

**University Graduate Council  
February 26, 2020  
Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Paul Peluso, UGC Chair, Education; Anita Pennathur, GPC Chair, Business; Eric Bertlatsky, A&L; Clifford Brown, A&L; Arthur Sementelli, CDSI; Manny Gonzalez, CDSI; Marianne Porter, Science; David Newman, Nursing; Mihaela Cardei, Engineering; Christopher Beetle, Science; Mahyar Shirazi, Medicine.

**Others Present:** Robert Stackman, Graduate College; Brian Farrell, Graduate College; Liana Smith, Graduate College; Dan Meeroff, Engineering.

**Absent:** Ali Danesh, Education; Sabrina Sembiante, Education; Ramesh Teegavarapu, Engineering; Dawn Froom, Library; Darren Pikul, GPSA.

- I. Meeting called to order by UGC Chair, Paul Peluso at 2:04 pm.
  - A. No introductions were made.
- II. Paul had no announcements. No other members had any announcements to make.
- III. Review of minutes from the January 29, 2020 meeting.
  - A. The minutes from the last UGC meeting were unanimously approved.
- IV. The below items/curriculum proposals were reviewed:

**New Curriculum Proposals for February 26, 2020**

Curriculum Document Type	Title	College (Department)	Credit	Action
<b>Reviewers by College: Education, Library</b>				
New Course	ACG7915: Summer Paper 1	Business	3	AC (Changes Made)
New Course	MAR7931: Special Topics in Marketing	Business	3	A
<b>Reviewers by College: Library, Science</b>				
Course Change	ARC5352: Comprehensive Design Project	CDSI	6	A
New Course	URP6719: Shared and Automated Transport: The Future of Urban Mobility	CDSI	3	A
<b>Reviewers by College: Arts &amp; Letters, CDSI</b>				
Course Change	EDA6207: Managing School Operations	Education	3	A
Course Change	EDA6232: Practical School Law	Education	3	A
Course Change	EDA6300: Community School Partnerships and Diversity	Education	3	A
Course Change	EDF6786: Educational Governance	Education	3	A

New Course	EDA6191: Leadership for Social Justice	Education	3	A
New Program	Instructional Design Certificate	Education	N/A	A
Program Change	Instructional Technology Master's in Education	Education	N/A	A
<b>Reviewers by College: Arts &amp; Letters, Education</b>				
New Course	EEL6468: Smart Antennas	Engineering	3	A
New Combined Program Request	BS in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering to an MS in Artificial Intelligence	Engineering	N/A	A
Program Change	Professional Master of Science with Major in Artificial Intelligence	Engineering	N/A	AC (Changes Made)
Program Change	Professional Doctor of Philosophy with Major in Computer Engineering	Engineering	N/A	AC (Changes Made)
Program Change	Professional Doctor of Philosophy with Major in Computer Science	Engineering	N/A	AC (Changes Made)
Program Change	Professional Doctor of Philosophy with Major in Electrical Engineering	Engineering	N/A	AC (Changes Made)
<b>Reviewers by College: Medicine, Business, Engineering</b>				
Course Change	BSC5417C: Practical Cell Neuroscience	Science	3	A
Course Change	BSC5835C: Neurophysiology	Science	3	A
Course Change	BSC6905: Neuroscience Seminar	Science	0-1	A
Course Change	BSC6971: Masters Thesis	Science	1-6	A
New Course	BSC6917: Direct Independent Research in Biological Sciences	Science	0-3	A
New Course	MCB6672: Plant Microbiomes and Applications	Science	2	A
New Course	MCB6674: Advances in Human Microbiome	Science	3	A
New Course	OCE6059: Ecology of Infectious Marine Diseases	Science	3	A
Program Change	Masters in Science and Masters of Science in Teaching	Science	N/A	A
Program Change	Professional Science Master with Major in Business Biotechnology	Science	N/A	A

Additional Discussion Items	
Title	Department
Proposed Graduate College Governance Document Rev 4	Graduate College

- A. Chris Beetle mentioned an email he received at 1:40 pm today from Russ Ivey asking that the 4 Professional programs (1 MS & 3 PhD) from the College of Engineering be removed from consideration.
  - 1. Chris has not spoken with Russ or the Provost so he does not know the specifics as to why this request has been made.
  - 2. Chris' opinion is "How do you supervise a program like this?" with it being geared towards professionals.
    - a. Mihaela Cardei: How is it that some colleges appear to be doing this (Business) while others are not allowed to do so.
    - b. Chris Beetle: It appears that the delivery of the coursework in these differs from that in the College of Business. The CoB PhD for professionals appears to be significantly different from the standard PhD program.
    - c. Clifford Brown made a motion that these 4 items be moved forward and the motion was seconded.
  - 3. Paul Peluso noted that no mention of UGC was made in Russ' email and recommended the following:
    - a. Let Academic Planning & Steering address these items.
    - b. Defer to the College of Engineering as the experts on these 4 items.
  - 4. Clifford Brown: Put an item on the agenda to discuss self-sustaining programs like these but, in the meantime, move these forward.
  
