

MICHIGAN STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y

**Minutes of the University Committee on Graduate Studies (UCGS) Meeting
January 23, 2023**

Present:

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| Anne-Lise Halvorsen (EDU) | Lily Yan (CSS) |
| Beau Zhang (COGS) | Lorraine Robbins (NUR) |
| Beth Herbel-Eisenmann (EDU) | Maria Kloboves (COGS) |
| Brady Tyburski (COGS) | Noga Morag-Levine (LAW) |
| Bruno Takahashi (CAS) | Pero Dagbovie (GRAD) |
| Cathy Ernst (ANR) | Rajesh Kulkarni (CNS) |
| David Barondess (CHM) | Tom Sharkey (CNS) |
| Hannah Jeffery (COGS) | Trixie Smith (CAL) |
| Joanne Riebschleger (CSS) | Tomas Hult (BUS) |
| Kyonghee Kim (BUS) | |

Absent: Mahmoodal Haq, Robert Fowkes, Tomas Hult, Zhihua Tang, Bismarck Amaniampong

Guests: Marilyn Amey, Jim Lucas, Stefanie Baier, Doug Gage, Lee Cox, Remco Zegers, Hilda Mejia Abreu, Nathan Moore, Hima Rawal, Emily Durbin, Kevin Ford, Richard Saouma, and Wayne Hutchison.

Beginning action: Chair Anne-Lise Halvorsen opened the meeting at 3:03 PM.

1. Approval of Agenda

The January 23, 2023, UCGS agenda was approved.

2. Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2022 (See D2L).

Minutes were approved as submitted.

3. Remarks from the Chairperson (Anne-Lise Halvorsen)

The Faculty Senate is reviewing a revised bereavement policy. Faculty participate in the presidential search. UCGS subcommittee on Graduate Instruction, Employment, and Mentoring will work with the University Committee on Faculty Affairs on GA contract negotiations forthcoming this spring 2023 semester.

4. Remarks from the Dean of the Graduate School (Pero Dagbovie)

Pero Dagbovie thanked the committee members for their service. He also said he wished members a happy new year.

5. **Remarks from the COGS President** (Hannah Jeffery)

Hannah Jeffery did not offer remarks today.

6. **SIRS Revision Update**

Marilyn Amey, Jim Lucas, and Stefanie Baier talked about procedures to date toward development of a proposed SIRS revision. They provided a policy document on MSU Instructional Rating System Policy & Procedures. The document addressed measurement development procedures; course data reported; data compilation formats and unit levels; & access to data and level of detail. The guests asked for support for the proposed policy procedures per the policy document. Motion by Noga Morag-Levine to approve the procedures per the policy document. 2nd - Lorraine Robbins. Discussion of unit definitions, time frames for administration of SIRS data collection, confidentiality, and additional/alternative student learning outcomes evidence. Motion approved.

7. **Relationship with the Office of Research Integrity**

Chairperson Halvorsen discussed the advising role of UCGS to the Office of Research Integrity unit, including evaluation of RIO officer, and the unit. Vice President of Research & Innovation Doug Gage and Research Integrity Officer Lee Cox talked about a recent meeting with UCGS members toward how to work together for RIO business. They discussed common misconduct inquiries as often associated with a need for better communication among the parties involved. Hannah Jeffery mentioned possible research integrity issues between and among graduate students and their research advisors. A document with the number of annual RIO inquiries and the nature of these complaints was distributed. Lee Cox talked about proactive strategies for prevention of ORI issues/complaints, such as early agreements on manuscript authorships. UCGS members, Doug Gage, and Lee Cox discussed continuing interactions toward a strong working relationship, as well as increasing transparency of the RIO handbook by making it accessible online.

8. **University Committee on Graduate Studies Subcommittees Reports**

a. *Academic Research Policy Subcommittee*

Tomas Hult was not present. Anne-Lise Halvorsen will reach out to him.

b. *Graduate Instruction, Employment, & Mentoring Subcommittee*

Beth Herbel-Eisenmann discussed information being gathered to move toward GA wages and benefits discussions in March of 2023.

c. *Curriculum and Program Review Committee*

Tom Sharkey outlined minor items managed by the Subcommittee (per agenda meeting agreement) and items to be voted on in this full committee meeting. He proposed collating items 9 through 30 into a block vote as recommended by the UCGS Agenda Committee. Motion for block vote by Cathy Ernst. 2nd by Maria Kloboves. Motion for block vote (items 9-30) was approved.

