

**GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
Thursday, October 10, 2024 – CMCT 241

**PRESENT:** Brook Envick, Janet Graham, Mary Harner, Angela Hollman, Torsten Homberger, Michelle McKelvey, Whitney Schneider-Cline, Christopher Strickland, Erin Sweeney, Doug Tillman, Michelle Warren, Laurinda Weisse, Melissa Wuellner, Chloe Dakan, and Linda Johnson

**ABSENT:** Ngan Chau, Bree Dority, Austin Nuxoll

**I. Approval of the September 12, 2024 Minutes – approved via email.**

**II. Graduate Dean’s Report**

*Announcements:*

The New Frontier Reception will be held October 24, 2024, in Discovery Hall Atrium. Dean Ellis encouraged all to attend.

A. *Gonfalonier for December Commencement*

Dean Ellis asked the council to begin thinking about the Graduate Gonfalonier for December Commencement. He asked that all nominations be returned to him by November 7, 2024.

B. *3MT (Three Minute Thesis) – Submissions UNK*

The submissions for the UNK 3MT (Three Minute Thesis) competition are due by January 31, 2024.

a. The UNK Competition of the top 3 will be held mid-February

b. The UNK Winner will attend and compete at the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools Competition which will be held, April 4, 2025, in Indianapolis.

C. *GPC/Chair Meetings*

Dean Ellis would like departments to review their programs and identify opportunities for improvement. In particular we should explore ways to embed certificates, micro-credentials, and other options into their existing programs. Meetings are being held with the Graduate Office, GPC and Department Chairs to start exploring ways. Dean Ellis mentioned that there are plans to develop grants to help with this task. More information will be released on this.

**III. Committee Reports**

A. Policy & Planning Committee – no report.

- Review of the RSI (Regular Substantive Interaction) policy.
  - Comments on this are due by October 15, 2024. There is a document in one drive to leave your comments.

B. Academic Programs Committee -

For Graduate Council Action – motion to approve after recommended revisions by McKelvey/Strickland. Motion carried unanimously.

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Nature of Request</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
English-MA: English, Master of Arts	Program Change – Addition of a course	Approve
PE-MAE: Kinesiology and Sport Sciences Master of Arts in Education	Program Change – Removal of Recreation & Leisure Specialization Option. Move from 36 to 30 hour program in the coaching, and sport management options.	Approve, after minor revisions

For Graduate Council Information – the following courses have been approved by Committee II.

<b>Prefix &amp; Course Name</b>	<b>Nature of Request</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
KSS 872: Physical Education for Students with Developmental Disabilities	Outdated language is used in the current catalog description. New Catalog description reflects appropriate practices in the course.	Approve, after minor revisions
KSS 873: Physical Education for Persons with Severe Disabilities	Current catalog description uses outdated language. Update catalog description has appropriate terminology and reflects practices within the course.	Approve

C. Faculty & Student Affairs Committee – no report.

- Departments are reviewing thesis for the best UNK Thesis. Once they have determined the best from their area, the committee will be reviewing the UNK Thesis awards. These awards will be given out at Student Research Day in April 2025.
- Development of graduate student financial support criteria. Information about this can be found in the Committee III folder on one drive. The initial draft will need to be submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies & Academic Innovation by November 1, 2024. Once this document is reviewed by the Office of Graduate Studies & Academic Innovation it will be sent to the Graduate Council for review and vote for the November 14, Graduate Council meeting.

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

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Rhinehart