

# MINUTES

## The Graduate Council

March 21, 2023

Zoom

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### Members Present:

Ron Bramhall (*ex officio*), Krista Chronister (*ex officio*), Katherine Donaldson (*ex officio*), Erik Girvan, Aaron Gullickson, Bonnie Gutierrez (*ex officio*), Beth Harn, Jaewoo Kim, Martin Klebes, Rebecca Lewis, Barbara Muraca, Raghuvveer Parthasarathy, Keya Saxena, Frances White (*ex officio*)

**Members Absent:** Christopher Chavez, Gyoung-ah Lee, Hatsue Sato, Leslie Straka, Annie Zemper

**Division of Graduate Studies Staff in Attendance:** Tara Kaiser, Jered Nagel

The meeting was called to order at 12:03PM and the February meeting minutes were approved.

### DEI Workshop

Jagdeep Bala, Gerard Sandoval, and Charlotte Moats-Gallagher joined the beginning of the Graduate Council meeting to lead a DEI workshop. The workshop involved reviewing the IDEAL framework, the Senate Anti-racism resolution, and engaging in open, respectful discussion on how to integrate an equity lens on decision making within councils and committees. To ensure that the structure of Graduate Council includes an equity lens, Charlotte shared guiding questions issued by HECC that may be considered and incorporated into each piece of the Graduate Council charge.

Graduate Council members discussed and reflected on the guiding questions and shared their observations with the group.

### MBA Program Revisions

Angie Davis, Eren Cil, and Kathryn Hart joined the Graduate Council meeting to present LCB's proposal on revising the MBA program. During the presentation, Angie explained that learning goals for the MBA were established according to LCB's AACSB accreditation and included a requirement for continuous improvement. Curriculum review is also part of a larger initiative to expand the portfolio of graduate programs and improve student experience.

Curriculum committees for each program participated in the review of (1) core curriculum for full-time program and (2) specializations, broader experience, and alternative degree options. The reviews utilized benchmarking data, historical program data and reviews, survey data, course templates, and reports from various business education organizations. Based on the observations that were found, the department proposes the following changes to the MBA:

- Increase required credits from 72 to 76 for the full-time degree option.
  - o This increase is not expected to have a significant impact since the average MBA student graduates with 80 credits.
- Present requirements based on credits instead of number of courses.
  - o Allows for 1-2 credit courses to count toward degree.
- Require additional core courses.
  - o Increase core course credits to 43.
  - o Creates more flexibility with specialization or general electives credits.
- Add several program level requirements such as module completion and completion of professional development plan.
- Require students to select one of the four center-affiliated specializations and complete their specific modules.

The Graduate Council could not vote on the approval of this proposal due to a shortage of voting members present. The Council will revisit this topic in the next meeting.

### **Ethnomusicology Specialization**

Associate Professor Ed Wolf joined the Graduate Council meeting to provide an overview of this proposed specialization. He explained that Ethnomusicology was previously a secondary area, but after the cancellation of secondary areas within SOMD, many became specializations. This program consists of 18 credits (3 core courses, 1 ensemble course, and 1 additional course) to be completed over 2 years. Professor Wolf expects students from other departments such as Folklore, Anthropology, or Romance Languages to partake in this specialization in addition to SOMD students.

Professor Beth Harn motioned to approve this proposal. Professor Barbara Muraca seconded the motion, and of the members present, the vote was unanimous approval. Because the Graduate Council did not have enough voting members present to pass the motion, Assistant Vice Provost Jered Nagel will collect votes via email from the remaining Council members.

### **Open Discussion as Needed**

Vice Provost Krista Chronister informed the Graduate Council that the first draft of the international student portal is currently under review, and still on track to go live by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Council adjourned at 1:49pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Leslie Straka  
Graduate Council Secretary