

GRADUATE COUNCIL  
Faculty Senate  
AGENDA  
October 16, 2025; 2:30pm  
Graduate School Conference Room, RH 2215

Present: Mary Frazier, Jennifer Hookstra, Beidi Qiang, Musah Sumaila, Gloria Sweida (Chair), Cinnamon VanPutte, Chin-Chaun Wei, Duff Wrobbel, Kyong-Sup Yoon, Elizabeth Cali, Lindy Wagner, Joe Kohlburn, James Monahan, Chris Slaten, Jill Smucker

Excused: Dan Segrist

Absent: Carole Frick, Ram Madupalli, Saad Ullah, Cheryl Borowiak, Andrea Keller

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 PM by Glorida Sweida, Chair.

I. Announcements

- a. Course Review Committee (CRC) Report – On Teams
- b. Graduate Committee on Assessment (GCOA) Report – On Teams
- c. Enrollment Management Report – Jim Monahan

Jim Monahan let the Council know that graduate student applications are down and that they have had some challenges navigating the new admission's application system, Slate. The previous system, Radius, will no longer be in use as of next week.

d. Student Affairs Announcements – Lindy Wagner

Lindy Wagner explained a new focus in Student Affairs added to the other three they already had, Fostering a Vibrant Campus Life Experience. She also mentioned that students who work on campus have a 95% retention rate. Because of this, Student Affairs has been working on ways to enhance student employment on campus. She also described a professional development series that is being offered twice a month and let them know that the two grants Student Affairs received previously were renewed.

e. International Affairs Announcements – Cheryl Borowiak

There wasn't an International Affairs representative present.

f. Graduate School Announcements – Chris Slaten

Chris Slaten thanked Jim Monahan and Jill Smucker for the recent graduate student open houses that were held virtually. He also let the Council know about an in person open house that will be November 17th from 4-7 PM in the MUC. There is a goal to do another in person open house in the spring. Jim Monahan also mentioned that the application fee is waived for the month of October for all students.

Chris has been working with the Provost and Chancellor on getting more money allocated to graduate student advertising resulting in triple the funding. He has been working with BAM, the marketing firm used by SIUE, on ideas to strategically market.

Chris described a new effort of the Graduate School to connect with graduate students, based on the results of survey he had organized. The survey indicated graduate students want to feel connected on campus. To enhance that, the Graduate School has started an event called Grad Connect. The first one in September however had not been attended by any students which could have been because of the heavy rain that day. The Council and Chris explored other ways that the sessions could be more effective.

g. Other Announcements- none

II. Approval of Minutes of September 18, 2025

Duff Wrobbel motioned to approve the September 18, 2025, minutes. Beidi Qiang seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. Public Comments- none

IV. Report of the Educational and Research Policies (ERP) Committee

- a. GR2526-02: Policy 6F4 – Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems
- b. GR2526-03: Policy 1M10 – Instructional and Research Animal Welfare

Chin-Chuan Wei explained that the two policies ERP reviewed were unanimously approved.

V. Report of the Programs Committee

- a. Interim Program Review: Integrative Studies

Duff Wrobbel described the results of the interim Integrative Studies program review. The review had been approved by the committee.

VI. Continuing Business- none

VII. New Business- none

VIII. Adjournment

Cinnamon VanPutte motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:14