

**Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2025**

Present:

Dr. Veronique Lacombe, Vice Chair
Dr. Shiping Deng, Group I
Dr. Sarah Foss, Group II
Dr. Graig Uhlin, Group II
Dr. Kevin Moore, Group III
Dr. Peter Richtsmeier, Group IV

Dr. Stephen Nemeth, Group IV
Dr. Mike Yough, Group V
Dr. Marten Brien, Group V
Dr. Joshua Butcher, Group VI
Dr. David Wallace, Group VI
Dr. Rudra Channappanavar, Group VI

Graduate College:

Dr. Melanie Morgan, Chair & Dean
Dr. Matt Lovern, Associate Dean

Dr. Lacombe called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – A motion to approve the January 24, 2025 meeting minutes was made by Dr. Brien and seconded by Dr. Yough. This motion was approved with 1 abstention.

Proposed Military Leave – Registrar Rita Peaster presented the proposed military leave (see attachment) and asked for discussion. A motion was made by Dr. Brien to accept these changes. The motion passed.

3000/4000 Level Courses – Registrar Rita Peaster opened further discussion of 3000/4000 level courses used on Graduate Plans of Study for Graduate credit. It was noted there are specific challenges as Undergraduate courses are on a different “level” of transcripts, complications for financial aid and enrollment confusion.

APC Items – Dr. Lovern provided a brief description of the APC items listed below. It was decided to table the Data Science, MS (Engineering) and Data Science, MS (Computer Science) for further information. A motion was made by Dr. Brien/Dr. Channappanavar and seconded by Dr. Yough to accept these new programs and changes. The motion passed. A suggestion was made to invite departments to the Graduate Council meetings to answer questions about their APC items.

New Program Requests for APC and Graduate Council Review:

- Data Science, MS (Engineering) - TABLED
- Data Science, MS (Computer Science) - TABLED
- Innovation and Change, Doctor of Professional Practice

Program Change Requests for APC Expedited Review:

- Plant Biology, PhD - addition of "research proposal defense" to degree requirements, updating to reflect current practice
- Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, MS - remove GRE requirement
- Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Unmanned Aerial Systems, MS - remove GRE requirement, change Program code
- Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, PhD - remove GRE requirement
- Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Unmanned Aerial Systems, PhD - remove GRE requirement, change Program code

GPSGA Report

GPSGA Phoenix Awards - Applications are open from October 28, 2024 – March 10, 2025 (No late submissions). Application available on GPSGA Community on Canvas via Microsoft Forms. Recommenders will receive the recommendation form from the GPSGA email starting February 25, 2025. Applications will only be considered complete once recommendation forms are submitted.

GPSGA Membership Application – Spring 2025 - All new representatives and liaisons from graduate and professional student organizations and departments must complete the Spring 2025 GPSGA Membership Application Form. Returning representatives and liaisons do not need to resubmit. The form is available on Canvas and must be submitted through the Microsoft Form Submission Portal. Ensuring submission helps maintain accurate attendance records for organizations/units. For questions, refer to GPSGA Canvas or contact gpsga@okstate.edu.

GPSGA Assistance/Grant/Fund Information - The Spring 2025 GPSGA Travel Assistance Application is open. Application details are available on GPSGA Canvas. Please review the GPSGA Travel Assistance Information Page before applying. Deadline for conference travel between January 1 – June 30, 2025: March 31, 2025. The Finance Committee will review applications at the end of the semester, and decisions will be emailed after evaluations.

OSU Undergraduate Research Symposium – Call for Feedback Providers - In celebration of Graduate Education Month in April, GPSGA is participating in the OSU Undergraduate Research Symposium to highlight mentorship and the importance of graduate education. Graduate students are invited to provide feedback for undergraduate presentations at the 4th Annual OSU Undergraduate Research Symposium on Tuesday, April 22 at the ConocoPhillips Alumni Center. Register: tinyurl.com/feedbacker24

Feedback Provider Training

April 16, 2025 | 3:30 – 4:00 PM

General Academic Building B-09 (Basement)

Earn Level 2 Credit for Research Activities in the 360° Critical Skills for Career Success program.

University Committee Updates -

- Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA) Search
 - Resource site for CV, bio, and confidential input.
 - Sign-up for Graduate Student Leaders Dinner with VPSA Candidates.
- Student Activities Fees Allocation Committees (Group I & II)

Student Activities Fees Allocation Process

Estimated Budget: \$1.1 million for 2025-2026

- Group I: 26% allocation
- Group II: 74% allocation

Group I Allocation Meetings: (Late March/Early April)

- GPSGA will coordinate with SGA AFAP Chair for student organization funding requests. Meetings will likely take place in April.

Group II Allocation (Feb–April 2025) (*Currently in Progress*)

- Departments Involved: Arts, Athletics, Campus Life, Dining, Hargis Leadership Institute, Housing & Residential Life, Music, Theater, Wellness.
- Meeting Schedule (6 Total):
 - Orientation
 - Presentation Round 1
 - Presentation Round 2
 - Presentation Round 3
 - Presentation Round 4
 - Final Meeting: Discussion & Allocation Decisions
- Final allocations to be determined in April 2025.

GPSGA Info Session – Throughout March - A come-and-go session for students interested in learning about GPSGA roles and opportunities to promote leadership opportunities through GPSGA and encourage member participation for the next executive board. Marcia will lead the overview session for all board positions, and each board member will outline the responsibilities of their respective roles.

Guest Speaker Selection for Next General Assembly - Survey Results on Preferred Guest Speaker Topics:

Career Services and Development (*Selected for Next Meeting*)

Research and Academic Success

Wellness, Mindfulness, and Resilience

Intercultural Competency and Professional/Academic Challenges

Community Engagement and Impact

Next General Assembly: Featuring a speaker on Career Services and Development based on member interest.

Questions Raised from the General Assembly:

- Rescheduling of the Candidacy Event – Will the candidacy celebration be rescheduled?
- Recording platform for the 360° Critical Skills for Career Success program – Has it moved back to Canvas? Can interested applicants submit additional content for the different programs to be eligible for the badges?

Graduate College Report

Pete's Pantry – Dean Morgan reported at OSU in 2018 and 2020 42% of OSU students were food insecure. The National College Health Program calculates that 49.7% of OSU students face some level of food insecurity. 2021 data shows that OSU is 12% higher than the national average.

Masters students use 44.6%. Doctoral students use is at 25.2%. About 70% of the usage is graduate student usage.

Round Up Replacement – Bids for replacing Round Up are due by 5:00 on February 28th. No bids as of now. The hope is to begin testing the software mid-March.

Commencement Updates – The time of the Graduate ceremony has been moved to 4:30 on Friday, May 9th. We will be very pressed for time. Engineering follows our ceremony at 8:00. We will now have a formal recession (similar to undergraduate ceremony) and are asking that Graduate Council be present on the arena floor to assist in moving the graduates out.

April 15th Resolution – We have been removed since May 2022 but reappeared on the updated list. It came to our attention this week but we have asked CGS to correct it.

Thank you – Thanks to everyone who have provided stories for us for usage with fundraising.

Old Business

Catalog Updates – The materials were sent out to departments via email asking that they confirm their curriculum matches the catalog.

New Business

Ad Hoc Graduate Council Meeting – Dr. Lacombe announced the next meeting will be Wednesday, March 5th at 3:30 on Zoom.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Brien and seconded by Dr. Yough. Meeting adjourned at 2:48.