



GRADUATE COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held December 5, 2023

Present: Dean Kosteas, Professors Liu, Sikder, Anup Kumar, Wukich, Pourdavood, Gatica, Zawahri, Medina-Rivera, Rauschert, Slifkin, Kozlowski-Gibson, Jenkins, and Whitbred; Diane Kolosionek, Kevin Neal, and Shail Sheth

Guests: Jodi DeMarco, Deborah Espy, Kelli DeBoth, Christopher Mallett

Dean Kosteas called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

1. Approve Agenda – **The agenda was approved.**

2. Approve Minutes

a. November 15, 2023 – **The minutes were approved.**

3. New Business

a. Curriculog proposals

- **Applied Social Research, Accelerated Master's BA/MA - 1110 - Fall 24 – Program Change**

- This proposal will accomplish three things:

- a. it will modify the accelerated MA program to double count 9 credit hours rather than 12, in accordance with guidance from the Chancellor's Office and the Chancellor's Council on Graduate Studies and remove "4+1" from the title
- b. it will change the required progression through courses to recommended in order to allow more flexibility for students entering the program at different stages of their undergraduate degree
- c. 3) it will change the required GPA for admission to match the MA program.

- **Conditionally Approved – edits requested**

- **Health Sciences, Accelerated 4+1 BS/M.Ed in Exercise Science - 1110 - Fall 24 – Program Change**

- New 4+1 accelerated program with Bachelor of Science in Health Science and the Master of Education in Exercise Science

- **Approved**

- **Civil Engineering, with Specializations, Accelerated Master's BCE/MSCE - 1110 - Fall 24 – Program Change**

- We are reducing the number of credits which can double count for the BCE and MSCE for students accepted into the 4+1 program.

- **Approved**

- **Computer Science, Accelerated Master's BSCS/MCS - 1110 - Fall 24 – Program Change**
 - To reduce the credit hours from 12 to 9 for double counting graduate coursework towards fulfilling undergraduate (BSCS) and graduate (MCS) degrees.
 - **Approved**
- **Electrical Engineering, Accelerated Master's BEE or BCE/MSEE - 1090 - Spring 24 – Program Change**
 - We would like to update the 4+1 program catalog to change the maximum credit hours that can be double-counted in both BS and MS from 12 to 9.
 - We would like to remove the following statement from the catalog.
"No additional graduate credit hours taken as an undergraduate may be applied or transferred to the graduate record."
 - The 4+1 catalog description will need to be revised from what is shown at https://catalog.csuohio.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=43&pooid=11672
 - Also, the reference to <https://engineering.csuohio.edu/eecs/five-year-bsms-accelerated-program> in that section needs to be revised to the following:
<https://engineering.csuohio.edu/ece/five-year-bsms-accelerated-program-0>
 - **Conditionally Approved – edits requested**
- **Health Sciences, MSHS - 1110 - Fall 24 – Program Change**
 - Changes in required core courses in MSHS general track to reflect available course offerings. Addition of community health promotion track in the MSHS degree
 - **Conditionally Approved – edits requested**
- **Social Work, MSW - 1110 - Fall 24 – Program Change**
 - We are changing all Practice in Context (PIC) to be constituted as electives. We are removing the requirements for PIC courses and instead Clinical specialization students must take two electives, while Advanced Generalist students must now take 3 electives.
 - **Approved**

• **PhD in Transdisciplinary Health, Science & Technology (THST) - 1120 - Spring 25**
– **New Major Program**

