Graduate Council

Topic: Graduate Council
Date: Thursday, March 13, 2025
Time/Location: 2:30 p.m./Zoom

https://wku.zoom.us/j/95276369555

1. Call to Order

2. Consideration of February 13, 2025 Minutes (APPENDIX A)

3. Reports from standing committees

    a. Graduate Council Executive Committee
        i. Upcoming Elections
            1. Student Reps for Next AY?
        ii. Vice Chair and Secretary for AY26 election in April GC

    b. Graduate Council Policy Committee (No report)

    c. Graduate Council Curriculum Committee (APPENDIX B)

    d. Graduate Council Research Committee (APPENDIX C)

    e. Ad Hoc R2 Committee (No report)

4. Reports from Graduate Studies
    a. Outstanding Graduate Student Winners Announced Soon
    b. Committee reviewing Minton Nominations

5. Announcements

6. Informational Items

7. Adjournment

APPENDIX A
CONSIDERATION OF GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2025, 3:00 p.m.
WAB 227

Members present: Whitley Stone, Jessi Thomsen, Jeremy Logsdon, Dan Strunk & (proxy: Phillip Gunter), Tonya Bragg-Underwood, Mikhail Khenner, Leslee Tarbett, Patricia Desrosiers (proxy: Erin Warfel), Lance Hahn, Kirk Atkinson & (proxy: Ray Blankenship), Angela Jerome (proxy: Jieyoung Kong), Jonathan Ross, Catherine Wilson, Birhanu Gessese, Elnad Jasarevic, Madalynn Alt

Guests: Jennifer Hammonds, Scott Gordon, Cathleen Webb, Alex Lebedinsky, Beth Laves, Provost Bud Fisher

Call to Order at 3:00pm

1. Consideration of January 16, 2025 Minutes (APPENDIX A)
    a. Motion to consider 1st/2nd Hahn/Wilson. Approved unanimously.

2. Reports from standing committees

    a. Graduate Council Executive Committee
        i. Upcoming Elections & AY26 Grad Council
        ii. Ad Hoc Committee Discussion re: R2
            1. R2 Ad Hoc Committee was appointed by Chair Jeremy Logsdon with a unanimous vote of support. Hahn was appointed chair, and other members are, Jonathan Ross, Jessi Thomsen, and representatives from CHHS and CEB TBD. The R2 Ad Hoc Committee is charged with formulating questions regarding R2 status at WKU and will dissolve at the end of 24-25 AY.

    b. Graduate Council Policy Committee (No report)
        No Report

    c. Graduate Council Curriculum Committee (APPENDIX B)
        Motion to approve minutes – 1st/2nd Stone/Hahn. Approved unanimously.

    d. Graduate Council Research Committee (No report)
        No Report

3. Reports from the Graduate School

Hammonds- A call for Outstanding Graduate Student Awards and John D. Minton Graduate Student Award went out with deadline being March 7, 2025. Slate is implemented and all new students will be in the new system beginning Su25.

Gordon – Enrollment for Sp25 tracking to be flat. Credit hours are down 1% from last year.

4. Announcements
Next meeting on March 13, 2025 at 2:30pm will likely be Zoom due to Senate meeting time conflict.

5. Informational Items

   a. Provost/R2 Discussion
      Provost Fisher provided update on bill moving forward for WKU R2 status. He noted it would likely be 2026-2028 before WKU would be R2 if approved. Data Science would be a potential program to offer PhD.

6. Adjournment
   a. Motion to adjourn 1st/2nd Hahn/Wilson at 3:48pm.

APPENDIX B

Graduate Council Curriculum Committee

Minutes – March 6, 2025, 2:30 PM (CT)

Voting Members: Whitley Stone, Erin Warfel, Phillip Gunter, Jessi Thomsen, Elnad Jasarevic, Dan Strunk, and Leslie Tarbett

Advisory Members: Danita Kelley, Merrall Price, Jennifer Klemm, Jamie DeYoung, Beth Laves, and Jessica Dorris

Guests: Penny Head, Angie Jerome, Trini Stickle, Joel Turner, Guangming Xing, Ivan Novikov

Approval of Minutes, February 6, 2025 - 1st/2nd: Stone/Strunk**, Vote:** Approved (7/7)

Motion to move ENG items up to accommodate proponent schedule – 1st/2nd: Stone/Warfel **Discussion:** None **Vote:** Approved 6/6				
GWS 630	GWS 630: Feminist Pedagogies	Edited	trn69263	2/25/2025
Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Stone/Warfel **Discussion:** Stickle gave a brief description. They are relaxing co-prerequisites and updating SLO's since they weren't entered before. **Vote:** Approved 7/7				
067	067: English	Edited	trn69263	2/25/2025
Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Stone/Thomsen **Discussion:** Stickle explained that the revisions are giving more choices to students. **Vote:** Approved 7/7				

Course Administration:

