

## Winthrop University Graduate Faculty Assembly (Meeting Minutes)

Prepared by Dr. Ephraim Scott Sommers

Agenda, February 26, 2021, 2pm (combined with Faculty Conference)

Blackboard Collaborate

- I. Call to Order  
*-Called to order at 4:37*
  
- II. Welcoming Remarks  

Eric Birgbauer  
Graduate Faculty Assembly Chair

*--We have a quorum at 71 graduate faculty attendees.*
  
- III. Approval of minutes of the Graduate Faculty Assembly from October 2, 2020  
Please find the minutes at the bottom of this agenda.  
*-Motion made to approve minutes by Dr. K#2; seconded by Lisa Harris*  
*-Motion Passed*
  
- IV. Report from the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs    Adrienne McCormick  
*-Report given in Faculty Conference*
  
- V. Report from the Graduate Council  

Anna Romanova  
Graduate Council Chair

  - Policy modifications
    - Provisional admission revision – see end of agenda for text  
  
*-Some discussion here about what the reduction of hours actually means. Chair responds that it will be a minimum of six hours but it will often be more.*  
*-Siobhan Brownson moves to approve.*  
*-Marshall Jones Second.*  
*-Motion Passed.*
  
  - Curriculum Actions requiring vote – Please refer to the curriculum management system for justification and explanation  
  
**1<sup>st</sup> Change:**  
*-Siobhan Brownson moves to approve.*  
*-Greg Bell Second.*  
*-Motion Passed.*
  
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Change:**  
*-Siobhan Brownson moves to approve.*  
*-Vicky Frost Second.*  
*-Motion Passed.*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Change:**

- Siobhan Brownson moves to approve.*
- Marshall Jones Second.*
- Motion Passed.*

- Review of curriculum items approved by Graduate Council that do not require a GFA vote --*None*
- Review of curriculum items approved by Graduate Council that do not require a GFA vote and are being considered by CUC. – None
- Review of curriculum items approved at the college level that do not require a GFA vote – None
- Announce updated instructions for submitting 500-level courses—None
- Graduate Faculty Status (since last GFA meeting)
  - Matthew Stern
  - Sara J. English
  - Lauren McCoy
  - Joi D. Anderson
  - Ja'Shaun Blanding
  - Tammy T. White

*-New graduate faculty were welcomed*

- Petitions - See end of the agenda for list—None

VI. Report from the Dean of the Graduate School

Jack DeRochi

- 1019 degree seeking graduate students this year, which is a record.*
- Over 400 online grad students.*
- 3 new online grad programs coming this fall.*
- Graduation Education week has been cancelled.*
- 3-minute graduate showcase in April (announcement).*

VII. Unfinished Business

-None

VIII. New Business

-None

IX. Announcements

-None

X. Adjournment

--*Motion to adjourn made by Greg Oakes and seconded by Dave Pretty at 5:05 PM*

## **Policy Items that require a GFA vote**

### **Provisional admission policy revision**

*Note: highlighted items are additions to the policy and strikethrough indicates deletions from the policy.*

Applicants are provisionally admitted to a graduate program when their application suggests a reasonable probability of success but falls below standards for full admission in no more than one of the following ways:

- Previous academic record is weak.
- Prerequisite coursework is limited or insufficient.
- Applicant's previous program of study is not directly related to the intended graduate program.
- Other requirements unique to individual graduate program.

A student who is admitted provisionally must maintain a 3.0 GPA and earn no grade below a B- during his or her provisional period. The provisional period is defined as either the first semester (min. 6 credit hours) or the first two semesters (if the student takes fewer than six credit hours during the first semester).

~~A student may take up to 12 graduate hours as a provisionally admitted student. Upon successful completion of coursework as a provisionally admitted student, the student will be fully admitted to the program by the Graduate School. During their first 12 graduate credit hours, a provisionally admitted student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and may not receive a grade of C+ or lower.~~ If the provisionally admitted student fails to maintain a cumulative GPA of

3.0 or receives a C+ or lower **during this provisional period,** ~~within his or her first 12 graduate hours,~~ the student is dismissed from graduate study.

~~Full admission may be granted after fewer than 12 hours based on the provisionally admitted student's strong academic performance and the recommendation of the graduate program director. A course in which the provisional student chooses to withdraw before the withdrawal deadline will not be included in this calculation. 12-hour limit. A provisional student who chooses to withdraw from a course within his or her first 12 hours may not be eligible for financial aid the following semester, because a student seeking financial aid must be enrolled in at least six semester hours. Students provisionally admitted to cohort graduate programs requiring more than 12 hours in a specific sequence must receive a B- or higher in all courses.~~

A provisional student dismissed from graduate study may apply for readmission after 2 academic terms but is no longer eligible for provisional admission. The student may apply for admission to a different graduate program after two academic terms following dismissal.

