

PURDUE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL

Minutes of the Graduate Council Meeting
September 19, 2024
2:30 p.m.

First Meeting (Via Teams)

PRESENT: Council Members, Haley Oliver, chair, Carrie Berger, Nurgul Aitalieva, Shawn G. Bauldry, Carrie Berger, Arun Bhunia, Olivia Grace Cape, Joy Colwell, Jennifer Cutter, Bryan DeWitt, Duane D. Dunlap, Emad Elwakil, Melissa Franks, Michelle Garrison, Catherine A. Golden, Sheila Hurt, Erika Birgit Kaufmann, Andrew Liu, Patti Ludwig, Senay Purzer, Julia M. Rayz, Frederico Rossi, Abraham Schwab, Lisa Snodgrass, James Tisdale, Zaiyan Wei, Josh Widhalm, Yan Ping Xin, Amanda D. Zelechowski, David Zwicky

ABSENT: Brad Alge, Jason Cannon, Jason FitzSimmons, Kevin D. Gibson, Nancy Jackson, Qing Jiang, Mary Johnson, Kimberly Kinzig, Judith Lewandowski, Qiang Liu, Somosmita Mitra, Jamie Mohler, Dimitri Peroulis, Rodolfo Pinal, Carson Reeling, Joseph (Paul) Robinson, David Rollock, Kristen (Kate) White, Patrick Wolfe

GUEST: Tamara Kinzer-Ursem, Shalom Kpetsu, Linda Lee

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The chair, Dr. Haley Oliver, Interim Vice Provost for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars, opened the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The May 8, 2024, minutes were moved to the Consent Agenda.

GRADUATE PROPOSAL APPROVALS

Graduate Program and Course Proposals document was moved to the Consent Agenda. (Appendix A)

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Report on Updates to Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs** (Melissa Franks and Catherine Golden)
- b. **Task Force Report on Graduate Council Membership** (Melissa Franks for Task Force)

OLD BUSINESS

No old business

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Dr. Oliver asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion to accept the full Consent Agenda was received and seconded. The Consent Agenda was approved.

The meeting was adjourned by the chair, Dr. Haley Oliver at 3:02 p.m.

Haley Oliver
Chair of the Graduate Council

Tina Payne
Secretary to the Graduate Council

**GRADUATE COUNCIL COURSE
AND PROGRAM PROPOSALS**

September 2024

GRADUATE COURSE PROPOSALS:**Area Committee A: Behavioral Sciences**

Graduate Council Document 24-58a, CSD 69800 - Research M.S. Thesis, PFW
[CSD - 69800 - Research M.S. Thesis | Curriculum \(curriculum.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-60a, EDU - 53400 Instructional Methods for P-12, PFW
[EDU - 53400 - Instructional Methods For P-12 | Curriculum \(curriculum.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-63a, PSY - 69210 - Special Topics In Psych, PNW
[PSY - 69210 - Special Topics In Psych | Curriculum \(curriculum.com\)](#)

Area Committee B: Engineering Sciences, and Technology

Graduate Council Document 24-52b, ME - 53700 - Complex Fluids, PWL
[ME - 53700 - Complex Fluids | Curriculum \(curriculum.com\)](#)

Area Committee C: Chemistry, Engineering, and Physical Sciences

Graduate Council Document 24-63a, MCMP - 57100 - Disc & Dev Of Ther Agents, PWL
[MCMP - 57100 - Disc & Dev Of Ther Agents | Curriculum \(curriculum.com\)](#)

Area Committee D: Humanities and Social Sciences

Graduate Council Document 24-57a, COM 62211 - Social Media And AI, PWL
[COM - 62211 - Social Media And AI | Curriculum \(curriculum.com\)](#)

