

**GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
Thursday, July 11, 2024 – Zoom Meeting

**PRESENT:** Megan Adkins, Kazuma Akehi, Janet Graham, Mary Harner, Torsten Homberger, Miechelle McKelvey, Whitney Schneider-Cline, Chris Steinke, Chris Strickland, Doug Tillman, Michelle Warren, Laurinda Weisse, Chloe Dakan, Tawny Moore, Linda Johnson, and Carmen Brewer

**ABSENT:** Michelle Beissel Heath, Ben Brachle, Ngan Chau, Bree Dority, Angela Hollman, Austin Nuxoll, and Erin Sweeney

**I. Approval of the May Minutes– approved via email.**

**II. Graduate Dean’s Report**

A. *Summer Office Updates*

1. Online Orientation Graduate Students & Online

Our office is working on an orientation that will be for Graduate and Online Students. See attachment for the outline of the orientation. The orientation is currently being reviewed to evaluate accuracy and content. It will be video/interactive based and asynchronous. The hope is for an August launch.

2. Graduate Admissions

a. Accelerated Programs – Webpages are currently being reviewed and then will be built and ready to go by Fall. There will be a stand-alone home page and then specific program pages for students to view based on their interest. All accelerated program courses that were approved prior to the 24-25 catalog are in place and can be viewed in the undergraduate catalog for students to view.

b. Stellic – Trainings will be coming up for Graduate Faculty in August to help train faculty on how to utilize the system for advising. Be on the lookout for trainings via email soon.

Stellic is being implemented for any brand-new Fall 2024 student, Fall 2024 students will not be in degree works. Inside Stellic will be online program changes, streamlining the Graduate admissions and candidacy form activities.

B. *Approval of 2024 Summer Graduates*

Unanimous approval of the updated slate of summer graduates (Kazuma Akehi/ Whitney Schneider-Cline). Motion carried

C. *Approval of the updated GPC handbook*

Unanimous approval of the updated GPC Handbook with minor grammatical corrections (Michelle Warren/ Chris Strickland). Motion carried

**III. Committee Reports**

A. Policy & Planning Committee – no action items to discuss.

B. Academic Programs Committee –

Approved: SPCH 859P: Rhetorical Theory: Course Change:  
Catalog description, course objectives, & syllabus were updated.

C. Faculty & Student Affairs Committee – no action items to discuss.

#### **IV. Other Business**

Webpages – The Academic Innovation webpage is live. The webpage provides information about initiatives, academic resources, outreach, Center for Teaching Excellence, research, Online Coordinators and more.

<https://www.unk.edu/academics/academic-innovation/index.php>

GA Orientation will be held August 19 from 8:00 – 12:00 PM in CMCT 101.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Rhinehart