



The Graduate School

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

February 24, 2014

The Graduate Council met on Monday, February 24, 2014 at 2:00 P.M. in room 311 of the Byrnes Building.

Graduate Council members present: Dr. Paul Solomon, Chair; Drs. Matt Brown, Nancy Brown, David Darmofal, Erik Drasgow, Stacy Fritz, Jerry Hilbish, J. Daniel Jenkins, Thomas Kramer, Julia Lopez-Robertson, DeAnne Messias, Caroline Nagel, Terrance Weik, and Brittany Walter (GSA).

Graduate Council members absent: Drs. Beecroft, Carver, Floyd, Osokina, and Weldon-Stewart

Graduate School Representatives: Dr. Jessica Elfenbein, Dr. Murray Mitchell, Dale Moore, and Teresa Smith

Provost Office Representative: Dr. Kristia Finnigan

Guests: Joel Wooten and Bikram Ghosh from The Darla Moore School of Business

NOTE: *These minutes will become final on March 24, 2014, if not challenged.*

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Paul Solomon)

Dr. Solomon called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

2. **Approval of Minutes for the meeting on [January 27, 2014](#).**

The minutes were reviewed electronically and approved by the Council. Minutes are on file at The Graduate School website at:

<http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp>

3. **Report of the Chair** (Paul Solomon)

No report.

4. **Report of the Dean of The Graduate School** (Jessica Elfenbein for Lacy Ford)

Dr. Lacy Ford will be promoted to Senior Vice Provost and The Graduate School will no longer report to him effective July 1, 2014. Dr. Ford announced the promotion at a meeting with Graduate School staff. He mentioned that Provost Amiridis is pleased with The Graduate School and does not anticipate any change in operations or personnel.

The Graduate School staff is happy about the promotion of Dr. Ford, but also sad to lose the great leadership he has provided. Responsibility for The Graduate School will be assigned to another Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies, and an internal search to fill that position is underway.

Before Dr. Ford moves on to his new position, he would like to address the following issues; ongoing Banner challenges, implement a fee waiver program for applicants who have honorably served their country, strengthen academic partnerships and enhance the partnership between The Graduate School and the Office of Student Affairs.

Additionally, The Graduate School is working on a Doctoral Dashboard to illustrate the number of graduate students in each program, the types of programs doctoral students are enrolled in, and how much debt a graduate student accumulates during matriculation. The plan is to get the dashboard up and beta tested over the course of the next year.

5. Report of the Associate Dean / Secretary of the Graduate Council (Murray Mitchell)

Dr. Mitchell added that Dr. Ford has also discussed the possible merits in establishing professional development and training opportunities for administrative staff and new department chairs.

Additionally, Dr. Mitchell complimented the Graduate School's front office staff on the ability to address calls that involve issues that students have with other offices (e.g., the Registrar's office, the Bursars office, or possibly the Office of Financial Aid). The administrative staff has become quite proficient at offering excellent customer service when handling these calls.

6. Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative (Brittany Walter)

The Graduate Student Association's Townhall Forum will be held on Thursday, February 27 in two sessions. The first session will be from 1:00-2:00 P.M. in the Russell House, room 203. The second session is scheduled from 6:00-7:00 P.M. to accommodate students who are in class during the day time. It will be held at Davis College, room 209. Ms. Walter thanked Dr. Elfenbein for agreeing to attend both sessions of the Townhall Forum.

The Association will host a series of Professionalism Workshops. The first will be a SkillsSoft workshop to be held on Tuesday, March 4 at 6:00 P.M. The second is a Sexual Harassment workshop on March 19th, and the third is a Diversity workshop to be held on April 3rd.

7. Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee (Stacy Fritz)

Dr. Fritz reported that the Committee is working on a template for the procedures an academic unit will follow to nominate an Associate Membership for non-tenure track faculty.

8. Report of the Committee on 500/600 Level Courses, Distance Education and Special Courses (Murray Mitchell)

Due to snow delays in meetings, these courses will be reported at the next meeting.