Provisionally admitted students are eligible to apply for and receive graduate assistantships and receive the same financial aid benefits as fully admitted students.

International students who do not meet English Language Proficiency requirements are ineligible for provisional admission.

### **Curriculum Items that require a GFA vote**

Program Changes approved by Graduate Council:

- a. Program Change: Modify MED-LTRC: Reducing the number of hours from 36 to 33 in preparation for a fully online delivery mode, updating program information
- b. Program Change: Modify CERT-CSDV: aligning Winthrop's CSDV School Counseling Certification requirement with the state requirements.
- c. Program Change: Modify MED-SPEI: adding a new track for licensed general educators that will lead to teaching licensure in special education with initial certification in learning disabilities.

### **Curriculum Items that do not require a GFA vote**

Program Changes approved by Graduate Council:

- a. Modify MS-NUTR: Creating a unified program version that allows for flexibility with thesis/no thesis option

Curriculum items approved by Graduate Council that have been sent to CUC for consideration:

- a. New course: BIOL532: Cancer Biology.
- b. Modify course: MLED591
- c. New course: ARTS520: a new course for the Drawing concentration
- d. Modify course: ARTS580
- e. Modify course: ARTS582

- f. Modify course: ARTS583
- g. Modify course: ARTS584
- h. Modify course: ARTS585

Curriculum items approved at the college level:

- a. Modify course: READ645
- b. Modify course: ARTS607
- c. New course: ARTS620
- d. Modify course: ARTS622
- e. Modify course: ARTS624
- f. Modify course: ARTS632
- g. Modify course: ARTS636
- h. Modify course: ARTS642
- i. Modify course: ARTS651
- j. Modify course: ARTS655
- k. Modify course: ARTS670
- l. New course: ARTS681
- m. Modify course: NUTR600

Petitions:

- a. Graduate Petition 2020-21-5: Count out of date transfer courses – Approved
- b. Graduate Petition 2020-21-6: Count out of date transfer courses – Approved
- c. Graduate Petition 2020-21-7: Count out of date transfer courses – Approved

**Winthrop University Graduate Faculty Assembly**  
Minutes, October 2, 2020, 2pm (combined with Faculty Conference)  
Blackboard Collaborate

- XI. Call to Order  
*-Called to order at 4:29*
- XII. Welcoming Remarks Eric Birgbauer  
Graduate Faculty Assembly Chair  
*-We have a quorum at 75 graduate faculty attendees.*
- XIII. Approval of minutes of the Graduate Faculty Assembly from April 17, 2020  
Please find the minutes at the bottom of this agenda.  
*-Motion made to approve minutes by Wanda Ebright ; seconded by Lisa Harris*  
*-Motion Passed*
- XIV. Report from the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Adrienne McCormick  
*-Report given in Faculty Assembly*
- XV. Report from the Graduate Council Anna Romanova  
Graduate Council Chair
- Policies modification – see end of agenda for text
    - CR/UN Grading Policy for Graduate Students for Fall 2020  
*-(9 hour cap on CR/UN Policy)*  
*-Discussion: Alex Perri suggests 9 credits out of 30 or 36 is a lot. Eric suggests the need for a cap. Christopher Ward asks about the policy for summer 2020, to which Eric B. and Anna R. are not certain of the answer. Kelly Costner answered that summer grading was the usual system at both grad and undergrad levels. Amanda Hiner: “Are there implications for that many CR credits if students wish to go on for further graduate programs/degrees?” Dean McCormick: “And are we - through transcribing - providing context for CR grades. I will follow up with Tim and Gina on these questions, as needed.” Wanda Koszewski: “We are advising our students to not get to the CR level because for graduate school and internship applications it will have a negative affect.” Eric B. said this 9-unit measure and cap should be considered a stopgap solution and also that we cannot apply this cap retroactively to summer.*  
*-Gina Jones suggested that there is no notation currently on the transcript but that we are using inserts for the hard copies we mail. For electronic copies through our third-party vendor, the legend indicates this info.*  
*-Greg Oakes suggests more research is necessary on this issue with questions about accreditors, about what other institutions are doing, and how other institutions would view such a transcript, etc.*  
*-Anna R. suggests we advise students against going with CR.*  
*-Dean McCormick: the process is automatic and we’ve done it for undergrads and it has worked for grads in spring. But do faculty decide or*

*-Motion to Modify: Siobhan Brownson: I move to modify proposal to limit the CR to C+, C. Motion to change the policy to delete the B-. Motion Seconded by Alex Perri.*

*-Voted on amending/modifying this motion and the amendment passes.*

*-Alex Perri: motion to limit the number of CR courses per semester to one per semester (caveat, there is no limit to Cs). VOTE NEVER TAKEN.*