- We propose the creation of a new PhD program within the College of Health (COH), currently the only college within Cleveland State University that does not have its own PhD program. Leveraging new courses created and funded by a recent National Science Foundation Research Traineeship (NRT) award, this program will be transdisciplinary in nature with a focus on the impact of technology within the broad field of healthcare. The proposed name for this new 60 credit degree program is a PhD in Transdisciplinary Health, Sciences and Technology (THST).
- The new and existing NRT courses will be included as required core courses in the curriculum, in addition to two new independent study courses (mentored research and mentored teaching) totaling 12 credits). Other required courses fall under five required content areas: Research Methods, Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis, Adult Learning/Teaching & Curriculum Design, Grant Writing and Technology. Students will be able to select courses within each content area that best aligns with their intended dissertation research project (17-22 credits). Additional course requirements will include a minimum of 9 credits of elective courses that each student will select specific to their research interests, and a minimum of 17 credits of research and dissertation credits. The content area courses and elective courses will be classes that already exist and are being offered at CSU across different colleges. This helps meet the need within our fields while keeping costs and resources lower for the university and creating a diverse and unique program for students.
- The THST PhD program is intended for health professionals. Students may come from a clinical background with years in clinical practice, from a scientific background having a desire to conduct health related research, or from an educational background with an interest in health-related higher education. Students in this program may have any health profession or allied health background, and should have an interest in how advancing technologies may impact health.
- **Conditionally Approved – edits requested**
- b. Courses in Curriculog for approval
 - COH 798, COH 799, COH 890, COH 891, COH 892, COH 899, CVE 515, CVE 523, CVE 615 - **Approved**
 - PHY 520, PHY 565 – **Conditionally Approved; Routed back to originators with requested revisions.**

4. **Graduate Council Representation & Standing Committees**

- a. Graduate Faculty Review Committee – FA23 application recommendations - **Approved**
- b. There were no update reports to allow time for discussion items.

5. Discussion/action items

- a. Course repeat/grade forgiveness – *see draft policy (v2)*
 - **Approved**
- b. Graduate Assistants
 - Health Insurance (see attachment)
 - Policy this year is to require full-time GA contracts for doctoral students to also cover the health insurance premium if the student purchases the student health insurance.
 - Other options:
 - a. Pay part of the premium- this is consistent with what some of our peer institutions' policies.
 - i. KSU = offers 70% coverage
 - b. Extend to master's students as well- this would be very expensive.
 - b. The GC members agreed 70 % coverage as a good option. Dean Kosteas to return with a proposal for the next meeting.
 - Minimum stipends (see attachment)
 - Current minimums: <https://graduate-studies.csuohio.edu/current-students/minimum-stipend-levels>
 - Have not raised the minimums in several years
 - Comparison schools:
 - a. BGSU: \$5K for master's, \$7K for doctoral per semester
 - b. Miami U: \$12K for master's, \$20K doctoral annually
 - c. Some universities do not have university minimum stipends
 - The GC members decided on no change
 - Template for GA offer letters (see UConn template attached as an example)
 - Distribute the template this year as a guideline for offer letters along with best practices in making funding offers
 - Investigate running the offer letters through Slate
 - a. Students can accept offers through the system
 - b. We can gather and analyze data and prepare reports on number of offers made, acceptance rates, characteristics of students receiving/accepting offers.

c. Graduate Faculty Membership

- All colleges must review and update their membership requirements in spring. We will use the new requirements starting with the fall 2024 review cycle.
- Eliminate summer expirations. Give faculty whose membership expires in summer an additional semester of membership.
- Have all PT/adjunct requests reviewed by the CoGS Dean's Office rather than the Graduate Faculty Review Committee
 - Many of these requests are time sensitive; waiting for committee review and approval is problematic. These requests are currently reviewed by the graduate dean as needed.
 - Alternative is to have the committee meet more frequently and not have all of these requests go through the committee.
- Consider having applicants provide evidence of peer review or have department chairs submit recommendation letters for applications.

6. Updates/Announcements

a. **COH Prefix – College of Health proposal – This change was approved**

- Add a COH prefix for curriculum spanning across multiple programs/units within the College of Health (COH).

7. **Items for future discussion** – None

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

All materials for review before the meeting are available on the University Curriculog web site for access by Council Members. (<https://csuohio.curriculog.com/proposals>)