Motion for approval of items 9-30 by Hannah Jeffrey. 2nd – Tom Sharkey. Discussion of minor changes in the items 9-30 numbered led by Tom Sharkey. Motion was approved.

9. **Request to Change the Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Political Science.** Motion passed.
10. **Request to Change the Requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Music Career Development** Motion passed.
11. **Request to Change the Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree in Youth Development** Motion passed.
12. **Request to Change the Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Human Development and Family Studies** Motion passed.
13. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Animal Science-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
14. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
15. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Cell and Molecular Biology-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
16. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Chemistry-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
17. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Comparative Medicine and Integrative Biology-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
18. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Crop and Soil Sciences-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
19. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Environmental Geosciences-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
20. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Fisheries and Wildlife-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
21. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Food Science-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
22. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Forestry-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
23. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Genetics and Genome Sciences-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.

24. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Human Nutrition-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
25. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Integrative Biology-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
26. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Microbiology-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
27. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Neuroscience-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
28. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Pathobiology-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
29. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Pharmacology and Toxicology-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
30. **Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Physiology-Environmental Toxicology** Motion passed.
31. **Request to Change the Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Physics**
Note this is returning with requested changes from the November UGCS meeting (Remco Zegers)

Remco Zegers explained proposed changes and answered all UGCS member questions. Hannah Jeffery made a motion to approve the request to change the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Physics. 2nd – Tom Sharkey. *Motion passed.*

32. **Request to Change the Requirements for the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree in Veterinary Medicine** (Hilda Mejia Abreu)

Hilda Mejia Abreu described courses for entry to the program by the November 14 application deadline. Motion to approve the request to change the requirements for the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree in Veterinary Medicine by Hannah Jeffery. 2nd – Maria Kloboves. *Motion passed.*

33. **Request for a New Master of Science Degree in Work and Organizational Psychology** (Emily Durbin & Kevin Ford). Kevin Ford and Emily Durbin explained the rationales for a new Master of Science degree in work and organizational psychology. Motion by Tom Sharkey to support the request for a new Master of Science Degree in Work and Organizational Psychology. Second by Kyonghee Kim. *Motion passed.*

34. **Request to Change the Requirements for the Master of Science Degree in Geography** (Nathan Moore). Dr. Moore explained that this is a non-thesis Masters degree with some field

work. Motion by Hannah Jeffery to support the change in requirements for the Master of Science Degree in Geography. 2nd by Tom Sharkey. *Motion passed.*

35. **Request to Change the Requirements for the Master of Business Administration Degree** (Richard Saouma & Wayne Hutchison). Richard Saouma and Wayne Hutchison described the request to change the requirements for the Master of Business Administration Degree. Motion by Tom Sharkey to approve the request to change the requirements for the Master of Business Administration Degree. 2nd. *Motion approved.*

36. **Request to Change the Requirements for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Degree**

Discussion of changes to the requirements for the Doctoral of Osteopathic Medicine Degree. Includes opportunity for a specialty in health care management. Alignment with accrediting body. A question arose about whether the phrase about humanities should have been removed on page 19. Following the UCGS meeting, Dr. Waarala reached Director of Admissions, Lyman Mower, to confirm whether that was intentional. She then reported that the edit on page 19, removing the phrase about humanities was submitted as intended, but that studies in the humanities are still suggested (page 20, item 7). Motion by Hannah Jeffery to support the request. Second. *Motion passed.*

37. **Roundtable**

No roundtable content was discussed in this meeting.

38. **Adjournment**

Chairperson Anne-Lise Halvorsen adjourned the meeting at 5:00 PM.

Submitted by,



Joanne Riebschleger
Secretary, University Committee on Graduate Studies

Approved: February 20, 2023