

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 5, 2023

Present: Amy McGlothlin, Barbara Cormier, Becky Copper Glenz, Daniel Sarefield, Denise Bertrand, Denise Sargent, Kyle Moody, Nancy Murray, Nermin Bayazit, Nirajan Mani, Deb Stone and Xuzhou Chen.

Motion to open meeting: Nirajan Mani

Second: Becky Copper-Glenz

Review of the Minutes from May 5, 2023

Motion to review: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Becky Copper-Glenz

Vote: Unanimous

Motion to Approve Minutes: Nancy Murray

Second: Dan Sarefield

Vote: Unanimous

Abstain: Deborah Stone, Denise Sargent (new members)

Nomination and Election for Graduate Council Chair and Vice Chair

Motion to Accept Nomination (Nermin Bayazit as Chair): Becky Copper-Glenz

Second: Nancy Murray

Vote: Unanimous

Motion to vote for Vice Chair: Nirajan Mani (self-nominated)

Second: Nermin Bayazit

Vote: Unanimous

Non-Substantive Program Change Request Review: Registrar's Office – May 5, 2023

Modality of future Graduate Council Meetings

Motion to Have Remaining Graduate Council Meetings Hybrid: Petri Flint

Second: Kyle Moody

Vote: Unanimous

Proposals:

GCE-23-24-01 – GCE New Graduate Course - Computer Science - Ethical Hacking

(Brady): This course introduces basic terminologies used in ethical hacking and penetration testing on Kali Linux. Students will learn to explore the vulnerabilities in various systems and operate the industry-leading tools and framework to perform penetration testing on different target systems.

In the future we want to create a cyber security concentration for graduate students. This course introduces basic terminologies used in hacking.

(Kyle): Can you explain a little bit more about how a course would integrate the ethical component throughout the course?

(Brady): It introduces a lot of different techniques for attacking a system and tries to find the vulnerability/weak point of the system.

When we teach a course, we ask a student to sign a disclaimer stating that we're going to perform attacks that other hackers use. The reason we put the ethics in is we want to make sure that they are aware that we are going to use these techniques ONLY for teaching purposes and good use, not for various bad reasons.

(Kyle): How is the ethical component integrated on the syllabus? What are the steps that are in the lessons that are going to reinforce the ethical component?

I would suggest adding in an element of discussing ethics in those areas to reinforce the ethical element. Students would come out understanding that these may have real world ramifications and, therefore, there's a need to understand how they may potentially impact others.

(Brady): That's a good point, the student needs to know where they're going to apply these techniques and why they need to learn them. I agree the ethical component should be added to the syllabus.

(Barbara): Since there is an undergraduate version of this course, should there be something stating what the difference is between the undergraduate and the graduate course?

Also, are you requesting to offer this in the spring? You indicated that it's already been offered twice as a topic course so this wouldn't technically be available as a non-topic until Fall 24 unless we got approval to offer it a third time.

(Brady): If approved, when would the first semester be?

(Barbara): Fall 24 unless you get approval to offer it as a topic course a third time.

(Brady): I don't mind if we can offer a topic course in the spring with special permission.

(Barbara): Typically, when this has come up and there's been some reason that the course had to

be offered prior to when it would officially begin, we've gotten Dean approval to offer it a third time of the topics course. We can either do that if we're inclined to do that and it needs to be offered in the spring or we just adjust the offering to fall 24 for the first time.

(Brady): Let's get approval to offer it as a topic course.

(Nermin): You will need a friendly amendment to Fall 24.

(Brady): Yes

(Becky): We can connect and see if we can approve it as a topics course, a third time.

(Brady): Okay.

Motion to Approve with a friendly amendment to add 1. a comment describing the difference between the undergraduate and graduate course, 2. it will begin Fall 2024, and 3. add a few sentences in the learning objectives and course description regarding the ethical component.-

Kyle Moody

Second: Dan Sarefield

Vote: Unanimous

GCE-23-24-02 – Policy Change Proposal – SGOCE-Incomplete Grades (Becky Copper-Glenz)

(Becky) This is a proposal to change the incomplete grade policy. When COVID happened, we made a number of updates but we did not update the graduate proposed language and that proposed language really is a cut and paste from the undergraduate's policy with just a few updates.

One of the key changes to the old policy states that a student who has received an incomplete must make up the missing part of their coursework during the first four weeks of the following semester, and that just wasn't consistent with what most faculty do with incompletes or how we are treated incompletes. We took that language.

(Kyle): The change would say, instructors will assign a deadline for a completion of the work no later than the last day of classes of the next semester. How does this apply for people that are teaching term classes that are seven weeks? Would that mean that we would actually move to the end of a 15-week semester each time?

Becky Copper-Glenz: Yes. The change will go into effect Fall 2024.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Dan Sarefield

Second: Kyle Moody

Vote: Unanimous

Motion to adjourn: Becky Copper-Glenz
Second: Kyle Moody
Vote: Unanimous