Area Committee E: Life Sciences

Graduate Council Document 24-55a, AGRY 60200 Systematic Reviews In Agriculture And The Environment, PWL
[AGRY - 60200 - Syst Reviews In Ag & Environ | Curriculum \(curriculum.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-56a, ANSC 50500 - Adv Animal Welfare Assessment, PWL
[ANSC - 50500 - Adv Animal Welfare Assessment | Curriculum \(curriculum.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-61a, FNR - 56600 - Digital Nat Res Capstone, PWL
[FNR - 56600 - Digital Nat Res Capstone | Curriculum \(curriculum.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-62a, HORT - 51400 - Sensors In Horticulture, PWL
[HORT - 51400 - Sensors In Horticulture | Curriculum \(curriculum.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-32c, HSCI - 54100 - Human Sectional Anatomy, PWL
[HSCI - 54100 - Human Sectional Anatomy | Curriculum \(curriculum.com\)](#)

Area Committee F: Management Sciences

Graduate Council Document 24-59a, ECON - 51301 - Intro To Math For Economists, PWL
[ECON - 51301 - Intro To Math For Economists | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59b, ECON - 51302 - Fundamentals Of Macro, PWL
[ECON - 51302 - Fundamentals Of Macro | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59c, ECON - 52100 - Consumer & Producer Theory, PWL
[ECON - 52100 - Consumer & Producer Theory | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59d, ECON - 53300 – Econometrics, PWL
[ECON - 53300 - Econometrics | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59e, ECON - 54100 - Managerial Econ & Bus Strat, PWL
[ECON - 54100 - Managerial Econ & Bus Strat | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59f, ECON - 55400 - Business Cycles & Macro Policy, PWL
[ECON - 55400 - Business Cycles & Macro Policy | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59g, ECON - 55500 - Economic Forecasting, PWL
[ECON - 55500 - Economic Forecasting | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59h, ECON - 56400 - Adv Quant Econ With Python, PWL
[ECON - 56400 - Adv Quant Econ With Python | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59i, ECON - 57800 - Stat & Machine Learning II, PWL
[ECON - 57800 - Stat & Machine Learning II | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59j, ECON - 64500 - International Macro, PWL
[ECON - 64500 - International Macro | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59k, ECON - 64900 - Adv Topics Panel Data & Spat, PWL
[ECON - 64900 - Adv Topics Panel Data & Spat | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59l, ECON - 65700 - Search Theory & Applications, PWL
[ECON - 65700 - Search Theory & Applications | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-59m, ECON - 65800 - Public Economics II, PWL
[ECON - 65800 - Public Economics II | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-36d, EDPS - 51810 - Fam And Community In Op Rec, PNW
[EDPS - 51810 - Fam And Community In Op Rec | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-36e, EDPS - 55230 - Med Assist Rec, PNW
[EDPS - 55230 - Med Assist Rec | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-36f, EDPS - 56810 - Ethics And Soc Effects Opioids, PNW
[EDPS - 56810 - Ethics And Soc Effects Opioids | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-25q, MGMT - 65440 - Change Management, PWL
[MGMT - 65440 - Change Management | Curriculum \(curriculumlog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-25r, MGMT - 65480 - Total Rewards, PWL

[MGMT - 65480 - Total Rewards | Curriculum \(curriculog.com\)](#)

Area Committee G: Special committee for programs that fall under more than one area committee. All areas should review the following proposals.

Graduate Council Document 24-12k, GRAD - 51000 - ESE Colloquium/Seminar I, PWL
[GRAD - 51000 - ESE Colloquium/Seminar I | Curriculum \(curriculog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-12l, GRAD - 51100 - ESE Colloquium/Seminar II, PWL
[GRAD - 51100 - ESE Colloquium/Seminar II | Curriculum \(curriculog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-12m, GRAD - 60000 - Mentoring Intercultural Growth, PWL
[GRAD - 60000 - Mentoring Intercultural Growth | Curriculum \(curriculog.com\)](#)

GRADUATE PROGRAM PROPOSALS:

Area Committee A: Behavioral Sciences

No Program proposals for Area A

Area Committee B: Engineering Sciences, and Technology

Graduate Council Document 24-69a, Smart Transportation CPOSTB - -Lyles School of Civil Engineering, PWL
[Smart Transportation CPOSTB - -Lyles School of Civil Engineering - WL | Curriculum \(curriculog.com\)](#)

