

1 **Meeting Minutes of the Graduate Council**  
2 **September 14, 2021**

3  
4 Members Present: Chad Parker (Chair HIST), Alan Barhorst (MCHE), Amy Brown (PSYC), Terrence Chambers  
5 (MCHE), Frank Del Favero, (EDFL), Eric Ferré (GEOL), Deedra Harrington (NURS), Natalie Keefer (EDCI),  
6 Ashlie Latiolais (ARCH), Amanda Shuford Mayeaux (EDFL), Jennifer Lemoine (NURS), Catherine Roche-  
7 Wallace (MUS), Roger Rholdon (NURS), David Squires (ENGL), Heather Stone (EDCI), Michael Totaro (CMIX),  
8 Colleen Wolverton (MGMT), Benjamin Yates (MUS), Patricia Hunt (GSO, PhD ALSS ), Gabby Atkinson (SREB  
9 Fellow, PhD BIOL), M. Farmer-Kaiser (ex-officio)

10  
11 Members Absent: James Albert (BIOL), Brian Bolton (ECON), Raphaël Gottardi (GEOL), Sarfraz Khan (ACCT),  
12 Mark Zappi (CHEE)

13  
14 C. Parker called the meeting to order at 2:04pm.

15  
16 **Welcome and Introductions**

17 C. Parker welcomed members to the first meeting of the semester and invited each to introduce  
18 themselves.

19  
20 **Approvals**

21 Motion made to accept the May 11, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion seconded and carried.

22  
23 **Presentation of Applicants to Candidacy**

24 Motion made to accept presentation of applicants to candidacy. Motion seconded and carried.

25  
26 **Committee Reports**

27  
28 **Student Appeals**

29 A report was submitted by the Graduate School on behalf of Y. Wu that provided information on the June  
30 and August 2021 meetings. Motion made to accept report. Motion seconded and carried.

31  
32 **Curriculum Committee**

33 No report.

34  
35 **Fellowships Committee**

36 No report.

37  
38 **Graduate Faculty Membership Committee**

39 No report.

40  
41 **Diversity and Inclusion Committee**

42 No report.

43  
44 **Old Business**

45  
46 **Review of 2020-2021 Annual Reports and Recommendations**

47 C. Parker asked the members to review the 2020-2021 annual reports of the Graduate Student  
48 Organization, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, and the University Committee on Graduate  
49 Student Success and Retention in preparation for discussion during the upcoming October meeting.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48

**New Business**

**Report on Summer Grad Council Executive Committee Actions**

C. Parker and M. Farmer-Kaiser pointed members to the brief memo that reported the actions taken on behalf of the Graduate Council since the May 2021 meeting. In this time, the executive committee approved the candidacy requests of two masters and six doctoral students who graduated in August.

**Ad Hoc Graduate DEI Accountability Committee**

C. Parker updated the Graduate Council on the timeline for the proposed ad hoc Graduate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Accountability Committee. According to the recommendations presented in May for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Standing Committee, the mandate of this ad hoc committee is to assess rigorously the progress made on DEI issues over the preceding year by the Graduate Council, the Graduate School, and the University Committee on Graduate Student Success and Retention, as well as the current status of the graduate community with regards to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The assessment would be based on the strategic imperatives in the 2019-22 Strategic Plan for Inclusive Excellence, as well as on the ad hoc Accountability Committee’s own understanding of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion needs of the graduate community.

**Future Meeting Location**

C. Parker reminded members that the Graduate Council will continue to meet remotely in October with the hope to return to in-person meetings, following appropriate health and safety measures, as soon as it is advisable.

**Enrollment Trends**

F. Del Favero asked for any information that could be given about changes in graduate student enrollment over the past year. M. Farmer-Kaiser said that while graduate enrollment overall has increased to over 2,500 with just over 1,300 in graduate programs with 100% online delivery, the number of students taking an official leave of absence has increased in the past year; overall yield of new students has remained flat. E. Ferre asked how many internal graduate students are from China and how they are being impacted by the Biden administration’s decision to continue presidential proclamation 10043 which suspended entry of certain students and researchers from China. M. Farmer-Kaiser replied that our population of graduate students from China is small but that she would follow up with the Division of Global Engagement on this question.

**Addition to University Guidelines for Graduate Faculty Membership**

M. Farmer-Kaiser requested that the Graduate Council consider an update to the recently-revised University Guidelines for Graduate Faculty Membership. She highlighted the additions that were approved last spring changing the names of each level and emphasizing the expectation that graduate faculty demonstrate the ability to work productively with graduate students, including students from historically marginalized and/or underrepresented communities. The proposed addition requested that, for all membership levels, work with graduate students and/or participation in professional development be clearly identified in graduate faculty application. H. Stone asked if faculty will have training opportunities to assist in gaining or developing relevant experience. M. Farmer-Kaiser replied that the Graduate School is committed to offering regular professional development opportunities to all faculty each semester. Motion made to accept new language. Motion seconded and carried

Motion made to adjourn at 3:08. Motion seconded and carried.