

1 **Meeting Minutes of the Graduate Council**  
2 **March 12, 2024**

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4 **Members Present: Amanda Shuford Mayeaux (Chair, EDFL),** Marietta Adams (EDCI), Elena Babatsouli  
5 (CODI), Ashlie Boelkins (ARCH), Wesley Bradford (MUS), Ignatius Cahyanto (MKTG), Amy Brown, (PSYC),  
6 Frank Del Favero (EDFL), Deedra Harrington (NURS), Farzard Ferdowsi (EECE), Robin Koytcheff (MATH),  
7 Leah Orr (ENG), Catherine Roche-Wallace (MUS), Frances Stueben (NURS), Colleen Wolverton (MGMT),  
8 Peng Yin (MCHE),  
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10 **Members Absent:** Beenish Chaudhry (CMIX), Christy Lenahan (NURS), Javier Portillo-Elias (ECON), Raju  
11 Gottumukkala (MCHE), Nathan Rabalais (MODL), Kelly Robinson (BIOL), LaToya Roberts (PhD ALSS, GSO),  
12 Clement Okolo (Ph.D. CS, GSO), Mark Zappi (CHEE)  
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14 **Approval of the February 6, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

15 Motion made to accept the February 6th meeting minutes with edits. Motion seconded and carried.  
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17 **Graduate Student Programming Update: Sustainable Development Grants and Graduate Student**  
18 **Appreciation Week Dates**

19 P. de Mahy reviewed the upcoming Graduate Student Appreciation Week programming, including the  
20 Doctoral Candidacy Recognition Awards with keynote by Dr. Gretchen Vanicor, The Money Matters  
21 event in partnership with Dr. Brian Bolton and Jonathen Shirley from the LEED Center, as well as the  
22 Research Showcase poster and paper competition and the Trivia Social at the end of the week. He  
23 thanked the members of the Graduate Council who volunteered to serve as judges as well as the office  
24 of research for funding the awards. He also reminded the committee that there was still time for  
25 students to register to participate in the Research Showcase this week.  
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27 **Committee Reports**

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29 **Curriculum Committee**

30 No report.  
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32 **Student Appeals:**

33 No Report  
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35 **Fellowships Committee**

36 A report reviewed by A. Mayeaux on behalf of R. Nelson, noting that Modifications made to the  
37 application process greatly assisted in the consistency of information provided by the applicants. He also  
38 noted that they discovered that length of time the applicants program needs to be more prominently  
39 listed and considered by the committee. The committee recommend making the length of time more  
40 prominently displayed and ultimately, reminding the committee of the need to consider this variable in  
41 future cycles. In addition, The Committee received and evaluated 25 applications for the Academic Year  
42 2024-2025 Dissertation Completion Fellowship Awards. Recommendation was made to award all 20 of  
43 the available fellowships to the top ranked applicants. The committee also identified an alternate  
44 applicant, if one of the fellowships became available. Should more fellowships become available, it is the  
45 committee's recommendation that we reconvene to determine how to proceed with the remaining  
46 applicants.  
47

48 **Grad Faculty Committee**

1 A. Mayeaux reported that she spoke with P. Lanier about the proposal for additional categories for  
2 graduate faculty and that they agreed that the committee would discuss it after they finished reviewing  
3 grad faculty applications for the semester.  
4

5 **IDEA Committee**

6 No report.  
7

8 **Old Business**  
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10 **Doctoral Research Grant Awards**

11 P. de Mahy reported that the Doctoral Research Grant Awards will be granted in two rounds this  
12 semester and that the expectation is that 50,000 dollars for the initiative will be spent by the end of the  
13 Spring. He added that the hope is that this will continue into the summer and future semesters. A  
14 general discussion followed on eligibility for the awards and how this will impact doctoral research.  
15

16 **New Business**  
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18 **Request for Continued Graduate Faculty Membership for Departing Faculty Member**

19 A. Mayeaux introduced a request that had been submitted by Dr. Ryan Nelson on behalf of the  
20 Department of Communicative Disorder to the Graduate Council that a faculty member who has who is  
21 now emeritus be allowed to continue on two graduate student thesis committees and count as one of  
22 the three required UL Graduate Faculty. It was discussed that this example speaks to the need for  
23 adding an emeritus category for graduate faculty status. Motion made to accept the request. Motion  
24 seconded and carried.  
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26 **Graduate Student Name Policy**

27 After reviewing the discussion from the previous Graduate Council Meeting, members discussed the  
28 language proposed for the resolution to allow graduating students to choose the name that is used on  
29 their theses, dissertation, and synthesis projects. Several minor grammatical edits were made along with  
30 an addition of "synthesis projects" to the list of final manuscript types in the language. Motion made to  
31 accept the resolution language. Motion seconded and carried.  
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33 Motion made to adjourn at 2:37. Motion seconded and carried.