

GRADUATE COUNCIL AGENDA

OCTOBER 16, 2025

1:00 PM

110 GRINTER HALL

&

Teleconference (Via Zoom)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Jörg Bungert, Dr. Hitomi Greenslet, Dr. Chris Janiszewski, Dr. James Jawitz, Dr. Abdoulaye Kane, Dr. Andrei Kirilenko, Dr. Michael Martinez, Dr. Linjuan Rita Men, Dr. Connie Mulligan, Dr. Joni Williams Splett, Dr. Weizhou Zhang, Fatima Akinola (GSC rep), and Ali Mahmoudi (GSC alternate)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Nicole Stedman (Chair) and Dr. Pilar Useche

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Casey Bullock (University Registrar), Dr. Masoud Gheisari (College of Design, Construction and Planning), Dr. Cliff Haynes (College of Education), Diana Hull (Office of the Registrar), Dr. Benjamin Lok (Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering), Jeanna Mastrodicasa (Office of Institutional Assessment), Ana Portocarrero (Warrington College of Business), Dr. Elizabeth Ross (College of the Arts), Dr. Sadie Ryan (College of Liberal Arts and Sciences), Dr. Tobin Shorey (Assistant Provost, Curriculum and Academic Policy), Ashley Tidwell (Office of Admissions), Lissette Toletino (Office of Institutional Assessment), Nicole Vonada (Office of Teaching and Technology Support Services), and Dr. Zhe (Daisy) Wang (Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering)

STAFF PRESENT: Lorna Dishman, Dr. Tom Kelleher, Megan Lewis, Chelsea Rojas, Frankie Tai (Recording), Dr. Judy Traveis, and Stacy Wallace

Dr. Kelleher, presiding in Dr. Stedman's absence and noting her international travel, welcomed everyone to this month's meeting of the Graduate Council and called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. (Zoom notified all participants that the meeting was being recorded.)

I. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Minutes from the September 18, 2025, Graduate Council Meeting. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATES:

2. The College of the Arts seeks to modify the curriculum for the graduate certificate in Museum Studies (#20740). Dr. Elizabeth Ross was present for the discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed effective date of earliest available.
3. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences seeks to modify the curriculum for the graduate certificate in Medical Geography and Global Health (#21617). Dr. Sadie Ryan was present (via Zoom) for the discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed effective date of earliest available.

Dr. Kelleher sought Council approval for consideration of the two (2) items from The College of Design, Construction and Planning (#4 & 5) as a package. Council concurred.

4. The College of Design, Construction and Planning seeks to close the graduate certificate in Construction Project Management (#21743). Dr. Masoud Gheisari was present for the discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed effective date of earliest available.
5. The College of Design, Construction and Planning seeks to close the graduate certificate in Sustainable Construction (#21666). Dr. Masoud Gheisari was present for the discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed effective date of earliest available.

CONCENTRATIONS:

6. The Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering seeks to create a concentration in Artificial Intelligence for the Master of Science (M.S.) with a major in Computer Science (#21047). Dr. Benjamin Lok was present (via Zoom) for the discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed effective date of earliest available.
7. The Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering seeks to create a concentration in Cybersecurity for the Master of Science (M.S.) with a major in Computer Science (#21046). Dr. Benjamin Lok was present (via Zoom) for the discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed effective date of earliest available.
8. The Warrington College of Business seeks to cease participation in the concentration in Marketing for the Master of Science with a major in Business Administration (#19836). Ana Portocarrero was present (via Zoom) for the discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed termination date of spring 2025 & phase-out date of spring 2026.

MAJORS:

9. The College of Education seeks to close the major in Counseling and Counselor Education for the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) (#20361). Dr. Kelleher presented the item for the discussion on behalf of the unit. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed termination date of fall 2024 & phase-out date of fall 2024.
10. The College of Design, Construction and Planning seeks to modify the core curriculum for the major in Construction Management for the Master of Construction Management (M.C.M.) (#21866). Dr. Masoud Gheisari was present for the discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed effective date of earliest available.
11. The College of Design, Construction and Planning seeks to modify the core curriculum for the major in Construction Management for the Master of Science in Construction Management (M.S.C.M.) (#21867). Dr. Masoud Gheisari was present for the discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, with a proposed effective date of earliest available.

CATALOG WORDING ON FULL-TIME REGISTRATION

12. Catalog wording on full-time registration. Dr. Tom Kelleher presented the item. For direct consistency with the UF Office of the Registrar's posted definition of full-time enrollment requirements, proposed changes to the Graduate Catalog would define full-time registration as follows: "9 credits in fall and spring. In summer full-time registration is 8 credits for any combination of A, B, and C terms." The proposed edits would remove from the Graduate Catalog language related to exceptions such as lockstep programs, including certain MBA programs.

Kelleher had presented this item for discussion at the September 2025 Graduate Council meeting and it was subsequently placed on the October agenda as an action item. Kelleher withdrew the item from consideration at this meeting to allow further consultation with representatives from the College of Business, Enrollment Management, and the Provost's office. It will be brought back next month (November) with updates from those discussions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION TASKFORCE

13. Course Description Taskforce. Dr. Toby Shorey was present for the discussion. A course description task force was created to make a style guide for faculty to use as a basis for best practices when writing course descriptions. Councilmembers asked Dr. Shorey to edit the wording to clarify that this guide provides recommendations, not requirements, as some courses are held to different standards outside of the university. This will be reflected in a slight adjustment to the title of the document and to the third sentence of the second paragraph. The Council voted unanimously to approve, pending suggested edits.

II. INFORMATION ITEM / ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS:

14. Graduate Curriculum Committee – September Minutes and October Agenda
15. Graduate Programs – Distance or Self-Supporting (No new items)
16. Graduate Student Success Center
Dr. Judy Traveis was present to confirm there were no new items for discussion.

III. DISCUSSION ITEM:

17. Dr. Jeanna Mastrodicasa – report on certificates with no enrollment
Dr. Mastrodicasa presented certificate assessment reporting guidelines and shared a PowerPoint presentation. The standard minimum enrollment necessary to require an annual Academic Assessment Data Report is 10 students for undergraduate certificates and 5 students for graduate/professional certificates. Of UF's 144 total graduate certificate programs, 43 certificates have had a total of 7 students or less since 2019. UF is leading the state in certificates, but the question was raised of whether this should be our goal. It was suggested that colleges review their zero- and low-enrollment certificates and consider acting to terminate them as appropriate.

The meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.