



**University Council on Graduate Study Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, May 14, 2024

The minutes from the February 2024 meeting were approved (20 in favor).

**Academic Program Proposals**

**Establish a joint program from the existing MD and MBA degrees between the School of Medicine and the Katz Graduate School of Business.**

The Katz Graduate School of Business and the School of Medicine proposed to establish a joint degree program between the existing Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Medical Degree (MD). Students will complete the first two years of medical school, then one year working towards the MBA in Katz, and then complete the final two years of medical schools, with 12 credits counting towards both degrees. The program will enroll up to 5 students per year.

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 (16 in favor; 6 abstain – abstentions represent members from the School of Medicine and Katz Graduate School of Business).

**Establish a new online major in Speech-Language Pathology leading to a Master of Arts degree in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences**

The School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences proposed an online major in Speech-Language Pathology leading to a Master of Arts degree. The online program will require 63 credits, which is slightly higher than the in-person version of the program. The online program will seek separate accreditation and will have its own budget and teaching faculty. The program will prepare students to become licensed practitioners across educational and healthcare environments, with candidacy for the Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

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 (19 in favor; 2 abstain).

**Establish a certificate in Periodontics and Implant Dentistry in the School of Dental Medicine.**

The School of Dental Medicine proposes to establish a Graduate Clinical Research Program in Periodontics and Implant Dentistry certificate. The 28.5 credit certificate can be completed over



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a twelve-month period. Most of the students enrolled in the program will be foreign-trained dentists and dental specialists who seek to further their education in the United States. The program provides a pathway for students, upon completion, to apply for a Commission on Dental Accreditation accredited residency program and/or apply for a faculty position at the University of Pittsburgh or other universities in the country.

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 (22 in favor; 2 abstain).

**Modify the overall number of credits in the Public and International Affairs major leading to the Masters of Public and International Affairs degree within the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs.**

The Graduate School of Public and International Affairs proposed a modification to the existing Public and International Affairs major leading to the Masters of Public and International Affairs (MPIA) degree. The proposed modifications include a reduction to the overall number of credits required for the degree from 48 to 36 as well as a significant revision of the curriculum. The modifications will both improve the curriculum being taught while increasing accessibility by reducing cost and time to degree. The school also hopes to see a 20% increase in enrollment over the next three year.

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 (23 in favor; 1 abstain).

**Establish a certificate in Global Sustainable Development in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs**

The Graduate School of Public and International Affairs proposed to establish a 12-credit certificate in Global Sustainable Development in partnership with the University Center for International Studies (UCIS). This proposal is also endorsed by the School of Public Health. The certificate will provide master's seeking students at GSPIA and across the University of Pittsburgh the opportunity to learn about sustainable development without having to pursue the Master of International Development degree.

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 (23 in favor; 1 abstain).



**Announcements**

**Registration of Undergraduate Students for Graduate Courses**

A conflict was discovered between the Graduate and Undergraduate catalogs pertaining to the registration of undergraduate students for graduate courses. The Graduate catalog states, “undergraduate students who need fewer than 30 credits to complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree and who intend to continue to student toward an advanced degree may be permitted during their final term to register for graduate courses which will later apply toward a graduate degree.” Whereas, the Undergraduate catalog states, “undergraduate students who need fewer than 15 credits to complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree and who intend to continue to student toward an advanced degree may be permitted during their final year to register for graduate courses which will later apply toward a graduate degree.”

UCGS records show that this change was discussed and approved in October 2019, but it was discovered that PACUP did not review and approve the modification. Thus, the modification of this regulation was never fully approved. The proposed modification will be reviewed by both PACUP and UCGS. In the interim, the statement in the Undergraduate catalog shall serve as the correct guideline and the statement in the Graduate catalog will be revised to reflect the same information as the Undergraduate catalog.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM.

**Attendance**

**Guests:** Lisa Alfredson (GSPIA), Luke Condra (GSPIA), Sara Dickey (Dental Medicine), Sara Moeller (Katz), Jason Rosenstock (Medicine), and Charles Sfeir (Dental Medicine)

School	Last	First
Katz Graduate School of Business	Badawy	Rebecca
Swans School of Engineering	Brown	Bryan
School of Public Health	Burke	Jessica
School of Computing and Information	Chava	Sai Vivek Vivek
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 Education	Gunzenhauser	Michael



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Office of the Registrar, Observer	Helm	Jonathan
School of Medicine	Khan	Saleem
School of Medicine	Lee	Robin
School of Medicine	Mars	Wendy
Graduate School of Public and International Affairs	Owen	Erica
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
School of Nursing	Schlenk	Elizabeth
Office of the Provost	Walker	Jennifer
School of Dental Medicine	Wankiiri-Hale	Christine
Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences	Woon	Jonathan
School of Public Health	Youk	Ada