

APPROVED Minutes

Graduate Programs Committee

Date: March 4, 2022 | 2 - 3pm | Darland 520 and via Zoom

Approval Date: Pending

Attendees: Wendy Anderson, Jay Austin, David Beard, Erik Brown, Dana Collins (*Chair*), David Edmund, Julie Ernst, Insoon Han, Nathan Johnson, Tadd Johnson, Arshia Khan, Lara LaCaille, Dakota Leget, Jennifer Liang (*Vice Chair*), Dylan Reed-Fuglestad, Michael Rother, Katherine Schofield, Kathryn Schreiner, David Syring, Ariuna Taivan, Jiann-shiou Yang ([List of programs represented](#))

Absent: Mary Christiansen, Alec Habig, Marshall Hampton, Alison Hoxie, Charitha Kothapalli, Byron Steinman

Called to order at 2:03pm.

Approval of the February 18, 2022 meeting minutes.

Approved as distributed, with 1 abstention.

Committee representative reports (as needed, for information related to grad ed)

- [Research, Scholarship & Creative Activities](#) - Wendy Anderson, David Syring
Overmann Speaker confirmed - Robin Kimmerer, Thursday, April 28, 2 - 3pm.
Title: The Fortress, the River and the Garden: A New Metaphor for Knowledge Symbiosis. Will also give talks to two small groups, one of which is the Indigenous Perspectives Learning Community, a group that is open to faculty, graduate students, and others in the UMD community.
Seed grant call for proposals has gone out - members are encouraged to spread the word, as well as apply. The aim is to promote new collaborations that could eventually be supported by external funds over a longer term. Having a good pool of proposals may increase the chance of getting further and greater funding for this program in future years, too.
[Experts@Minnesota](#) List - members are asked to take a look at the list, and suggest any updates.
- [Teaching & Learning Committee](#) - Ariuna Taivan
Discussion of proposed revisions to several policies: Course Enrollment Limits & Cancellation Policy, S-N Policy, Exams Outside of Regular Class Time (This policy does not apply to 5xxx and above courses, regardless of career level of enrolled students.)

- [Graduate School Advisory Board](#) - quarterly updates from Alexandra Luong or Margaret Elmer-Dixon (October, December, February, and April, second Tuesday)
Discussion this year has focused mainly on assessment of student learning outcomes in graduate programs.
- Graduate Student Association updates - Dakota Leget, Dylan Reed-Fuglestad, Charitha Kothapalli
The GSA received an allocation of \$3000 from the Student Services Fee Committee for AY22-23; Two events scheduled for Feb/March; Grad and Professional Student Appreciation Week (GPSAW) scheduled for April 4 - 8, daily events planned.

Topics for review/discussion/action

1. [Grad Faculty Appointment Process](#) - 3/4/22 (login req)
Some additional revisions have been suggested - change requirement for 75% appointment to continuing appointment to allow for phased retirements; modify terms referring to "sanctions" and "discipline" so as to avoid the tone of contract language. If members have no objections, the current version will go to the UCC and further governance processes. Contact Erik soon if you have any comments.
2. [Process Guide](#) for non-UMN (affiliate) member appointment
Please be reminded that creation of an affiliate record and assignment of examination committee members who are external to the University requires review by Erik. If approved, the necessary HR form (HRIF) should be sent to the Grad Office.
3. GPAS training for GPCs
With work on implementing GPAS at UMD beginning in fall 2022, there will be approximately 13-15 hours of training needed for staff who will be managing GPAS within each graduate program (usually the GPC). There is also a 1.5-hour kickoff meeting to take place soon after the second week of classes. Members are asked to be aware of this training requirement, and relay to department heads as needed.
4. Commencement updates
The deadline for students to RSVP is March 7. A current list has been shared with programs - please check for correct advisors, any students missing, etc. A final list will be circulated mid-March, after which we can't guarantee that a student's name will appear in the printed program.
Hooder training will be during finals week. Please remember to RSVP to the faculty list for Commencement if you will be hooding for your program. If you are unavailable, please let the Grad Office know who will stand in for you.

Students who were unable to have an in-person ceremony in 2020 or 2021 due to the pandemic are being invited by the alumni office to participate in the 2022 ceremony. They will RSVP on a separate form, so please refer them to Kim with any questions.

5. Covid updates (standing item)

St. Louis County currently is in status green, but UMN mask mandate is still in place for the time being.

6. Promotion and support of the MTRES program by the Provost's Office

The UMN Provost's Office believes that the MTRES program is a unique offering within the system, with its innovative teaching of tribal ecological knowledge. Programs in CFANS and the Humphrey School are interested in MTRES course offerings, and the UMD AIS department has created 4 graduate certificate programs to take advantage of faculty expertise in areas such as tribal administration, federal law, environmental stewardship, and indigenous economics.

The MTRES program has been connected with marketing experts to develop brochures, online advertising, and to increase awareness of the program for recruitment of a fall 2022 cohort. Department faculty are also developing a handbook for running a reservation that will be available to tribal leaders, and will be used as a textbook in the MTAG program.

With this system focus on the MTRES program, the Provost's Office has also been made aware of the billing complications that often arise with multi-institutional registration, which could be an impetus to improving the process for all students.

Announcements

1. GCTF/GSSF/DSF Nominations - Round 2 - due **March 7**
2. GAGE requests due by 5pm **March 7**

Question about whether programs that didn't use all of their GAGE funding last year due to students' receiving CARES Act money should request less this year in order to spend down the carryforward, and whether that will have a negative impact on consideration for a larger request in future years. Erik stated that there will not be a negative impact to asking for less this year, and that programs should clearly outline a plan for using the GAGE that might have been left over.

3. Commencement RSVPs: **March 7** ([students](#)); **March 25** ([faculty](#))
4. Graduate Orientation - Thursday, August 25 (in person, location TBA)

Next meeting: Friday, March 18, 2022 | Darland 520 and via Zoom

Adjourned at 2:43pm