



Graduate Council

Agenda

March 12, 2026

3:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 952 3877 9942

<https://wku.zoom.us/j/95238779942?from=addon>

One tap mobile

[+16465588656](tel:+16465588656), [+16469313860](tel:+16469313860), [95238779942#](tel:+16469313860) US (New York)

[+16469313860](tel:+16469313860), [95238779942#](tel:+16469313860) US

- 1) Call to order
- 2) Sign-in sheet
- 3) Previous meeting minutes
- 4) Committee Reports
 - a. Research (Jeremy Logsdon): Report attached (A)
 - b. Policy (Wes Cottongim): No report
 - c. Curriculum (Erin Warfel): Report attached (B)
- 5) Other business
 - a. Graduate Studies (Jennifer Hammonds and/or Scott Gordon)
 - b. Graduate Council Elections
 - i. Nominations (self) and returns
 - c. Open forum to council
- 6) Calendar and next meeting (4/9/2026; 3:00pm in WAB)
- 7) Adjournment

Attachments: Reports and Prior Meeting Minutes



Agenda — February 20, 2026

Members Present: Jerry Brotge, Daniel Keller, Jeremy Logsdon (chair), Sara McCaslin

I. New Business:

- 25 applications were submitted requesting funding
 - 13 applications classified as “research”
 - 12 applications classified as “travel”

- Total Funds Requested = \$31,554.99
 - Total Research Funds Requested = \$19,160.28
 - Total Travel Funds Requested = \$7,667.72

- Total Funds Recommended by GCRC = \$23,878.28
 - Total Research Funds Recommended = \$18,380.28
 - Total Travel Funds Recommended = \$5,498.00

Research Applications Recommended for Funding

1. Awe, Rebecca. Geoscience (Prof. Matthew Nee). “Molecular Dynamics Modeling of Sulfate Formation and its Climatic Implications in Atmospheric Aerosols” [Requesting \$1400 for research]
2. Barbour, Tiara. Social Work (Dr. Daniel Boamah). “The Outcome of Library Staff Training on Human Trafficking Awareness” [Requesting \$320 for research]
3. Bertsch, McKenzie. Geoscience (Dr. Jason Polk). “Source, Fate, and Transport of Microplastics and Co-contaminants in Urban Karst Groundwater Systems in South-Central Kentucky” [Requesting \$2000 for research]
4. Broadrick, Jennifer. PsyD (Dr. Christopher Peters). “Coaching the effect of sexualized behavior and developmental language on the findings of guilt in sexual abuse cases” [Requesting \$2000 for research]
5. Douthitt, Emily. School Psychology (Dr. Steven R. Wininger). “Understanding K-12 Staff Member's Beliefs About Test Anxiety” [Requesting \$2000 for research]
6. McMillian, Magen. Clinical Psychology (Dr. Sarah Bonis). “Fundamental Beliefs and Attitudes Toward Women” [Requesting \$1125 for research]

7. Meadows, Adam. Chemistry (Dr. Lawrence Hill). "Vitamin C Functionalized Polymer" [Requesting \$2000 for research]
8. Moreno, Lorenzo. Geoscience (Dr. Jason Polk). "Event-Based Groundwater Flood Forecasting In Urban Karst Systems Using Physics-Informed Machine Learning" [Request \$1996.50 for research]
9. Parson, Megan. School Psychology (Dr. David Castleman). "The Under-Identification of Girls with Autism: Understanding Educator Recognition and Referral Decisions" [Requesting \$500 for research]
10. Shea, Ava. Clinical Psychology (Dr. Christopher Peters). "The Effects of Witnesses with a Psychotic Disorder on Juror Verdicts" [Requesting \$1112.78 for research]
11. Sitz, Gregory. Geoscience (Dr. Jason Polk). "Predictive Karst Flood Modeling for Updating FEMA Flood Maps" [Requesting \$1976 for research]
12. Summers, Riley. Geoscience (Dr. Jason Polk). "Risk Assessment of Heavy Metals Entering Class V Injection Wells Through Sedimentation and Stormwater In Urban Karst Groundwater System" [Requesting \$1950 for research]

