



Graduate Council Meeting Summary

March 21, 2024

2:00 - 3:30 pm

[Zoom](#)

I. Call to Order

Dr. Linda Thomas, Dean, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. Approval of the Graduate Council Minutes from September 21, 2023*

Graduate Council minutes were also approved as dispensed.

III. Reports

A. Assistant Dean's Reports

1. Graduate Student Association Report

GSA is currently working on selecting their Impact Award winners. The deadline for nominations is April 1. Ten nominations have been received (six for faculty and four for students).

The GSA is working on creating a "lending library," which would allow users to borrow items such as vacuums, tools, etc. The GSA is working through several issues, such as where these items will be housed and who can monitor the borrowing. Structure and policy are needed.

The GSA is considering who will serve on their Executive Committee next year. Students who are enthusiastic and engaging are needed. If Graduate Council members know of students who might be interested and will be returning (not graduating), please encourage them to express their interest to a current Executive Committee member.

2. Graduate Showcase Report

The Graduate Showcase will be held on April 17, starting at 8:30 a.m. in the Hall of Presidents. There are 14 Oral Presentations and 20 Posters. Nominations were received for all awards. Please let Laura Ryman know if anyone is interested in serving as a judge.

B. Associate Dean's Reports

1. Graduate Council Curriculum Committee Report

The GCCC has been busy reviewing program changes and proposals. At the GCCC meeting next week, the final curriculum items will be reviewed and, hopefully, will be included in the Graduate Catalog.

The earlier a program can put through its curriculum items, the easier it is to ensure they will make the catalog.

2. Repeat Forgiveness



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This policy assists graduate students who may be very capable of achieving good grades but have experienced extenuating circumstances, such as acclimating to a new culture, dealing with family sickness, or the death of a loved one.

Survey results were shared on whether the other VCGS schools offer a repeat forgiveness policy. The Graduate School hopes the survey results will be used to encourage discussion within graduate programs for a future vote by the Graduate Council.

C. Dean's Report

The summer Graduate Council Retreat has been canceled. A strategic planning retreat will be scheduled in the future.

The last meeting of the Graduate Council will be held on April 18 to vote on policies.

Graduate programs play a significant role in recommending candidates for admission; however, the final decision rests with TGS. The email will be sent to Program Directors and Academic Unit Heads. Please allow the Graduate Admissions team to make the official admission letter. They will send the program letter with other information and this official letter. Programs can still send their own letter but communicate via Admit.

Unfortunately, summer funding is not available due to tuition revenue. At the BOV Finance Subcommittee meeting, it was reported that Graduate tuition revenues showed a loss of \$1.4 million. Dr. Thomas will work closely with Finance to dispel the notion that graduate education costs JMU.

Now, programs do not need to worry whether your best applicants are out-of-state or international students. This applies to all programs except doctoral programs in Music, Communication Science Disorders (CSD), and Graduate Psychology.

IV. Unfinished Business

None.

V. New Business

None.

VI. Announcements

A. Information Session Directory



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There is a new TGS web page listing program-specific information sessions available across campus. TGS has been helping programs conduct information sessions for several years, and we regularly see participants start or complete their applications within days. TGS will help disseminate information about information sessions and help programs improve attendance. Well-attended information sessions bring in graduate program applications. Additional information about this resource will be provided soon.

B. Appointment of Graduate Council, Executive Committee, and Graduate Council Curriculum Committee

It is time to begin the appointment process for 2024-2025.

The Graduate Council membership shall include a representative from each academic unit offering one or more graduate programs or certificates and two graduate students. Academic Units have established their own representative selection procedures.

For the Executive Committee, the Graduate Council must choose one representative for each college from among the members of next year's Graduate Council.

The Graduate Council must choose one representative from each college's Graduate Faculty for the Graduate Council Curriculum Committee.

C. JobLink has been phased out, and the university has implemented a new PageUp system. The new system can be found at jobs.jmu.edu. One of the features is the ability to set up an alert system anytime a position has been posted. This will be extremely helpful to students looking for a graduate assistantship.

VII. Adjourn

With no further business, Dr. Bill Wightman motioned to adjourn the meeting, which Dr. Scott Gallagher properly seconded. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

*Votes are likely to be called for items marked with an asterisk.



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Graduate Council Voting Members			
Last Name	First Name	Academic Unit	Joined Zoom Meeting
Aga	Zareen	Middle, Secondary and Mathematics Education	
De Hertogh	Lori Beth	Writing, Rhetoric, & Technical Communication (WRTC)	yes
Coates	Tabitha	Learning, Technology, & Leadership Education	yes
Dabback	William	Music	yes
Diop	Corinne	College of Visual and Performing Arts	yes
Dorne	Rachelle	Health Professions	
Gubser	Michael	History	yes
Hefner	Brooks	English	
Heydari	Hossain	Computer Science	
Hickerson	Corey	Communication & Advocacy	yes
Imbrescia	Eric	Early, Elementary & Reading Education	
Irving	Jim	Accounting	
Knopp	Andrea	Nursing	yes
Marcopulos	Bernice	Department of Graduate Psychology	
Moore	Kethera	Psychology	yes
Kurti	Stephanie	Kinesiology	yes
Park	Sophia	Graduate Student Association	
Piker	Erin	Communication Sciences & Disorders (CSD)	yes
Rutherford	Matthew	Business Administration	
Sloan	Margaret	School of Strategic Leadership	yes



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Spindel	an	School of Integrated Sciences	yes
Stevens	Alexis	Mathematics	yes
Taylor	Jennifer	Political Science	
Wallace-Carr	Julie	Sport & Rec Leadership	yes
Wasta	Stephanie	Educational Foundations & Exceptionalities	yes
Wunderlich	Roshna	Biology	yes

Graduate Council Non-Voting Members			
Last Name	First Name	Title	Joined Zoom Meeting
Thomas	Linda	Dean	Yes
Stoloff	Michael	Associate Dean, Admissions and Recruitment	Yes
Ryman	Laura	Assistant Dean and Director of Graduate Student Services	Yes

Guests			
Last Name	First Name	Academic Unit	Joined Zoom Meeting
Anderson	Robin	Graduate Psychology	yes
Apple	Kevin	Associate Dean, College of Sciences & Mathematics	
Argenbright	Christine	Department of Nursing	
Bell	Pamela	Dean's Office, The Graduate School	
Brutus	Tiffany	Research and Scholarship	
Danzell	Orlandrew	Integrated Science and Technology	
Doss	Cheryl	Dean's Office, The Graduate School	yes



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Gallagher	Scott	Associate Dean, COB	yes
Hawley	Allyssa	University Career Center Advisor	
Hegg	Kevin	Libraries	
Hochstetler	Doug	Associate Dean, College of Health and Behavioral Studies	yes
Lipscomb	Rebecca	Dean's Office, The Graduate School	
MacDonald	Sarah	PCE	
Maxwell	Paula	Faculty and Curriculum	
McDonnell	Kristi	Student Records and Graduation Specialist	yes
Michael	Lynette	Dean's Office, The Graduate School Director of Admissions	yes
Miller	Yvonne	Dean's Office, The Graduate School	yes
Rose	Liz	Dean's Office, The Graduate School	
Shackelford	Kristi	Chief Communication Officer,	
Stevens	Wren	Associate Dean, College of Visual and Performing Arts	yes
Tang	Jeff	Associate Dean, College of Integrated Science and Engineering	
White	Sian	Associate Dean, College of Arts and Letters	
Wightman	Bill	School of Art, Design and Art History	yes
Zhou	JY	Executive Director, Center for Global Engagement	yes
Zugelder	Brian	Associate Dean, College of Education	