

September 5, 2025

TO: Wesley Bradford, MUSC – Chair  
Julius Austin, COUE  
Phil Auter, CMCN  
Brian Bolton, ECFN  
Ignatius Cahyanto, MKTG  
Farzad Ferdowsi, EECE  
Natalie Keefer, EDCI  
Nicholas Kooyers, BIOL  
Erika LeBlanc, COUE  
Amanda Mayeaux, EDFL  
Nathan Rabalais, MODL  
Jonathan Raush, MCHE

Catherine Roche-Wallace, MUSC  
Laurel Ryan, ENGL  
Jennifer Sittig, NURS  
Scott Sittig, HLSI  
Frances Stueben, NURS  
Amy Veprauskas, MATH  
Mark Zappi, CHEE  
Rui Zhang, GEOS

Clement Okolo, PhD CMIX, GSO President  
TBD, Graduate Student Representative

FROM: Mary Farmer-Kaiser  
Dean of the Graduate School

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**The Graduate Council will meet in Alumni Center Board Room on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.** On the Graduate Council Moodle Course, you will find the attached agenda as well as the minutes from our most recent meeting and other meeting materials.

Past Graduate Council meeting agendas and minutes are available on the Graduate School website at:  
<https://louisiana.edu/graduateschool/about-us/graduate-council/graduate-council-minutes-agendas>.

C: Department Heads (FYI and agenda only)  
Graduate Coordinators (FYI and agenda only)  
Academic Deans (FYI and agenda only)  
Dr. Dianne Olivier, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (FYI and agenda only)

## GRADUATE COUNCIL

September 9, 2025

### AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Call to Order ..... Dr. Wesley Bradford
- II. Invited Guests
  - a. Dr. Dianne Olivier, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- III. Announcements and Approvals
  - a. Graduate Council Goals and Objectives for 2025-2026
  - b. Graduate Council Moodle Page and Meeting Materials
  - c. May 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes
  - d. [Graduate Assistantship Handbook](#)
  - e. Catalog Revision Update: GTA English Language Proficiency
- IV. Standing Committee Reports
  - a. Appeals ..... Dr. Heather Stone
  - b. Fellowships and Awards..... Dr. Ryan Nelson
  - c. Graduate Faculty Membership ..... Dr. Frances Stueben
- V. Old Business
  - a. Guidelines for the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI) in Graduate Education Research
  - b. Review of 2024-2025 Reports and Recommendations
    - i. University Committee on Graduate Student Success and Retention Report
    - ii. Graduate Student Organization
    - iii. Ad Hoc Graduate Assistantship Handbook Committee
  - c. Catalog Revision: English Language Proficiency Exempt Countries
- VI. New Business
  - a. Report on Summer Grad Council Executive Committee Actions
  - b. Graduate Council Standing Committees
    - i. Status of Curriculum Committee
    - ii. Need for New Student and/or Community Engagement Committee
  - c. Appeals of Appeals Committee Decision
  - d. Official Leave of Absence Exception Request
  - e. Institutional Repository for Manuscripts
  - f. Manuscript Binding Fees
- VII. Good of the Order