*-Jack DeRochi asks what is our concern about the limit in the policy as nine hours.*

*-Eric B. answered that we needed this change to help those students who may be really struggling but need to get something other than CR grades to graduate.*

*-Greg Oakes: Motion to amend to change to a six-hour limit, seconded by Alex Perri. (Discussion: Maybe we should have it be 20% of program or 25% or 15%, other say 9 hours is still reasonable). The motion does not pass.*

*- Amendment fails to pass.*

*-TFS: "I move to vote on the original proposal to include the grading amendment omitting B-". Motion seconded by Siobhan Brownson..*

*-Jennifer Disney: "A friendly amendment would be 9 hours or 25% of a degree program. That is 9/36 but takes MSW into account." Friendly amendment seconded by Siobhan Brownson. Motion passes.*

*Vote taken on proposal omitting B- and adding or 25% of program. Motion passes.*

*OVERALL: multiple amendments were discussed, ultimately the final one was passed.*

- Curriculum Action requiring vote – Please refer to the curriculum management system for justification and explanations – None
- Review of curriculum items approved by Graduate Council that do not require a GFA vote– None
- Review of curriculum items approved by Graduate Council that do not require a GFA vote and are being considered by CUC. – See end of the agenda for list
- Review of curriculum items approved at the college level that do not require a GFA vote – See end of the agenda for list
- Graduate Faculty Status
  - Victoria Frost
  - Courtney Guenther
  - Charles Randle
  - Jennifer Schafer

- Daniel B. Stovall  
*-New graduate faculty were welcomed*

- Petitions - See end of the agenda for list

XVI. Report from the Dean of the Graduate School Jack DeRochi  
*-986 students is the largest number of students we've ever seen at Winthrop*

XVII. Unfinished Business

- GFA Bylaws Revisions Vote  
*-Motion to approve the revision by Siobhan Brownson, seconded by Lisa Harris.*  
*-Motion passes. Motion still must go to Rules Committee.*

XVIII. New Business

*-none*

XIX. Announcements

*-FCUP announcement from Amanda Hiner to contact her with grad faculty concerns on these important issues.*

XX. Adjournment

*-Motion to adjourn made by Wanda Koszewski and seconded by Alex Perri at 5:25 PM*

### Policy Items that require a GFA vote

#### CR/UN Grading Policy for Graduate Students for Fall 2020 (as amended and passed)

A policy mirroring Spring 2020 grading for Fall 2020 where letter grades will be given for A, A-, B+, B, and B-, but a grade of CR will be recorded for course grades of C+ and C and a grade of UN will be recorded for a course grade of F. Recorded grades of CR and UN will not be calculated into the GPA. A grade of CR will give the student credit for completing a course, while a grade of UN will provide no course completion credit. A limit of 9 hours or 25% of the program of CR credit can be applied to a graduate program.

*Note that the policy was approved by Graduate Council over the summer and already disseminated to students; however, based on arguments regarding the undergraduate policy presented at Faculty Conference, it is being brought forth for a vote by GFA.*

*Note: Per Gina Jones, graduate students cannot earn a C-, so it was removed.*

### Curriculum Items that do not require a GFA vote

Program Changes approved by Graduate Council:

- b. Program Change: Modify MSW-SCWK: Changing the curriculum structure for field education courses within the online MSW program



Curriculum items approved by Graduate Council that have been sent to CUC for consideration:

- d. Modify course: MUST592: Internship I (1:0:8)
- e. Modify course: SOCL598 Senior Seminar in Sociology (1)

Curriculum items approved at the college level:

- n. New course: SCWK612E Field Instruction I
- o. New course: SCWK612F Field Instruction I
- p. New course: SCWK612G Field Instruction I
- q. New course: SCWK622E Field Instruction II
- r. New course: SCWK622F Field Instruction II
- s. New course: SCWK632E Field Instruction III
- t. New course: SCWK632F Field Instruction III

Petitions:

- a. Graduate Petition 2020-21-1: Count out of date transfer courses – Approved
- b. Graduate Petition 2020-21-2: Count out of date transfer courses – Approved
- c. Graduate Petition 2020-21-3: Count out of date transfer courses – Approved

## **GFA Bylaw Revisions**

### Section 2

The electoral procedure for the Chair is as follows:

- A. Nomination: Graduate Council will nominate at least ~~two persons~~ **one person** and ~~circulate~~ **announce these names** ~~the nominee(s)~~ to the faculty prior to the opening of electronic voting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor during the meeting immediately prior to the opening of electronic voting, provided that the consent of the nominee(s) has already been obtained.

- A. In the case where only one nominee is provided by Graduate Council and there are no additional nominations from the floor, the Chair may declare the nominee elected by acclamation.**