Travel Applications Recommended for Funding

1. Adhikari, Sanskar. Geoscience (Dr. Zachary Suriano). "Manipulating self-healing polymers: Applications of the host-guest interaction in functional materials" [Requesting \$500 for travel]
2. Alavi, Charlie. Geoscience (Dr. Giliane Rasbold). "Calibrating Charcoal Records to Improve Paleofire Reconstructions from Jackson Lake, Wyoming" [Requesting \$500 for travel]
3. Annamuradov, Berimyrat. Homeland Security Sciences (Dr. Ali Oguz Er). "Temperature-Dependent Crystallinity and Growth Transition in Al/Zr Multilayer Thin Films Fabricated by Pulsed Laser Deposition (oral talk)" [Requesting \$498 for travel]
4. Ashburn, Kennedi. Mathematics (Dr. Ahmet Ozkan Ozer). "Control Design and Stability Analysis of a SCOLE-inspired Beam-Mass-Beam Configuration with Rotational Inertia" [Requesting \$500 for travel]
5. Awe, Rebecca. Geoscience (Prof. Matthew Nee). "Molecular Dynamics Modeling of Sulfate Formation and its Climatic Implications in Atmospheric Aerosols" [Requesting \$500 for travel]
6. Barbour, Tiara. Social Work (Dr. Daniel Boamah). "The Outcome of Library Staff Training on Human Trafficking Awareness" [Requesting \$500 for travel]
7. Brown, Zoe. Computational Math (Dr. Ahmet Ozkan Ozer). "Unconditional Exponential Stability via Discontinuous Interface Control Design in Wave Transmission Networks With Inertial Boundary" [Requesting \$500 for travel]
8. Costello, Jacob. Kinesiology (Dr. Silvio Polly De Costa Valladao). "Effects Of Pre-Exercise Sauna On Power Performance" [Requesting \$500 for travel]
9. Forrest, Hanna. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Matthew Woodward). "Utilization of Stress Management Techniques in a Digital Health Intervention" [Requesting \$500 for travel]

10. Heckler, Jaime. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Patrick Ledwidge). "Direction-informed cueing effects on plantar flexion response conflict" [Requesting \$500 for travel]
11. McPherson, Carly. Psychology (Dr. Patrick Ledwidge). "Anticipation, Step Type, and Limb Dominance During Side-step Cutting Maneuvers" [Requesting \$500 for travel]

Not Funded

1. Webb, Cansas. Social Work (Dr. Gayle Mallinger). "Going No Contact: Intergenerational Estrangement between Mothers and Their Adult Child" [Requesting \$500 for travel, Committee recommending \$0 for travel. Rejected as the student was not the primary author for publication or presenting author for presentation. This is against grant guidelines.]

Graduate Council Curriculum Committee

Minutes – March 5, 2026, 2:30 PM (CT)

Voting Members: Erin Warfel, Dan Strunk, Leslie Tarbett, Jessi Thomsen, and Eland Jasarevic.

Advisory Members: Cate Webb, Jennifer Klemm, Merrall Price, Jessica Dorris, Zach Miller, and Jamie DeYoung.

Guests: Trudy Little, Ellen Casale, Janet Tassell, and Sarah Bonis.

Approval of Minutes – February 5, 2026 - 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk **Vote:** Approved (4 Yes)

Course Administration:

Graduate Curriculum Committee (10)				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
IECE 510	IECE 510: Early Reading, Language, and Literacy	Added	trd41044	2/11/2026
<p>Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk</p> <p>Discussion: Little gave a brief description.</p> <p>Vote: Approved (4 Yes)</p>				
PSY 644	PSY 644: Instructional Strategies and Academic Interventions in School Psychology	Added	srh19445	2/11/2026
<p>Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Strunk/Tarbett</p> <p>Discussion: Bonis gave a brief description.</p> <p>Vote: Approved (4 Yes)</p>				
<p>Bundle the rest of IECE Courses & SPED Course – 1st/2nd: Strunk/Tarbett</p> <p>Vote on Bundle: Approved</p> <p>Motion to Approve Bundle – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk</p>				

Graduate Curriculum Committee (10)				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
Discussion: None				
Vote: Approved (4 Yes)				
IECE 520	IECE 520: Organizing Programs for Early Childhood Special Education	Edited	trd41044	2/11/2026
IECE 521	IECE 521: Assessment in Early Childhood Special Education	Edited	trd41044	2/11/2026
IECE 522	IECE 522: Family-Focused Services	Edited	trd41044	2/11/2026
IECE 523	IECE 523: Planning Curriculum and Instruction in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education	Edited	trd41044	2/11/2026
IECE 524	IECE 524: Internship in Early Childhood Special Education	Edited	trd41044	2/11/2026
SPED 523	SPED 523: Curriculum/Methods in Early Childhood Special Education	Edited	trd41044	2/11/2026
PSY 540	PSY 540: Advanced Developmental Psychopathology	Edited	srh19445	2/11/2026
Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Strunk/Tarbett				
Discussion: Bonis gave a brief description.				
Vote: Approved (4 Yes)				
PSY 643	PSY 643: Psychoeducational Assessment	Edited	srh19445	2/11/2026
Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk				
Discussion: Bonis gave a brief description.				
Vote: Approved (4 Yes)				

