

## GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, October 13, 2022 - 3:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Megan Adkins, Kazuma Akehi, Michelle Beissel Heath, Matt Bjornsen, Ben Brachle, Ngan Chau, Martonia Gaskill, Grace Mims, Austin Nuxoll, Whitney Schneider-Cline, Chris Steinke, Laurinda Weisse, Jason Baker, Tawny Moore, and Jada Ruff

**ABSENT:** John Bauer, Anne Foradori, Michelle Warren, and Mallory Wetherell

### I. Approval of the September 8, 2022 Minutes – approved via email

### II. Graduate Dean's Report

A. *New Frontiers Reception*

Dean Ellis invited the council to the New Frontiers Reception on Tuesday, November 1, 4:00-5:30 pm in the Discovery Hall Atrium.

B. *UNK on the Bricks*

This is an effort to connect with downtown. November's theme is No Shave November and Cancer Awareness and will be held Tuesday, November 29 at 5:30 pm at Nest.Space. This event will also integrate the Daily Mile with a short walk around the downtown area to promote physical activity.

C. *Daily Mile*

Ellis explained the collaboration with KSS to become more active. This program targets elementary schools and UNK is the only university currently participating in this program.

D. *Gonfalonier*

Ellis asked the council for nominations for gonfalonier for December graduation.

E. *DEI Committee*

Ellis thanked those who have volunteered to be on the committee.

F. *MAGS*

MAGS (Midwest Association of Graduate Schools) 2023 Excellence in Teaching Award is due January 20, 2023 and recognizes the importance of excellence in teaching and mentoring.

G. *Proctoring*

There have been issues with live proctoring. Ellis extended his appreciation to Tim Bartling, Karen Premer and Eric Tenkorang for leading this endeavor.

H. *Executive Graduate Council*

The Master of Public History is on the docket.

I. *Syllabi*

With the HLC visit soon, we need to have a syllabus for each class taught. If multiple instructors teach the same course, the course description and learning outcomes must be the same. Tawny Moore has been instrumental in implementing this new system to house the syllabi. An email will be sent to each Dean's administrative associate who will forward to the departments.

J. *Graduate Tuition*

Ellis is exploring ways to offer competitive tuition to non-residents. Akehi, chair of the Faculty & Student Affairs Committee, will write a paragraph of Graduate Council support of this initiative.

### III. Committee Reports

- A. Policy & Planning Committee – no report.
- B. Academic Programs Committee – Adkins asked the council to review the course and program changes before submitting them to make the review process easier and quicker.

For Graduate Council Action – motion to approve by Beissel-Heath/Chau seconded. Motion carried.

Program Name	Nature of Request	Recommendation
Long Term Care Management- 123	College and department of program change, revisions to align with similar programs within the NU system The proposed changes are needed due to the change of location of the program from Natural & Social Science to Business and Technology. The department the program is housed under has changed from Health Sciences to Management. Revising courses in the program to be consistent with UNO Gerontology Program, reduce prereq requirements, and decrease internship hrs. within the foundational core.  The proposed program has over 50% of the courses listed as "P." Additionally, courses listed from UNO do not list the title and coordination with the audit system at UNK is being evaluated. The graduate catalog states that "One half of a student's master's degree must be numbered with 800 (non-P) courses."	Deny, Rollback
Biology, Master of Science	Changed seminar offerings. The proposed changes are being made 1) change seminar offerings Revise footnote number 2: BIOL 880: is a one credit hour course. Students are required to complete three, one-hour seminar courses totaling 3 credit seminar hours within the area of Biology.	Approve, after revision.
STEM Education, Master of Science	The proposed changes are being made to remove the comprehensive exam as a graduation requirement. Replace with STEM 888 will serve as a capstone experience instead.	Approve
Speech/Language Pathology, Master of Science in Education	Modification in the internship options for students are being provided with the addition of the online program, and some students not needing the NE Department of Education Teacher Certification.	Approve

- C. Faculty & Student Affairs Committee –A suggestion from the committee after reviewing a grade appeal is to add an additional statement to the grade appeal process which states that the student is responsible to prepare a grade appeal packet – make it standardized and require the course syllabi. The committee can only review what is provided. The committee is also looking at thesis awards.

### IV. Other Business

Adkins distributed a handout of committee assignments. The council will be asked to assist in award decisions and be a part of the selection process. Adkins announced that the Graduate Student Association will go before the Senate on November 1 to be approved as a student organization. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janna Shanno