	120 +21%	45 +2%		
	Arts and Sciences	1,108 +10%	1 0%	4 0%	687 +7%	332 +9%	83 +51%	1 0%	
	Business and Economics	789 0%	38 +9%		84 -8%	290 -1%	377 +1%	-100%	
	Earth, Ocean, and Environment	150 +8%	3 -40%		84 +8%	62 +13%		1 0%	
	Education & Human Development	376 -2%			171 0%	123 +2%	67 -14%		15 +7%
	Engineering	998 +11%	35 +600%	10 0%	703 +6%	182 +14%	66 +10%	2	
	Graduate College	182 +8%			7			175 +4%	
	Health Sciences	547 +4%	9 +13%	9 -44%	326 +1%	203 +13%			
	Public Policy & Administration	194 +16%	4 +100%		56 -19%	93 +43%	41 +32%		

Factors affecting this achievement:

1. Marketing campaign.
2. Faculty-driven program-level recruitment, outreach and follow-up.
3. Tuition rate realignment.

Recruiting for Fall 2021

Now, the real work begins.



New Graduate Student Orientation participants learn about a variety of UD services at the resource fair.

What's on my mind.

- Bringing best practices for *holistic achievement and success* to our graduate programs.
- Establishing norms for doctoral support and paying master's programs.
- Moving to 12 months of support for our doctoral students.
- Paving more intentional pathways into non-academic careers.



Questions?