

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes October 24, 2025

Present:

Dr. Veronique Lacombe, Vice Chair
Dr. Shiping Deng, Group I
Dr. Yoo Kim, Group I
Dr. Graig Uhlin, Group II
Dr. Richard Boles, Group II
Dr. Kevin Moore, Group III
Dr. Peter Richtsmeier, Group IV

Dr. Stephen Nemeth, Group IV
Dr. Marten Brienens, Group IV
Dr. Erin Dyke, Group V
Dr. Chris Eck, Group V
Dr. Joshua Butcher, Group VI

Graduate College:

Dr. Melanie Morgan, Dean
Dr. Rebecca Sheehan, Associate Dean
Dr. Carol Powers, Assistant Dean

Guests:

Dr. Hongyu Wang
Abiola Samson, GPSGA President

Dr. Lacombe called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

Graduate Certificate in Nonviolence, Healing and Peace Education – Dr. Hongyu Wang led discussion on the need for the certificate.

A motion to approve the expedited certificate was seconded by Dr. Brienens. The motion passed.

Approval of Minutes – A motion to approve the September 26, 2025, meeting minutes was made by Dr. Brienens and seconded by Dr. Uhlin. This motion was approved.

APC Items

Dr. Sheehan presented the remaining expedited APC items. No motion was required.

Program modifications

- o DBA-BADM: Business Administration, DBA
- o EDD-AEST-EH-AVSE: Applied Educational Studies: Aviation and Space Education, EDD
- o EDD-SA-EH: School Administration, EDD

- o GCRT-SACG-EH: Substance Abuse Counseling, GCRT (correction on degree sheet)
- o MS-HDFS-EH-AHS: Human Development and Family Science: Applied Human Services, MS
- o MS-HDFS-FACS-EH: Family and Consumer Sciences Education, MS
- o MS-TLL-EH-MMSE: Teaching, Learning and Leadership: Mathematics/Science Education, MS

Program deletions

- o GCRT-DD-EH: Developmental Disabilities, GCRT
- o GCRT-IMH-EH: Infant Mental Health, GCRT

GPSGA Report

The General Assembly meeting of Fall 2025 will take place on Wednesday, October 29, at 5:30 PM in Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) Room 035. Representatives and liaisons from Tulsa and OKC campuses can participate virtually through our online attendance options.

Assistance/Grant/Fund Information – Fall 2025

-GPSGA Travel Assistance Application

- Application period closing on October 31
- Exception Application period: November 1 – November 30
- Post Meeting/Conference Report due: October 31, 2025 – January 15, 2026
- Application materials and instructions are available on the [GPSGA Canvas page](#).
- All award recipients must submit their Post Meeting/Conference Report between October 31, 2025, and January 15, 2026.

Phoenix Award Committee Announcement

The Phoenix award committee has been established and will be coordinated by Ex-officio, and the Communication director.

Phoenix award will be opened before the end of this month as announced by the Chairs.

Planning for Next Semester

- Bringing in the Vice President and Dean of Graduate College to tell us regarding new development.
- Also, regarding Students Concern tabled.

Key Issues Identified by the GPSGA General Assembly

- Housing Concerns: Limited on-campus housing availability for returning graduate students
- Financial Impact: International student fee increases
- Orientation Enhancement: Following last year's feedback regarding the need for a more comprehensive and centralized graduate student orientation, we are pleased to acknowledge that Graduate College successfully launched the first centralized graduate orientation program
- Career Development: Exploring the creation of a centralized platform to better communicate available graduate assistantship opportunities across the university

Graduate College Report

3MT 11/4/2025 – Dr. Morgan announced the 3MT competition will be November 4, 2025 at 3:30 in the Student Union Little Theater.

Mentoring Workshop – Dr. Morgan reported that the mentoring workshop was very successful and well-attended. The next workshop is on Conflict and scheduled for November _____

New Business

Subject Matter Group Meeting Reports – Dr. Lacombe asked each group representative to give a brief report of their Fall 2025 meeting.

Group I: Reported low attendance, discussion on outside-OSU committee membership, AI, update of the Graduate Council bylaws.

Group II: voted on Graduate Faculty memberships, discussed syllabi for zero-ending course, AI, issue to access Graduate Council documents

Group III: 13 people attended, elected Bryan Hoskins as secretary, approved Graduate Faculty nominations, discussed AI, syllabi standards, research hours and challenges of minimum enrollments in courses.

Group IV: voted on Graduate Faculty nominations, recommends zero-ending course template for syllabi, seminars/one time only courses to be tested, 4-5 nominees did not meet requirements for Graduate Faculty status.

Group V: currently voting on Graduate faculty nominees, over 20 attendees, discussed GC bylaws, AI, zero-ending course syllabi importance, course enrollment minimums.

Group VI: about 40 people attended, voted on Graduate Faculty nominations, discussed AI and GC bylaws.

Graduate Faculty Status – All Subject Matter Groups except for Group V approved all nominations (149 total). Dr. Powers will set up access for each group for ease of use. 80 tenure-track renewals. A motion to approve all was made by Dr. Brien and seconded by Dr. Butcher. The motion passed.

Old Business

Course Retake Policy – Dean Morgan reported the discussion for course retake policy (“C” or below) with the exception of one time only classes or seminars will be tabled for now.

Zero-ending Courses – A motion to take the recommendation for syllabi for zero-ending courses to the Provost was made by Dr. Brien and seconded by Dr. Uhlin. The motion passed.

Update Graduate Council Bylaws – Dr. Lacombe reviewed the process. Feedback from the Dean office will be received by the end of November.

Cancellation Policy Discussion will be continued until the next meeting

Membership on examining committees will be continued until the next meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Brien and seconded by Dr. Butcher. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 2:59.

New Business

POS/GPA Retake Policy - A handout was distributed that reads: ‘A graduate student shall have the prerogative to repeat a single course one time, to achieve a higher grade. Only the highest grade earned of the 2 attempts will be used in the calculation of the GPA. All attempts shall be recorded on the transcript, with the earned grade for each course listed in the semester in which it was earned. This provision may only be used once during a graduate student’s program.’ This will be discussed at the next meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Brien and seconded by Dr. Eck. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.