

**UMSL Graduate School
Graduate Council
Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2024**

Graduate School Senior Director Teresa Thiel began the meeting at 1:00 pm.

Note Taker: Nykea Watts Edwards

Members in attendance:

- In person: Joe Pickard, Eike Bauer, Ho Kim, Wendy Olivas, Lon Chubiz, Amy Banken
- By Zoom: Kamila White, Donald Kridel, Britannia Phillips, Rebecca Rogers, Thomasina Hassler, Yuguo Liao

Guest: Provost Steve Berberich

1. Dr. Thiel and all committee members present unanimously approved meeting minutes from the September 6, 2024 Graduate Council meeting.

Proposal:

Changes to minimum English proficiency test scores for EAP waiver

2. Provost Berberich discussed current EAP Placement criteria. Then, proposed changes to minimum English proficiency test scores for EAP waivers were presented. Please refer to the attached documents sent for clarification.
 - The proposed change would align UMSL with the other UM system campuses.
 - The goal is to make sure processes are streamlined for students.
 - The change would not affect current admission criteria.
 - GTA requirements for EAP testing would not change.

Committee Concerns:

- Fewer EAP classes will be taught
- Validity of the PTE-A and Duolingo examinations
- Clear communication about changes
- Lack of a request by the Provost for a Graduate Council vote

Action Items:

- Provost Berberich will discuss the committee conversation with his team.
- Dr. Thiel will ask for additional information/data on PTE-A and Duolingo examinations from the Global office.
- Provost Berberich will be invited back to a follow-up meeting.

Domestic scholarship models were also briefly discussed. Dr. Thiel suggested that more domestic graduate scholarships should be offered.

Review and approval of CourseLeaf Proposals:

3. Dr. Thiel clarified that she makes minor changes to proposals and discusses changes with departments. Dr. Thiel also clarified what committee members should look for when reviewing proposals.

Dr. Thiel and all the committee members present at the meeting voted to approve the proposed CourseLeaf proposal changes.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.