9. **Fellowships and Scholarships Committee** (Paul Solomon for Wayne Carver)

Dr. Solomon reported that round two of the Presidential Fellow nominations are complete. Twenty-seven nominations were received. Eleven were funded. Six were declined, and the remaining nominations were tabled for later consideration. The deadline for the final round of nominations is Friday, February 28th.

Dr. Elfenbein added that the Committee received confirmation from the first Presidential Fellow from the College of Education, and an offer was made to the first Hospital, Retail and Sports Management student.

10. **Report of the Science, Math, and Related Professional Program Committee** (DeAnne Messias)

No report.

11. **Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional Programs Committee** (J. Daniel Jenkins)

Moore School of Business

New Course Proposal

APPROVED

[MKTG 718 Social and Digital Media Strategies for Businesses](#) (3)

Develop a social and digital media plan/solution to present to a client. Business enterprises and even non-business organizations are demanding new marketing hires and their marketing agencies have an acute understanding of how to develop and utilize online and social media as part of their integrated marketing plans. Both business-to-consumer and business-to-business enterprises are migrating to social media as a primary form of communication with customers and partners.

[Effective Fall 2014]

[Prerequisite: DMSB 716 and MKTG 701]

New Course Proposal

APPROVED

[MKTG 750 Marketing Consulting Project](#) (3)

Develop successful marketing strategies using data, research, and analysis to create impactful strategies for real business clients. Businesses and recruiters are increasingly demanding experience handling practical problems faced by a marketing manager from our MBA students. In this elective course, the students get that experience.

[Effective Fall 2014]

[Prerequisite: MKTG 701]

New Course Proposal

APPROVED

[MGSC 779 Innovation and Design](#) (3)

Creation and launch of viable businesses using innovation tournaments. Development of problem solving and design skills. Application to real innovation and entrepreneurial hurdles.

[Effective Fall 2014]

[Prerequisite: None]

13. Other Committee Reports

No report.

14. Old Business

No report.

15. New Business

Dr. Elfenbein asked the Committee, if there are any students who have been offered tenure track positions, please be sure to fill out the online form. The Provost would like to recognize tenure track students and their advisors at an upcoming event. The students would have received a tenure track position from August 2013 through August 2014.

16. Good of the Order

Dr. Mitchell mentioned the Graduate Council is a body that advises the Dean of the Graduate Studies and asked if there are additional issues that the Council should be considering. While no issues were raised at this meeting, members were encouraged to consider this question for future meetings.

Dr. Elfenbein asked the Committee to consider submitting agenda items for the Annual Graduate Directors Meeting. She mentioned that input from the Council contributes to the success of the event.

Dr. Hilbish commented that it would be good for the Provost to recognize Post-Doctoral students as well as tenure track students. Dr. Elfenbein asked for clarification regarding recognition of Post-Doctoral students currently at USC or recognition of students who have moved on to other institutions. Dr. Hilbish responded that USC tenure track students and Post Docs who are training here might also be recognized by the Provost.

Dr. Elfenbein agreed that it would be good to recognize Post-Doctoral students. She stated that she would present this issue to the Office of the Vice President of Research for consideration, since that office has assumed some responsibility for this important group of students.

Additionally, she stated that there were 78 tenure track placements last year.

Dr. Nancy Brown complimented the Council and Committee Chairs on the efficiency of operation she has witnessed this session. She mentioned that in years past Graduate Council meetings would go on for hours. Dr. Drasgow also gave special mention to the member of each committee and the Committee Chairs for a job well done.

The next meeting will be March 24.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 P.M.

Murray Mitchell, Secretary

cc:

President Harris Pastides

Vice Provost & Dean of Graduate Studies Lacy Ford

Provost Michael Amiridis

Deans

Department Chairs

Graduate Directors

Aaron Marterer, University Registrar

Jodie Morris, Office of the Registrar

Andrew Graves, Office of the Registrar

Nancy Floyd, Office of Institutional Assessment and Compliance