

Graduate Council  
Minutes of the Meeting  
October 23, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Interim Dean Wesley Harris. Members in attendance: Wilma Calvert, Donald Gouwens, Michael Griffin, Beth Huebner, Susan Kashubeck-West, Haitao Li, Wendy Olivas, David Kimball, Matthew Taylor, Maris Gillette.

**I. Minutes**

The minutes for the September 25, 2015 and March 20, 2015 meetings were approved.

**II. Council member replacement**

Donald Sweeney from the College of Business has resigned from the Graduate Council. Council member Haitao Li recommended Endowed Professor of Finance Yuman Tse as a replacement. The council approves Yuman Tse as the replacement for Donald Sweeney.

**III. Satisfactory and Unsatisfactory grades**

Currently, a 'C' grade translates to a U-Unsatisfactory. The Council would like the option to choose S or U rather than choosing a grade which is later translated to and S or U. The suggestion was presented to the Registration office who advised that that would not be possible. Faculty should assign a 'C' grade if the students' coursework was unsatisfactory. A 'B' grade should be assigned if the students' coursework was satisfactory.

**IV. Grade transfers**

Current policy states that only letter grades can be transferred in to UMSL. Based on practices discussed in the preceding program directors meeting, many departments are ignoring this policy. Some departments are requesting verification of 'S' grades from the issuing institution.

Council is generally in favor of changing the current policy to allow the transfer of 'S' grades for courses that are currently graded on an S&U basis, while allowing departments to make exceptions. A formal policy change will need to be approved by the council and submitted for approval to the Graduate Faculty.

**V. Course count limit**

Current policy states that a student may use a course twice in consecutive MS degree programs. A student was recently permitted to count a course in three different degree programs. Council feels that this rarely comes up, and that it can be regulated in house.

**VI. Curriculum proposal updates**

The council was updated on the September meeting course and program proposals (below) that were rolled back to the departments.

<b>Course/Program</b>	<b>Reason for rollback to department</b>
SOC WK 5450:	Clarify what an approved statistics course should be.
SOC WK 6220	Obtain sign off from MVS. This course has the same name as MVS 6220.
EDUC-PHD: PhD in Education	Specify foundations for students who are not in the Counseling emphasis area. Review the grammar on the attachment wording.

**VII. Fellowships**

Graduate Fellowship deadline set for November 13<sup>th</sup>  
Recruitment Fellowships will be on the November agenda

**VIII. Three Minute Thesis (3MT)**

The Graduate School would like to organize a Three Minute Thesis competition on the UMSL campus. The objective is to gather graduate students together for a fun evening. The winners would receive cash prizes, and the top PHD student could possibly win a trip to the regional Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS) competition. Campus competitions would need to be held prior to February 2016 in order for the winner to go to the MAGS competition. Volunteers are being sought to form a committee.

**IX. Graduate Research Fair**

The date for the Graduate Research Fair has been changed from Monday, April 18, 2016 to Friday, April 15, 2016

The meeting ended at 2:30pm