



## 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,,95238779942# US (New York)

+16469313860,,95238779942# US

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

Guests: Cathleen Webb, Danita Kelley, Jennifer Klemm, Merrall Price, Sarah Bonis, Trudy Little

- 1) Call to order \*Stone at 3:00 pm
- 2) Sign-in sheet - via chat Zoom
- 3) Previous meeting minutes - Motion to consider – Warfel. Approved unanimously.
- 4) Committee Reports
  - a. Research (Jeremy Logsdon): Report attached (A) – Motion to consider – Jeremy Logsdon. Approved unanimously.
    - i. Logsdon added that only one application was denied that appeared to be incorrectly completed. Reirrigated that the Research Committee’s job was not to validate, but to review applications for correctly completed.
  - b. Policy (Wes Cottongim): No report
  - c. Curriculum (Erin Warfel): Report attached (B) - Motion to consider – Warfel. Approved unanimously.
- 5) Other business
  - a. Graduate Studies – No report
  - b. Graduate Council Elections
    - i. Nominations (self) and returns \* Stone reminded council of upcoming council member elections.
  - c. Open forum to council

- i. \*Logsdon - asked council members to consider vice chair and secretary positions for next AY
  - ii. \*Webb - reminded that graduate student membership can begin now instead of waiting until fall 2026.
- 6) Calendar and next meeting (4/9/2026; 3:00pm in WAB) – will be in person so newly elected members can attend and meet others.
- 7) Adjournment: Motion to adjourn 1st/2nd Bragg-Underwood/Stone at 3:15pm

Attachments: Reports and Prior Meeting Minutes



## Agenda — February 20, 2026

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

### lj. 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). “Fundamentalist 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:**

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

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

**Review Program Changes:**

**Graduate Curriculum Committee (9)**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Initiator</b>	<b>Received</b>
<a href="#">147</a>	<a href="#">147: School Psychology</a>	Edited	srh19445	2/11/2026

**Motion to Approve – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Tarbett/Strunk

**Discussion:** Bonis gave a brief description.

**Vote:** Approved (4 Yes)

<a href="#">132</a>	<a href="#">132: Certification Only, Teacher Education</a>	Edited	jnt66391	2/11/2026
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**Motion to Approve – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Tarbett/Strunk

**Discussion:** Tassell gave a brief description.

**Vote:** Approved (4 Yes)

<a href="#">0482</a>	<a href="#">0482: Gifted Education and Talent Development</a>	Edited	jnt66391	2/11/2026
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**Motion to Approve – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Tarbett/Strunk

**Discussion:** Tassell gave a brief description.

**Vote:** Approved (4 Yes)

<a href="#">0503</a>	<a href="#">0503: Gifted Education/Talent Development &amp; Advanced Instructional Practice</a>	Edited	jnt66391	2/11/2026
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**Motion to Approve – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Tarbett/Strunk

**Discussion:** Tassell gave a brief description.

**Vote:** Approved (4 Yes)

<a href="#">0461</a>	<a href="#">0461: Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education, Birth to Primary</a>	Edited	ell06551	2/11/2026
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**Motion to Approve – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Tarbett/Strunk

**Discussion:** Little gave a brief description.

**Vote:** Approved (4 Yes)

**Graduate Curriculum Committee (9)**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Initiator</b>	<b>Received</b>
<a href="#">0456</a>	<a href="#">0456: Special Education for Initial Certification</a>	Edited	ell06551	2/12/2026

**Motion to Approve – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Tarbett/Strunk  
**Discussion:** Casale gave a brief description.  
**Vote:** Approved (4 Yes)

<a href="#">0500</a>	<a href="#">0500: Advanced Teacher Education</a>	Edited	jnt66391	2/11/2026
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**Motion to Approve – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Tarbett/Strunk  
**Discussion:** Tassell gave a brief description.  
**Vote:** Approved (4 Yes)

<a href="#">0460</a>	<a href="#">0460: Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education, Birth to Primary, for Initial Certification</a>	Edited	ell06551	2/11/2026
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**Motion to Approve – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Tarbett/Strunk  
**Discussion:** Little gave a brief description.  
**Vote:** Approved (4 Yes)

<a href="#">0438</a>	<a href="#">0438: Special Education for Moderate and Severe Disabilities</a>	Edited	ell06551	2/20/2026
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**Motion to Approve – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Tarbett/Strunk  
**Discussion:** Casale gave a brief description.  
**Vote:** Approved (4 Yes)

**Informational Item(s):** None

**Other Business:** None

**Adjourn** at 3:00pm - **1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>** – 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