

GRADUATE COUNCIL
Winthrop University
Tuesday, September 10, 2024
Tillman 308

Members present: Dustin Hoffman, Lisa Harris, Charles Randle, Cody Walters, Jack DeRochi, Greg Oakes, Jennifer O Dixon, Gina Jones, Tracy Patterson, Li Ai, Sherry Hoyle, Phillip Gibson, Stephanie Sutton, and Gabby Jacobsen

I. Announcements

1. Welcome to new and returning members
2. Meeting modality and schedule

Chair Dustin Hoffman suggested Tuesday meetings in person and Friday meetings via zoom. Approved by acclimation vote.

II. Approval of minutes April 16th, 2024. See the link below for minutes:

<https://www.winthrop.edu/graduateschool/graduate-council-minutes.aspx>

- *Charles Randle asked to modify his last remarks in the New Business section as the written minutes did not convey the correct verbal inflection.*

Motion to approve: SS (Stephanie Sutton). Second: SH (Sherry Hoyle). Approved by acclimation vote.

III. Report from the Graduate School Dean, Jack DeRochi

Enrollment is flat to up about 1% which is positive. Program to program the net is pretty flat, with CSDV being the one that's higher.

- *Factoring in registered students, about 8% attrition, and that most grads are in their program for two years, we have a grad student portfolio of about 840. That's where we should be.*
- *Enrollment is not there yet as COVID students are still graduating out, and there are market shifts. But there are exciting drivers with two new online programs, Ed Leadership and CSDV.*
- *There are three programs moving out of Risepoint, as enrollment isn't high enough for the expense: NUTR, MAAA, and SPFA. Risepoint did help recruit the fall students so it doesn't impact immediately, and the operations still need to be figured out.*

GA budget

- *Budget cuts had to be made in late July – why?*
- *There had not been a stable codified budget in years, with budget and finance moving funds around at year end to cover overages with vacancy savings.*
- *The interim CFO is attempting to build a budget process that doesn't factor in the vacancy savings. Instead those savings can be invested in the Strategic Plan.*
- *For the GA budget, they didn't look at what was given but what the actual spend was, and the spend has gone down over the years for various reasons (students not working their full hours, leaving mid-semester, and more online students not able to find remote work).*

- *Actual spends over the last few years: \$1.48M in 2020, \$1.3M in 2021, \$1.27M in 2022, \$1.18M in 2023, \$1.12M in 2024.*
- *There is now a \$310K gap in what the spend was and the lines that we have on the roster to hire.*
- *For 2025 the budget is \$1.052M. Graduate Studies was able to find \$146K, and since there is still \$160K gap, graduate students who graduate or leave their positions will not be rehired.*
- *Trying to get ahead of next year, begin planning based on this current cut.*
- *Think about the impact of the position to the student and to the college.*
- *What is the value proposition that should be part of the criteria for awarding a GA position? Retention, advancing faculty research. This should be an opportunity to codify the process.*

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

1. New Electronic Graduate Petitions Workflow—Brantley Therrell

- *The petition process is finally online and live now.*
- *Workflow: student initiates, then the advisor listed in Banner (autofilled), then program director, college grad director, dean (if the previous was all the same person).*
- *When those steps are completed it gets emailed to all voting members of the council. The council can decide if voting occurs when the petition is ready or at the next meeting. Brantley can tweak the system as needed.*
- *Chair of the Council enters the decision and Brantley lets the student know the result.*
- *At each step there is an opportunity to send it backwards or back to the student. It can also not progress unless all required documents are uploaded.*

VI. Curriculum Action

Curriculum Changes Requiring a Vote:

- 1. Inactivate Course:** BADM 561
- 2. Inactivate Course:** BADM 633
- 3. Inactivate Course:** BADM 689
- 4. Inactivate Course:** MGMT 523
- 5. Inactivate Course:** MGMT 661
- 6. Inactivate Course:** MGMT 682
- 7. Inactivate Course:** MGMT 676
- 8. Inactivate Course:** MGMT 677
- 9. Edit Course:** NUTR 521
- 10. Edit Course:** SPED 515
- 11. New Course:** SPED 581
- 12. New Course:** THED 542

Batch voting for the inactive courses.

- *It should have been 10 years since the last time a course was taken and it's advisable to wait that long because students will have taken it.*

Motion to approve: CR (Charles Randle). Second: SH. Approved by acclimation vote.

Batch voting for the edit course and new courses.

Motion to approve: SS. Second: CR. Approved by acclimation vote.

VII. Graduate Petitions: None

VIII. Adjournment

2024-2025 Meeting Dates

September 10, Tuesday, 11:00 a.m.: Tillman 308

October 25, Friday, 2:00 p.m.: Tillman 308

December 3, Tuesday, 11:00 a.m.: Tillman 308

January 24, Friday, 2:00 p.m.: Tillman 308

March 11, Tuesday, 11:00 a.m.: Tillman 308

April 15, Tuesday, 11:00 a.m.: Tillman 308

Graduate Faculty Assembly and Graduate Council Website:

<https://www.winthrop.edu/graduateschool/graduate-faculty-governance.aspx>

CourseDog

<https://app.coursedog.com/#/login>

2024-2025 Committee			
Voting Members <i>*The voting members of the Graduate Council also serve as the Graduate Petitions Committee.</i>			Term Expires
Dustin Hoffman, CAS, Chair	hoffmandm@winthrop.edu	Elected (CAS)	2025
Stephanie Sutton, CVPA, Vice Chair	suttons@winthrop.edu	Elected (CVPA)	2025
Li Ai, CBA	ail@winthrop.edu	Elected (CBA)	2027
		Appointed (VPAA)	
Edward Randle, CBA	randlee@winthrop.edu	Appointed (VPAA)	2026
Jessie Hoffman, CAS	hoffmanjb@winthrop.edu	Appointed (VPAA)	2026
Sherry Hoyle, COE	hoyles@winthrop.edu	Elected (COE)	2027
Ex Officio, non-voting, and other invitees			
Cody Walters	waltersw@winthrop.edu	Elected, Library Faculty, Non-voting	2027
Chris Ward	wardc@winthrop.edu	Elected, GFA (from CUC), Ex Officio	2026

Jack DeRochi	derochij@winthrop.edu	Dean of Graduate Studies, Online Learning, and Extended Education	
Gabby Jacobson	jacobseng@winthrop.edu	Grad School, Appointed Ex Officio	
		Student, COE Appt. Ex Officio	
		Student, CVPA Appt. Ex Officio	
O. Jennifer Dixon-McKnight	dmcknightoj@winthrop.edu	GFA Chair	
Tim Druke	druket@winthrop.edu	Assistant Provost for Curriculum and Program Support	
Gina Jones	jonesgg@winthrop.edu	Registrar	
Maria D'Agostino	dagostinom@winthrop.edu	Associate Registrar	
Tracy Patterson	patterson@winthrop.edu	Graduate Director, CVPA	
Greg Oakes	oakesm@winthrop.edu	Graduate Director, CAS	
Lisa Harris	harrisl@winthrop.edu	Graduate Director, COE	
		Graduate Director, CBA	
Brantley Therrell	therrellb@winthrop.edu	Graduate Petitions Coordinator	
Adam Glover	glovera@winthrop.edu	Faculty Conference Chair	