Area Committee C: Chemistry, Engineering, and Physical Sciences

Graduate Council Document 24-64a, Applied Physics - MS - Department of Physics, PFW
[Applied Physics - MS - Department of Physics - FW | Curriculum \(curriculog.com\)](#)

Area Committee D: Humanities and Social Sciences

Graduate Council Document 24-65a, Branding and Marketing Post-Baccalaureate Certificate - -Brian Lamb School of Communication, PWL
[Branding and Marketing Post-Baccalaureate Certificate - -Brian Lamb School of Communication - WL | Curriculum \(curriculog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-67a, Digital Media and Communication Technologies Post-Baccalaureate Certificate - -Brian Lamb School of Communication, PWL
[Digital Media and Communication Technologies Post-Baccalaureate Certificate - -Brian Lamb School of Communication - WL | Curriculum \(curriculog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-68a, Health Communication Post-Baccalaureate Certificate - -Brian Lamb School of Communication, PWL

[Health Communication Post-Baccalaureate Certificate - -Brian Lamb School of Communication - WL | Curriculum \(curriculog.com\)](#)

Graduate Council Document 24-70a, Sports Communication Post-Baccalaureate Certificate - -Brian Lamb School of Communication, PWL

[Sports Communication Post-Baccalaureate Certificate - -Brian Lamb School of Communication - WL | Curriculum \(curriculog.com\)](#)

Area Committee E: Life Sciences

No Program proposals for Area E

Area Committee F: Management Sciences

Graduate Council Document 24-66a, Data Science in Finance CPOSTB - -Department of Statistics, PWL
[Data Science in Finance CPOSTB - -Department of Statistics - WL | Curriculum \(curriculog.com\)](#)



Office of the Vice Provost
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From Policies and Procedures for Administering Graduate Student Programs Manual - [Appendix E](#):
Representative Guidelines for an Interdisciplinary Graduate Program

To: Graduate Council
From: Melissa Franks
Date: September 19, 2025
Subject: Report on Updates to Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs

Accepted by the Graduate Council, 9/18/03
Representative Guidelines for an Interdisciplinary Graduate Program and Dual Title PhD

The guidelines provided here are provided as representative for an interdisciplinary graduate program (IGP), which may include master's and doctoral degrees.. The objective of guidelines here is to provide structural guidelines for the administration of an IGP, while allowing flexibility for the unique needs of each program.

1. Guidelines for Establishing a New IGP: It is recommended prior to submitting a formal proposal that the party contacts Office of IGP (OIGP) for consultation if the program is to be administered by OIGP. Requests to establish a new IGP are submitted via Curriculog using the appropriate [curricula proposal](#) (i.e., new degree, new major, new certificates, new concentration). There are additional requirements noted below if the program will be a dual-title PhD. The proposal should outline the structure and management of the proposed program in light of the following suggested structure:
 - a. Name of proposed IGP and planned date of initiation of the program.
 - b. Statement of the mission of the proposed IGP, including its research and training focus and the essentiality of an interdisciplinary approach to this focus.
 - c. Availability of a critical mass of faculty and facilities to address the area of focus. This should include a listing of faculty (by department) who will be involved initially in the IGP.
 - d. Support and approval of all academic units that will be involved in the proposed IGP (i.e., signatures from all department heads and deans with faculty to be involved in the program).
 - e. Success criteria. Success may be measured by improved ability to attract and retain superior students and faculty, to secure funding for research and training, or to enhance the quality of education and the reputation of Purdue University, among others.
 - f. Projected student enrollment.
2. Structure and Function of the IGP: The proposal explains the infrastructure where the program will be housed, day-to-day operations, and details about administration and business practices. As part of these infrastructure details, the following committees are recommended for IGP degree or majors in order to provide adequate administrative



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From Policies and Procedures for Administering Graduate Student Programs Manual - [Appendix E](#):
Representative Guidelines for an Interdisciplinary Graduate Program

oversight. There are additional requirements noted below if the program will be a dual-titled PhD.