- V. All agenda items recommended by the GPC were approved, with one abstention, by UGC to move forward to the Steering meeting on March 19, 2020.
  - A. The 3 PhD programs and the 1 MS program should be placed on the Action Agenda for UFS.
    - 1. The University needs to have a discussion about how research fits into self-sustaining programs.
    - 2. The uncertainty as to why the request was made to have these items held back also led the UGC to recommend that these 4 items be placed on the Action Agenda.
  
- VI. Discussion of Graduate College Governance document
  - A. It was felt that the committees under this document should be more diverse and include outside members (outside the department, college, University, etc.)
    - 1. Cliff Brown: It seems as if we are going back to a procedure we had in place previously and it will make this more cumbersome.

2. Dean Stackman: This revised document should make it easier to appoint external people as Graduate faculty.
3. Eric Berlatsky: Would inter-disciplinary candidates already be considered being “outside” the program?
4. Marianne Porter: The “outside” person could be more of an individual to ensure the committed remains fair and unbiased.
  - a. Eric: That should be articulated in the document.
  - b. Art Sementelli: This “outside” person should have some expertise they bring to the table.
  - c. Dean Stackman: The Graduate College requested feedback from the colleges. We received some, but not all.
  - d. Anita Pennathur: Will get feedback from the College of Business by end of this week.
  - e. Mahyar Sharazi: No comments from College of Medicine as most faculty in Medicine are on contract, not tenure track.
  - f. Chris Beetle: Expressed reservations about “strengthening” the committee requirements for this document; enthusiastic about the rest of the revisions.
    - i. If there is push-back, we should be prepared to roll back this strengthening.
  - g. Paul Peluso: Expressed concern with individuals outside the field offering to serve on a committee in an area they are unfamiliar with and, by progression, have no interest in.
  - h. Chris Beetle: Each program should come up with clear guidelines for the committees that fit their program, keep it at 3 members and, where possible, include a member from outside the discipline.
  - i. Cliff Brown: Will these new requirements be grandfathered in?
    - i. Dean Stackman: Yes, absolutely.
  - j. Liana Smith: Recommended that each college look at their individual governance document for possible revisions.
  - k. Chris Beetle: Make these revisions and send them to UGC members for an electronic vote. This would allow it to move forward to Faculty Steering in a timely manner.
    - i. Chris then made a motion to do exactly this. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

## **VII. Space Utilization Policy update**

- A. Paul Peluso: From Senate, a committee was approved to review this policy.
  1. This committee would be comprised of Graduate faculty including, if necessary, someone from the UGC membership.
- B. Chris Beetle: This revised document will encompass all areas of research and be in line with the University’s Strategic Plan.

1. The document will spell out the minimal resources that will be made available to the Deans for their colleges research needs.
2. Table in revised policy needs to include:
  - a. Justification for research needs.
  - b. Allowances for Deans to have space available to meet the needs of their colleges/programs.

**VIII.** Graduate Dean's Report

- A. The Provost is pushing for reallocation of funds to pay for Graduate Health Insurance.
  1. The Graduate College and Academic Affairs will cover 75% of the cost.
  2. We have a quote from Gallagher for about 900 students which would be coupled with Medical students under their current plan.
  3. About 50% have responded to questionnaire sent by Graduate College.
    - a. About 60-70% expressed an interest in an opt-in for health insurance.
  4. There would be 4 categories:
    - a. GRA – externally funded
    - b. GRA – internally funded
    - c. GTA
    - d. GA
  5. Dean Stackman will provide a water-marked draft to summarize all this information to colleges.

**IX.** GPSA announcements

- A. Paul Peluso, on behalf of Darren Pikul, made the announcement about the need for faculty judges for Research Day.

**X.** Meeting adjourned by UGC Chair, Paul Peluso at 4:03 pm

*The next University Graduate Council meeting is scheduled for Fall, 2020*