Review Program Changes:

Graduate Curriculum Committee (9)

Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
147	147: School Psychology	Edited	srh19445	2/11/2026

Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk

Discussion: Bonis gave a brief description.

Vote: Approved (4 Yes)

132	132: Certification Only, Teacher Education	Edited	jnt66391	2/11/2026
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Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk

Discussion: Tassell gave a brief description.

Vote: Approved (4 Yes)

0482	0482: Gifted Education and Talent Development	Edited	jnt66391	2/11/2026
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Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk

Discussion: Tassell gave a brief description.

Vote: Approved (4 Yes)

0503	0503: Gifted Education/Talent Development & Advanced Instructional Practice	Edited	jnt66391	2/11/2026
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Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk

Discussion: Tassell gave a brief description.

Vote: Approved (4 Yes)

0461	0461: Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education, Birth to Primary	Edited	ell06551	2/11/2026
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Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk

Discussion: Little gave a brief description.

Vote: Approved (4 Yes)

Graduate Curriculum Committee (9)

Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
0456	0456: Special Education for Initial Certification	Edited	ell06551	2/12/2026

Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk

Discussion: Casale gave a brief description.

Vote: Approved (4 Yes)

0500	0500: Advanced Teacher Education	Edited	jnt66391	2/11/2026
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Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk

Discussion: Tassell gave a brief description.

Vote: Approved (4 Yes)

0460	0460: Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education, Birth to Primary, for Initial Certification	Edited	ell06551	2/11/2026
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Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk

Discussion: Little gave a brief description.

Vote: Approved (4 Yes)

0438	0438: Special Education for Moderate and Severe Disabilities	Edited	ell06551	2/20/2026
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Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk

Discussion: Casale gave a brief description.

Vote: Approved (4 Yes)

Informational Item(s): None

Other Business: None

Adjourn at 3:00pm - **1st/2nd** – Tarbett/Warfel

Respectfully submitted,
GCCC Recorder
Jessica Steenbergen



Graduate Council

Agenda

February 12, 2026

3:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://wku.zoom.us/j/91562733127>

Meeting ID: 915 6273 3127

Members present: Whitley Stone, Jeremy Logsdon, Tonya Bragg-Underwood, Jessi Thomsen, Erin Warfel, Dan Strunk, Jerry Brotzge, Mikhail Khenner, Sara McCaslin, Daniel Keller, Leslee Tarbett, Daniel Keller, Jason Bergner, Wes Cottongim, Jonathan Ross, Elnad Jasarevic, Blake Jones, Sukurat Kofoworola

Guests: Jennifer Hammonds, Scott Gordon, Cathleen Webb, Danita Kelley, Jennifer Klemm, Merrall Price

- 1) Call to order *Stone at 3:00 pm
- 2) Sign-in sheet - via chat Zoom
- 3) Previous meeting minutes: Motion to consider – Bergner/McCaslin. Approved unanimously.
- 4) Committee Reports
 - a. Research (Jeremy Logsdon): No report
Updates: Sp26 grants will be reviewed soon. Clarified question with Dr. Redifer; if travel occurs before grants are awarded, grants cannot be awarded retroactively.
 - b. Policy (Wes Cottongim): No report
 - c. Curriculum (Erin Warfel): Report attached: Motion to consider – Warfel. Approved unanimously.
- 5) Other business
 - a. Graduate Studies (Jennifer Hammonds): *Gordon - Spring 2026 enrollment is up 1 ½ % from Sp25. Graduate Studies will offer virtual office hours on February 24, 2026, for current graduate students. Students can email questions ahead of time or ask questions at the virtual session. *Hammonds – Enrollment for bi-term courses is still open.
 - b. Open forum to council - None
- 6) Calendar and next meeting (3/12/2026; 3:00pm in WAB)
- 7) Adjournment: Motion to adjourn 1st/2nd Cottongim/Stone at 3:07pm

Respectfully submitted
Graduate Council – Secretary

Tonya Bragg-Underwood