- a. Executive Committee: Each IGP should be administered by an executive committee made up of faculty representatives from the IGP. Duties of the executive committee should be clearly delineated and may include some or all of the following:
 - i. Establish by-laws for the IGP, including standing committees needed for managing the IGP.
 - ii. Develop and implement mechanisms for selecting and screening faculty members for membership in the IGP.
 - iii. Develop and implement procedures for recruitment, admissions, curriculum, student supervision, and program requirements.
- b. Liaison Committee: In an effort to establish and maintain communication among administrators involved with the IGP, formation of a liaison committee is recommended. This committee should meet annually, at a minimum.
- c. IGP Director: The director of the IGP should be selected and/or approved by the executive committee, with the approval of the liaison committee and the Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars. The director should manage administrative matters regarding the IGP and represent the IGP to the University, funding agencies, etc.

Faculty Membership: Membership of faculty in an IGP should be approved by the faculty member's home department head before review by the IGP executive committee. Roster updates should be periodically communicated to the Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars. Membership should be based on criteria developed by the executive committee. All members are then eligible to participate in all activities of the IGP.

Additional Guidance for IGP programs seeking Dual-Title PhD Convention

A dual title PhD provides a formal recognition of the intentional interdisciplinary work completed by the graduate. Distinct from a major, a dual-title PhD completes disciplinary depth with structured, interdisciplinary work with both academic and research components. The graduate receives a single PhD and the dual title is a notation on the transcript which reflects both disciplines (e.g., Health and Kinesiology – Gerontology, PhD) as the program. By design, this is most commonly a partnership with an interdisciplinary field (e.g., Cancer Research) although research centers or institutes may also be eligible.

3. Criteria required for a Dual-Title PhD Program includes:
 - a. The dual-title requires an existing PhD discipline to partner with a known interdisciplinary field or research institute.



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From Policies and Procedures for Administering Graduate Student Programs Manual - [Appendix F](#):
Representative Guidelines for an Interdisciplinary Graduate Program

- b. Students should be able to earn the dual-title degree within 90 credits.
 - c. There are purposeful course and non-course-based opportunities for interdisciplinary training that are consistent across the disciplinary partners (e.g., all dual-title students complete a minimum of 15 credits of approved interdisciplinary coursework).
 - d. Dual-title PhD students must complete a dissertation that meets requirements for both the disciplinary graduate program (e.g., PhD in Nutrition) and the interdisciplinary program (e.g. all dual-title graduates of Gerontology complete a dissertation on a topic related to Aging).
 - e. The faculty advisor must be affiliated with center/institute.
 - f. The proposal must align with the requirements outlined in 1, and provide two additional supporting documents:
 - i. A list of course and non-course criteria to confer the dual-title for all disciplinary partners. If there are limited course-based activities that make up the criteria, a more robust plan should be provided of the non-course-based experiences to support the threshold for a dual-title program.
 - ii. Example plan of study for each of the disciplinary partners in the dual title program
4. Structure and Function for a Dual Title PhD Program:
- a. Mechanisms in place alignment with 2. Structure and Function of the IGP
 - b. Periodic assessment of disciplinary graduates and dual-title graduates, including but not limited to: time to degree, career outcomes, publications and awards

**PURDUE
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TO: GRADUATE COUNCIL
FROM: MELISSA FRANKS
DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2025
SUBJECT: GRADUATE COUNCIL REVIEW TASK FORCE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Graduate Council Review Task Force
Report and Recommendations
May, 2024

Submitted by Members of the Graduate Council Review Task Force: Melissa M. Franks (Chair), Paul Salama, Nicole Widmar, Mary Johnson, Eric Kvam, Howard Sypher, Stephanie Masta, W. Bart Collins, Joy Colwell, Abraham Schwab

Overview

This task force was formed in Spring 2024, and members participated in five meetings between February 27 and May 8.

This task force was given the charge to 1) review existing documentation on Graduate Council charge, purpose, and membership; and, 2) make any recommendations for updating language around the charge, purpose, and membership of the Graduate Council.

