

# SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

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## Graduate Council Minutes

March 26, 2015

Dempster 102

**Members:** Present: McAllister, presiding; Ahmed, Bawaneh, Brune, Gathman, Gause, Grueneberg, Gunn, Hosselkus, Humphrey, Kilburn, Mardanov, McFerron, Odegard-Koester, Walling, Wang. Kadri **Visitors:** Jamie Severtson.

1. Dr. McAllister called the meeting to order. He thanked everyone for attending on a cold and rainy Thursday morning.
2. **Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes from February 19, 2015 was made by Gause/Humphrey. Minutes were then approved by the council.
3. Reports:
  - a. **Dean's Report:** to be addressed under old business
  - b. **Committee Reports:**
    - Curriculum Committee:** Reports to be addressed when the courses are reviewed for approval.
    - Academic Standards Committee:** Michelle Brune noted the Academic Standards Committee has completed all charges for the year.
    - Assessment Committee:** The Assessment Committee provided a handout examining the current iteration of GR 603 (see attached). The Committee noted the course remains a necessary component in training new teaching assistants. Also noted was the need to ensure GR 603 remains a 3 credit hour course. There was discussion this course might find a permanent home to provide continuity. A motion to approve GR 603 as a future course was made by Gause/Odegard. The course was then approved by the council.

Dr. Gause noted the department of Educational Leadership and Counseling might be willing to provide the permanent home for this course.

4. **Old Business:** Dr. McAllister presented information on establishing a new course, GR 609: Graduate Thesis or Creative Project Development (see attached). A motion to approve the course was made by Gause/Odegard. The course was approved by the council.

Dr. McAllister noted he had received positive feedback from all committees where this information was shared. He recently shared with the Dean's Council where everyone was onboard with this course. Dr. McAllister noted that this course will need to have a syllabus and course approval document. After approval, it will then be placed on 30-day review.

5. **Action Items:**

a. College of Education Program Approval:

Master of Arts in Applied Behavior - Analysis Jamie Severtson explained the course is designed to train individuals to work in clinical settings as well as schools, hospitals and nursing homes.

A motion was made to approve the Master of Arts in Applied Behavior by Gause/Kilburn. The program was approved by the council and will now go on to Academic Council.

b. College of Education – New Course Approval(s)

AB 535	Special Topics in Applied Behavior Analysis
AB 405/605	Intensive Practicum in Applied Behavior Analysis-I
AB 407/607	Intensive Practicum in Applied Behavior Analysis-II
AB 608	Intensive practicum III

A motion was made to approve all of the above courses by Gathman/Humphrey. The courses were approved by the council with noted revisions made to the student learning outcomes.

c. College of Human Environmental Studies – New Course Approval

DS 620 Design Studio (3)

Michelle Brune explained the course was created for students to create design projects (rather than taking independent study).

A motion was made to approve this course by Gathman/Gause. The course was approved by the council with noted revisions made to the student learning outcomes.

6. **Informational Items:**

a. HP 640 Historic Pres Intern Course Revision

This course was revised to make it a repeatable course.

b. Graduate Council Membership – Expiring Terms:

Health and Human Services	Michelle Brune
College of Education	Sharon Gunn
	Melissa Odegard-Koester

(Elections for these members will take place within the individual departments.)

7. **Recommendation for Graduate Faculty Status:**

a. Brandhorst, Scott Psychology Regular Graduate Faculty Status

b. Huckabee, Nicole Nursing Adjunct Graduate Faculty Status

**NEXT MEETING**

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*Thursday, April 16th, 2015*

*8:30-10:00 a.m.*

*UC Indian Room*

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# School of Graduate Studies Proposal

Endorsed by Graduate Council: March 26, 2015

Establish a new course that will be required for all students admitted to a graduate program,  
GR609: Graduate Thesis or Creative Project Development

- Zero credits
  - Credit-bearing courses exist for this purpose but are uncommon
  - Graduate Council expresses deep concern about the possibility of a 1-credit course, citing HLC accreditation related to the federal definition of a credit hour
- \$50 program fee (e.g., faculty supervision, library subscription database access, comprehensive exam administration, and other administrative costs)
  - GA fee waiver will cover the program fee each semester
  - GA fee waiver will no longer pay for parking permit
- Students register every fall and spring semester
  - Including summer only if completing during the summer
  - May self-enroll
  - Automatically enrolled by Graduate Office at the end of the first week of the semester unless student withdraws from graduate study by deadline established by the Graduate Office
- When notified of degree completion, Graduate Studies will enroll the student in the current GR698, GR699, or GR799 course as appropriate
  - All fees associated with GR698, GR699, and GR799 will be eliminated

## Benefits

- IPEDS: Headcount includes “Graduate students enrolled for thesis credits, even when zero credits are awarded, as these students are still enrolled and seeking their degree.”
- Minimizes extensive manual processing associated with loading and removing fees for GR698/699/799.
- Encourages timely degree completion
- Prestige factor – elevates the stature of Graduate Studies
  - Murray State and SIU are among the peer institutions that require a similar continuous enrollment course for graduate students