



University Council on Graduate Study Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 13, 2024

The minutes from the December 2023 meeting were approved (27 in favor) pending the following edit: Add Academic Structure Subcommittee members: Matt McKenzie and Soumalya Ghosh.

The minutes from the January 2024 meeting were approved (30 in favor) pending the following edits:

- Add Graduate Advising and Mentoring Subcommittee members: Jacob Cuyler, Gerard Dorve-Lewis, Brooke Dresden, Sai Vivek Chara, and Danielle Nahas.
- Add Course Repeat/G Grade Subcommittee member: Ketki Raina.
- Add Graduate Faculty Subcommittee recommendations: 1) State that faculty who leave or retire be converted to Auxiliary status, and 2) Add language regarding suspending or revoking graduate faculty status which would require recommendation from Dean to Provost.

Academic Program Proposals

Proposal to establish a micro-credential on Public Policy Theory and Analysis

The Graduate School of Public and International Affairs proposed to establish a micro-credential to benefit PhD students across campus whose planned dissertation research bears some relevance to public policy. Specific relevant units might include political science and economics. The combination of coursework on theory of the policy process, policy analysis, and a third course on a substantive policy area (potentially directly related to their own work) that make up this micro-credential will provide a broader, interdisciplinary lens to their own policy-relevant work than they might receive through purely within-discipline coursework. The micro-credential will be promoted to all PhD Program Directors across campus and there are no prerequisites to a student being enrolled.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend to the Provost that the proposal be approved. Members present voted in favor of recommending approval to the Provost (29 in favor; 3 abstain).

Announcements

DOD student service members statement

The University of Pittsburgh will promptly readmit a service member with the same academic status they had when last attending or accepted for admission. This requirement applies to any student who cannot attend school due to military service.



Clarification and a point of contact was requested of the Office of Veteran Services for the section in the statement, “The cumulative length of the absence and of all previous absences from the University of Pittsburgh for military service may not exceed five years. Only the time the student spends actually performing service is counted.”

Guidance from the Office of Veteran Services for how a School can provide support to a readmitted student “to resume the program at the point where they left off” as it pertains to an academic program with a student cohort.

Report on graduate admissions and national trends

Jennifer Walker presented on graduate and professional admissions and enrollment. She summarized what has happened since 2020 with the implementation of GradCAS and its integration with PeopleSoft. Data was then presented on total applications and yield (enrolled) for research doctorates and masters and professional doctorates and masters in fall 2022 and fall 2023. Data included underrepresented student populations, Pennsylvania residents, international students, test optional (96% of all graduate and professional programs do not require GRE), and holistic admissions (100% of all programs). The next steps include integrating first generation student status and Pell eligibility into the data, reviewing the decision-letter template, continuing the support for holistic admissions and graduate program marketing and student recruitment.

Attendance

Guests: Daniel Jones (GSPIA), Jennifer Walker (OTP)

School	Last	First
Katz Graduate School of Business	Badawy	Rebecca
School of Law	Beaulieu	Chelsea
Swanson School of Engineering	Brown	Bryan
School of Public Health	Burke	Jessica
School of Computing and Information	Chava	Sai Vivek Vivek
Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences	Clift	Robert
School of Pharmacy	Cuyler	Jacob
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	DeRuiter	Mark
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	Dickey	Michael
School of Education	Dorve-Lewis	Gerard
School of Medicine	Dresden	Brooke
Katz Graduate School of Business	Galletta	Dennis
Office of the Provost	Godley	Amanda
School of Nursing	Grayson	Susan
School of Education	Gunzenhauser	Michael
Office of the Registrar, Observer	Helm	Jonathan



University of
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Office of the Provost
Graduate Studies

School of Social Work	Jin Lee	Hyun
Katz Graduate School of Business	Jobe	Abdoulai
School of Computing and Information	Joshi	James
School of Medicine	Khan	Saleem
School of Medicine	Lee	Robin
School of Medicine	Mars	Wendy
Office of the Provost	Mischler	Shannon
Graduate School of Public and International Affairs	Owen	Erica
Swanson School of Engineering	Parker	Bob
School of Social Work	Petracchi	Helen
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	Raina	Ketki
School of Dental Medicine	Robert	Nadine
Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences	Roege	Pernille
SEPC	Schein	Michelle
School of Nursing	Schlenk	Elizabeth
School of Dental Medicine	Wankiiri-Hale	Christine
Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences	Woon	Jonathan
School of Public Health	Youk	Ada