In addition, this task force identified potential areas for improvement in operations of the Graduate Council. These areas for improvement require additional work of the task force to provide recommendations for how a restructured Graduate Council can operate more efficiently moving forward.



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Review of Existing Documentation

Task force members reviewed archival documentation from the report of the Committee on Faculty Reorganization, submitted in 1949. Similar information regarding the charge, purpose, and membership of the Graduate Council was found in the current Policies and Procedures Manual available on the Graduate School website.

Following review of existing information regarding the Graduate Council at Purdue University, task force members identified additional sources of information about Graduate Council charge and membership from selected graduate programs. The graduate programs selected are top public universities and land grant universities and include the following institutions:

UC Berkeley

Berkeley Graduate Division – Vice Provost and Dean

Graduate Council <https://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/committees/gc>

University of Michigan

Rackham School of Graduate Studies – Dean

Rackham **Executive Board** <https://rackham.umich.edu/about/directory/executive-board/>

UCLA

Division of Graduate Education – Dean

Academic Senate/**Graduate Council** <https://senate.ucla.edu/committee/gc>

University of Florida

The Graduate School – Dean

Graduate Council <https://graduateschool.ufl.edu/academics/gc/>

University of Virginia

The Graduate School, Arts and Sciences – Dean, College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

Academic Affairs Committee of Faculty Senate <https://facultysenate.virginia.edu/committees/1>

Cornell University

Graduate School - Dean and Vice Provost for Graduate Education

General Committee [General Committee : Graduate School \(cornell.edu\)](https://graduate-school.cornell.edu/graduate-school-general-committee/)

UC Davis

Graduate Studies - Vice Provost and Dean

Graduate Council <https://academic-senate.ucdavis.edu/committees/graduate-council>



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Recommendations for Updating Charge and Purpose of the Graduate Council

Current: Graduate Council acts as the voting faculty of the Graduate School, responsible for all academic policies related to post-baccalaureate study and degree programs, particularly

- Admission to the Graduate School
- Standards of work
- Courses and programs of study
- Foreign language requirements
- Registration requirements
- All other requirements for advanced degrees

Recommended: Graduate Council represents the graduate faculty of Purdue University, and is responsible for all academic matters related to post-baccalaureate study and degree programs, including

- Admission to Graduate Studies (sets minimum standards)
- Review and approval of graduate courses, degrees, and programs of study
- Establish academic policies, and advise on administrative policies and procedures, for graduate education
- Review graduate program enrollments and provide guidance on periodic review of graduate programs
- All other requirements for post-baccalaureate degrees, certificates, and licensure programs

Recommendations for Updating Membership of the Graduate Council

Recommended: Graduate Faculty representatives from across the Purdue University System will be selected to serve on the Graduate Council. It is recommended that these representatives be selected by their faculty colleagues within their college or campus. These representatives will serve a 3-year term on the Graduate Council (on a rotating basis with a portion of the membership replaced each year).

- Vice Provost for the Office of Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars serves as Chair of Graduate Council
- 2 members from each of the following 8 PWL Colleges (Agriculture, Daniels School of Business, Education, Engineering, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts, Purdue Polytechnic Institute, and Science)
- 1 member from each of 2 PWL Professional Programs (Pharmacy, Veterinary Medicine)
- 1 member from each campus at Northwest, Fort Wayne, and Indianapolis location
- Ex-Officio members



- Assistant Vice Provosts of the Graduate Office
- Director of Graduate Studies from each campus
- Purdue University Online representative
- Office of the Registrar representative
- Purdue Graduate Student Government President
- Purdue Postdoctoral Association President

Recommendations for Continued Work of Graduate Council Review Task Force

Provide additional recommendations for areas for improvement in Graduate Council operations including:

- Meeting frequency (i.e., increase number of Graduate Council meetings)
- Retain area committees or create curriculum subcommittee
- Clarify expectations for Graduate Council review of proposals
- Create schedule for submission and review of proposals prior to Graduate Council meeting (to allow sufficient time for Graduate Council members to review these proposals)
- Role of regional campuses in review of graduate courses for their programs