

# Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 20, 2025

Time: 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Location: Graduate School Conference Room, RH 2215

## Present:

Ram Madupalli (Acting Chair), Mary Frazier, Beidi Qiang, Musah Sumaila, Cinnamon VanPutte, Chin-Chaun Wei, Duff Wrobbel, Kyong-Sup Yoon, Elizabeth Cali, Joe Kohlburn, Chris Slaten, Jill Smucker, Dan Segrist, Carole Frick, Cheryl Borowiak, Andrea Keller

## Excused:

Gloria Sweida (Chair), James Monahan

## Absent:

Saad Ullah, Jennifer Hookstra

## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 PM by Acting Chair Ram Madupalli.

## I. Special Guest: Provost Denise Cobb

Enrollment & Retention: Positive trends in enrollment and retention, with domestic student retention above 80%. Efforts continue to close equity gaps and achieve long-term retention goals.

Budget: SIUE submitted a balanced budget for the first time since 2017, addressing structural deficits and fostering optimism for new initiatives.

Program Prioritization: Phase 1 agreements reached on proposals including Art History and Physics (major eliminated, instruction retained). Phase 2 focused on collaborative solutions rather than eliminations.

Graduate Program Considerations: Discussion on programs under moratorium (e.g., Sociology) and resource allocation for growth.

International Enrollment: Visa approval rates remain low; SIUE continues to strengthen partnerships and support international students.

RisePoint Partnership: Clarified RisePoint's role in marketing and advising for MBA program growth; curriculum integrity remains with SIUE.

## II. Announcements

- a. Course Review Committee (CRC): No report.
- b. Graduate Committee on Assessment (GCOA): Report available on Teams.
- c. Enrollment Management: No updates (Jim Monahan absent).
- d. Student Affairs: No updates (Rony Die absent).
- e. International Affairs: Cheryl Borowiak reported on International Education Week activities and ongoing visa challenges.
- f. Graduate School: Successful on-campus open house with 60 attendees; plans for spring event. Launch of grant dashboard via Power BI. Faculty cohort program for research funding support (deadline: Dec. 1). Continued efforts for clear communication through dean memos.
- g. Other Announcements: none

## III. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from October 16, 2025, approved with minor typo correction.

## IV. Public Comments- none

- V. **ERP Committee** (Chin-Chaun Wei): No quorum; policy review deferred.
- VI. **Programs Committee** (Duff Wrobbel): Interim Program Review – History. Approval of 91A from Speech-Language Pathology. Discussion on collaborative research exit option removal.
- VII. **Continuing Business**- none

## VIII. New Business

There is a new edition of the Research and Creative Activities magazine.

Announcement: Elimination of MMR program and addition of Master of Science in Marketing Analytics and Insights.

## IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Cinnamon VanPutte, seconded by Duff Wrobbel. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.