

University Graduate Council
September 13, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Present: Paul Peluso, Chair; Anita Pennathur, Eric Berlatsky, Danielle Groton, Mihaela Cardei, Masoud Lashaki, David Newman, Dawn Flood, Tobin Hindle, Carla Calarge.

Others present: Robert Stackman, Marie Claire Demassi, Zhixiao Xie, Christine Kraft.

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm by Dr. Robert Stackman, Graduate College Dean.

II. Minutes

- a) Motion and second to approve minutes from the August 16th Combined GPC/UGC meeting.
- b) Minutes approved.

III. Curricula proposals

- a) The curricula proposals below were submitted for review and approval by the UGC.
- b) Motion and second to approve all proposed curricula items was made. All items passed unanimously.

New Curriculum Proposals for September 6, 2023

Curriculum Document Type	Title	College (Department)	Consent	Action
	Reviewers by College: SWCJ, Medicine/Biomedical Science			
Program Change	Biological Sciences - MS or MST Master of Science or MS Teaching – Waive GRE.	Science	C	
Program Change	Business Biotechnology - PSM Professional Science Master – Waive GRE	Science	C	
Program Change	Biological Sciences Integrative Biology PHD	Science		T
Program Change	MS in Environmental Science	Science	C	
Program Change	MS in Marine Science & Oceanography	Science	C	
New Course Proposal	OCE 6965 Marine Science & Oceanography Comprehensive Exam	Science	C	
New Course Proposal	OCE 6974 Marine Science & Oceanography Thesis Proposal	Science	C	
New Course Proposal	OCE 6975 Marine Science & Oceanography Thesis Defense	Science	C	

	Reviewers by College: Arts & Letters, Education			
Program Change	MS Criminology & Criminal Justice	Social Work & Criminal Justice	C	
	Additional Items			

IV. Additional Discussions

- a) Graduate Dean, Dr. Robert Stackman, presented four Graduate College items:
 - The **Graduate College Annual Recruitment Workshop** is tomorrow, Thursday, September 14, from 9:00am-11:00am in the Grand Palm room. Presidential and Graduate Dean scholarship funds are available.
 - The Graduate College Open House** is on Thursday, October 5th from 4:00pm-7:00pm in the Grand Palm room. Programs table and it is important that we have participation from faculty to promote their programs and answer any questions the students may have about scholarships and research.
 - Student Health Insurance.** This year the Graduate College is covering 85% of Graduate Research Assistants, Graduate Assistants and Graduate Teaching Assistant’s Health Insurance. The program is mandatory for international students. Dr. Stackman encouraged everyone to promote the program to their eligible graduate students. Previously 75% of the insurance cost was covered by the Graduate College, this year the Graduate College has covered 85%.
 - Eligibility to serve on Thesis and Dissertation committees.** Graduate Faculty can chair and serve on committees. Associate Graduate Faculty can request status to serve on master’s committees by submitting Form 1. The process of getting Affiliates approved to serve on committees is in the process of being modified specifically the submission of requested sensitive information. Background checks are no longer required.
- b) **GPSA Director, Victoria Jean-Julien,** said the Fall semester is off to a busy start. They have been working with International Student Services to see where the GPSA can help. GPSA have been tabling in Davie and meeting with student to hear their concerns. GPSA has two upcoming events. I Lead on September 23rd and Dining with the Dean on September 25th in Majestic Hall. Victoria said there are a few Ambassador positions still open. She will share the list of colleges still needing to fill positions.
- c) Dr. Paul Peluso revisited the conversation on **food insecurity.** Dr. Danielle Groton said SWCJ held a food drive and replenished their pantry. Victoria Jean-Julien said that Student Government has a pantry located in housing and they have meal vouchers available in the union for graduate students to get a hot meal. She is hoping to get additional donation boxes.

Dr. Paul Peluso discussed the idea of **combining the GPC and UGC committee meetings** in Spring 2024. This would reduce the number of meetings for everyone and be a more efficient use of time. The response from committee members was very favorable. Next step would be a discussion with Steering and then the by-laws will have to be amended.

V. Meeting was adjourned by UGC Chair, Paul Peluso at 2:34 pm.