Graduate Curriculum Committee (10)				
Code	**Title**	**Status**	**Initiator**	**Received**
Motion to Bundle all COMM Classes – 1st/2nd: Stone/Stunk **Vote to Bundle:** Approved 7/7 **Discussion:** Jerome did a program revision, and this is clean up. Changing course description and some SLO's were not listed. Dorris said the Fall 24 implementation, and some are already out there. If changes need to be done, then they should cancel the course listed and add new course to get scheduling type to show. **Vote on Bundle:** Approved (7/7)				

	Graduate Curriculum Committee (10)			
Code	**Title**	**Status**	**Initiator**	**Received**
COMM 547	COMM 547: Organizational Communication	Edited	hll14493	2/25/2025
COMM 561	COMM 561: Communication for Global Organizations	Edited	kms61902	2/25/2025
COMM 566	COMM 566: Organizational Persuasion	Edited	ang16236	2/25/2025
COMM 568	COMM 568: Organizational Belonging and Engagement	Edited	ang16236	2/25/2025
COMM 571	COMM 571: Digital Communication for Organizational Success	Edited	ang16236	2/25/2025
COMM 590	COMM 590: Intercultural Communication Strategies	Edited	ang16236	2/25/2025
Motion to Bundle all DPT Classes – 1st/2nd: Stone**/**Stunk **Vote to Bundle:** Approved 7/7 **Discussion on Courses are listed below.** **Vote to Approve Bundle:** Approved (7/7)				
DPT 740	DPT 740: Biophysical Agents	Edited	pnn51910	2/24/2025
Discussion: Head gave a brief description, only asking for a name change.				
DPT 716	DPT 716: Principles of Therapeutic Exercise in Physical Therapy	Edited	pnn51910	2/24/2025
Discussion: Head gave a brief description of the revisions. Increasing it to 3 hours due to too much stuff to get through for a 2-hour course. Needed more room for lab work.				
DPT 785	DPT 785: Research Synthesis and Professional Competency Seminar	Edited	pnn51910	2/24/2025
Discussion: Head gave a brief description of the revisions. Reducing it to a 2-hour course to offset the above change. Dorris asked about the scheduling type, and it doesn't need to be changed until Fall 27. That is correct.				

Review Program Changes:

Graduate Curriculum Committee (6)				
Code	**Title**	**Status**	**Initiator**	**Received**
0454	0454: Kinesiology	Edited	wht92998	2/12/2025

Motion to Approve – 1ˢᵗ/2ⁿᵈ: Stone/Warfel

Discussion: Stone gave a brief description of the revisions. Updating the concentration area, giving student larger concentration and a smaller core. Explained all the revisions because it hasn't been done in a while. This will be an online program.

Vote: Approved Yes – 6; Abstain – 1

1745	1745: Local Government Administration	Edited	jlf54844	2/25/2025

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

Discussion: Turner gave a brief description of the revisions. Course offerings are a little too restrictive in terms of accessibility, so this will be expanding their offerings. Allowing the students to finish in an academic year.

Vote: Approved 7/7

0013	0013: Physical Therapy	Edited	pnn51910	2/24/2025

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

Discussion: Head gave a brief description of the revisions. Just deleting the DPT-790 course on Fall 27, and the increase on hours on DPT-716.

Vote: Approved 7/7

117	117: Computer Science	Edited	gng27220	2/28/2025

Motion to Approve – 1ˢᵗ/2ⁿᵈ: Stone/Stunk

Discussion: Xing gave a brief description of the revisions. They've added a Jump Statement. The CS-550 is not showing because they suspended that course. Dorris explained there needs to be another course listed in that Net-Centric Concentration, He suggested adding CS-535 (Cloud Computing).

Graduate Curriculum Committee (6)				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
Friendly Amendment – Add CS-535 to the Net-Centric Concentration and removed the wording (Select 6 hours from the following:). **Vote:** Approved 7/7				
0413	0413: Homeland Security Sciences	Edited	mch78086	2/28/2025
Motion to Approve – 1ˢᵗ/2ⁿᵈ: Stone/Stunk **Discussion:** Novikov gave a brief description of the revisions. Just update the language a bit. **Vote:** Approved 7/7				

Informational Item(s): none

Other Business: none

Adjourn at 3:15pm - **1ˢᵗ/2ⁿᵈ** – Stone/Warfel

Respectfully submitted,
GCCC Chair
Jessica Steenbergen

APPENDIX C
Graduate Council Research Committee

Agenda — February 13, 2025

I.   New Business:

- 19 applications were submitted requesting funding
  - 5 applications classified as "research"
  - 14 applications classified as "travel"

- Total Funds Requested = $16,291.70
  - Total Research Funds Requested = $9,418.70
  - Total Travel Funds Requested = $6,873.00

- Total Funds Recommended by GSRG Committee = $14,833.50
  - Total Research Funds Recommended = $7,960.50
  - Total Travel Funds Recommended = $6,873.00

Update February 14, 2025

The Interim Associate Provost for Research has indicated that all applications given will be funded at the amounts recommended by the committee. The "Total Provided" amount is the total amount provided by the Office of Research and Creative Activity.

