

College of Education (COE) Graduate Programs Committee (GPC)

Meeting Minutes | April 22, 2026

Documented by Christy Timm Fulkerson (CSD)

Call to order: The COE-GPC meeting was called to order via Zoom Videoconferencing at 1:00 pm on April 22, 2026.

In Attendance: Lisa Finnegan (DSE), Lilyanna Zmijak (CSD), Jennifer Rogers (CE), Melissa Antonelli (CI), Hannah Bowers Parker (CE), Katie Friesen (ELRM), Christy Timm Fulkerson (CSD), Sharon Darling (DSE), Deborah Shepherd (Dean's Representative), Maysaa Barakat (ELRM), Sabrina Sembiente (CI)

Roll Call and Convening Announcements. The group discussed GRE admissions requirement changes in the college.

Minutes Approval. The previous minutes were reviewed and approved by a vote. A motion was made by Sharon Darling (DSE) with a second by Lilyanna Zmijak (CSD).

Curriculum Review: The GPC Curriculum Subcommittee reviewed and recommended approval of several curriculum changes. The GPC voted to accept the Subcommittee's recommendations listed below.

1. Ed Leadership- Change- Approved
 - a. Course title change
2. Special Education – New Program – Approved
 - a. BECE to M.Ed. 4+1 Special Education Degree
3. Curriculum and Instruction – New Program – Approved
 - a. BECE to M.Ed. 4+1 Curriculum and Instruction Degree

Student Petitions: GPC Petition Subcommittee Reviewed and recommended approval of 16 petitions from five departments. The GPC voted to accept the Subcommittee's recommendations listed below.

1. Counselor Ed- Submitted two petitions. One to waive continuous enrollment, the other to waive recency of credit. The Subcommittee recommended approval.
2. Curriculum and Instruction-Six petitions: Two to waive recency of credit, three to waive continuous enrollment, and one leave of absence. The Subcommittee recommended approval for all.
3. Educational Leadership and Research Methodology- Six petitions: Three to waive recency of credit, one for leave absence, one requesting late withdrawal from two courses, and one to waive the application process for readmission. The

Subcommittee recommended approval for all six, with the caveats: a leave of absence to return in Spring 2027 and a late withdrawal, to provide a letter of support from the second faculty member.

4. Special Education- Two petitions to waive continuous enrollment. The Subcommittee recommended approval for both.

Other Business:

1. Dr. Lisa Finnegan announced she would continue as committee chair for one more year. She also made a call for anyone else interested in chairing GPC.
2. Dr. Sharon Darling shared about the upcoming AI Committee.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 1:36 pm.