

## GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

NOVEMBER 16, 2023

1:00 PM

110 GRINTER HALL

Teleconference (Via Zoom)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Nicole Stedman (Chair), Dr. Linda Bloom, Dr. J.C. Bunch, Dr. James Essegbey, Dr. Hitomi Greenslet, Dr. Kristin Larsen, Dr. Michael Martinez, Dr. Corene Matyas, Dr. Connie Mulligan, Dr. K. Ramesh Reddy, Dr. Aner Sela, Dr. Marta Wayne, Kevin Senior (GSC rep), and Jasleen Kaur (GSC alternate)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Joni Williams Splett

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Joel Brendemuhl (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences), Dr. Casey Bullock (University Registrar), Dr. Stephanie Hanson (College of Public Health and Health Profession), Diana Hull (Office of the Registrar), Dr. Maria Leite (Academic Affairs), Dr. Johnathan Orsini (Office of the Provost/Teaching and Technology), Dr. Tobin Shorey (Undergraduate Curriculum Committee), Dr. Cyntrice Thomas (College of Health and Human Performance), Ashley Tidwell (Office of Admissions), and Dr. Eric Triplett (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences)

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Tom Kelleher, Gann Enholm, Dr. Brittany Hollister, Megan Lewis, Hannah Potter, Frankie Tai (Recording), Patty Van Wert, and Stacy Wallace

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

Dr. Kelleher welcomed everyone to this month's meeting of the Graduate Council and gave a brief summary of the pending proposals to be presented to the Council. (Prior to calling the meeting to order, Dr. Kelleher informed everyone that today's Zoom meeting was being recorded.)

### I. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Minutes from the October 19, 2023 Graduate Council Meeting. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

### DEGREE:

2. The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences seeks to close the Master of Science (M.S.) with a major in Animal Molecular and Cellular Biology (#18975). Dr. Joel Brendemuhl was present for discussion. It was explained that this closure was a result of not meeting the enrollment/graduation threshold. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed effective Termination Term of spring 2024 and Phase-Out Term of spring 2025.

### MAJOR:

3. The College of Public Health and Health Professions seeks to modify the curriculum for the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) with a major in Public Health (#18742). Dr. Stephanie Hanson was present (via Zoom) for discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed effective date of earliest available.

**I. INFORMATION ITEM / ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS:**

4. The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences seeks to modify the curriculum for the graduate certificate in Leadership in Agriculture and Natural Resources (#18917). This information item was administratively approved with a proposed effective date of earliest available.
5. Graduate Curriculum Committee – October Minutes and November Agenda.
5. Graduate Programs – Distance or Self-Supporting – No new items  
Dr. Jonathan Orsini shared that the Office of Distance Learning has rebuilt their review group and they will have their next meeting November 29<sup>th</sup>.
7. Graduate Student Success Center – No updates.

**II. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

8. Proposal from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for an online Ph.D. concentration in Microbial and Cellular Data Science.

Dr. Triplett gave a description of the proposal and answered questions. Council members discussed. The proposal has been entered in the approvals system (#18948) for technical review by Graduate School academic staff and formal consideration of the Graduate Council at a future meeting.

9. Master's to Ph.D. Credential Acknowledgement Proposal

Dr. Kelleher shared documents with the group outlining a proposed process and policy for a master's degree acknowledgement (MDA) as an alternative to the current process for evaluating and transferring specific credits from a master to Ph.D. degree. Patty Van Wert provided details, and the Council discussed. Based on feedback, language for the proposal will be refined before bringing it back to the group.

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.