Research Applications

Priority: High

1. Berdimyrat Annamuradov. Homeland Security (Dr. Ali Oguz Er) ' Structural and optical analysis of Al/Zr multilayers deposited on silica via Pulsed Laser Deposition'

Requesting $1961 for research

Committee Notes: Student was previously awarded $1,961 and the funding limit is $2,000. So, the remaining $39 was awarded.

2. Emma Bell. Biology (Dr. Natalie Mountjoy) 'An Investigation of Ant-Acacia Mutualism in South Africa'

Requesting $2000 for research.

Recommending $2000 for research.

Committee Notes: Mentor and student disagree on budget description mismatch should be fixed.

3. Monica Galvez. Geoscience (Dr. Jason Polk) 'Modeling Contaminant Transport, Storage, and Remobilization Dynamics in Karst Groundwater Systems'

Requesting $1,937.50 for research.

Recommending $1,937.50 for research.

Committee Notes: well written research proposal

4. Begench Gurbandurdyyev. Biology (Dr. Ali Oguz Er) 'Graphene Quantum Dots as Advanced Photosensitizers in Antimicrobial Photodynamic Therapy'

Requesting $1,988 for research.

Recommending $1,988 for research.

5. Gracie Hendrickson. Geoscience (Dr. Jason Polk) 'Prevalence and Source Tracking of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) Substances in Urban Karst Groundwater Systems'

Requesting $1,996 for research.

Recommending $1,996 for research.

	Research
Total Requesting	$9,418.70
Total Recommending	$7,960.50
Total Provided	$7,960.50

Travel Applications

Priority: High

1. Bradley Aguilar. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Jenni Teeters) 'ANALYZING THE ROLE OF RACE AND GENDER AS A MODERATOR BETWEEN CANNABIS USE AND SUICIDALITY'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: travel to conference in Providence, RI; Acceptance proof provided

2. **Sonia Ali.** Biology (Dr. Hilary Katz) **'The role of Wnt signaling in successful spinal cord regeneration in the larval sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus)'**

Requesting $373 for travel.

Recommending $373 for travel.

Committee Notes: Conference in **Lexington, KY** Contingent upon acceptance proof; none provided

3. Hailey Borges. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Diane Lickenbrock) 'Infant Temperament as a Predictor of Parental Anxiety with Mothers and Fathers Across Early Infancy'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: travel to conference in **Minneapolis** Minnesota; Acceptance proof provided

4. EmmaJo Briles. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Jenni Teeters) 'Examination of the impact of gender on childhood emotional abuse and alcohol-related problems.'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: travel to conference in Providence, RI; Acceptance proof provided

5. Trenton Daugherty. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Aaron Wichman) 'Bipartisan Party Attribution Eliminates Negative Effects of Need for Chaos on Political Policies'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: Conference in Denver, Colorado; acceptance proof provided

6. Dalton Dickerson. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Matthew Woodward) 'The Impact of Friend Support After a Trauma Analogue'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: Conference in Chicago; acceptance proof provided

7. Ashley East. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Katrina Burch) 'Social Comparison and Pressure: Examining the Roles of Sex and Rank'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: Conference in Denver, Colorado; acceptance proof provided

8. Aishwarya Kumar. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Katrina Burch) 'Daily Incivility and Resource Depletion: Examining Cross-Level Moderators'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: Conference in Denver, Colorado; acceptance proof provided

9. Lily Milam. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Matthew Woodward) A Mobile Brief Intervention's Impact on Trauma Survivors' Substance-Related Coping'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: Conference in Chicago; acceptance proof provided

10. Mallory Rager. English (Dr. Trini Stickle) 'Using the Uneasiness of The Bluest Eye within High School Classrooms'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; contingent upon acceptance proof; none provided

11. Anne Schueler. Chemistry (*Dr. Monica Burke*) "How Discriminatory Laws Against the LGBTQI+ Population Affects Mental Health"'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: Conference in New Orleans, LA; acceptance proof provided

12. Anne Simpson. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Katrina Burch) 'Antecedents of Diversity Initiative Fatigue: A Moderated-Mediation Model'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: Conference in Denver, Colorado; acceptance proof provided

13. Sidney Traxler. Psychological Sciences (Dr. Jenni Teeters). 'Examining the relationship between shame and alcohol consequences in sexual assault survivors'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: travel to conference in Providence, RI; Acceptance proof provided

14. Lauren Wilson. Counseling and Student Affairs (Dr. Rhemma Payne). '(Re)Membering Wellness: Using Autoethnography and Rooted Joy to Counter Internalized Stereotypes'

Requesting $500 for travel.

Recommending $500 for travel.

Committee Notes: Conference in Atlanta, Georgia; acceptance proof provided

	Travel (conference)
Total Requesting	$ 6,873.00
Total Recommending	$ 6,873.00
Total Provided	$ 6,873.00