

# University Committee on Graduate Studies

Minutes

November 9, 2020



MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

**Present:** M. Abel (COGS), N. Costello (LAW), C. Ernst (CANR), Y. Figueroa (CAL), A. Gilad (CHM), A. Halvorsen (EDU), M. Haq (EGR), D. Hershey (NURS), T. Hult (BUS), K. Tollefson (for T. Jeitschko) (GRAD), K. Kim (BUS), D. Koslowsky (COM), R. Kulkarni (CNS), J. Lonstein (SSC), A. Moeser (CVM), F. Pratt (COGS), J. Riebschleger (COS), E. Roggenkamp (COGS), T. Sharkey (CNS), B. Takahashi (CCAS), B. Van Dyke (CAL), L. Weatherspoon (CANR), D. Wong (EDU), T. Zhou (MUS)

**Absent:** T. Grebey (COGS), D. Straiton (COGS)

The University Committee on Graduate Studies held a regular meeting via Zoom on November 9, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. with Chairperson Denise Hershey presiding. The agenda was approved as presented by unanimous consent. The draft minutes of the October 12, 2020 meeting were approved as presented by unanimous consent.

Remarks were given by the Chairperson, Associate Dean Kirsten Tollefson, and Council of Graduate Students President Meagan Abel.

The Chairperson led a brief discussion of the Provost's September 4, 2020 memorandum titled "Zoom or other Video Conference Policies for Webcam Use."

The Chairperson introduced a guest speaker, Andrew Christlieb, whose subject was a proposal for modular Master of Science degrees, with "modular" being used in two senses: 1) "developing MS degrees that consist of three separate graduate certificates, with a capstone studies course that brings synergy to the three graduate certificates," and 2) reimagining "many traditional three credit four-month courses . . . in a one-month, one-credit format." The Chairperson moved to return the proposal to Christlieb "to do a little bit more development or structure of how this would work" and then "bring it back to [UCGS] for further discussion, and then possibly give it to one of [UCGS's] subcommittees to further evaluate." The motion was adopted following debate.

Graduate Instruction, Employment, and Mentoring Subcommittee Chairperson Donna Koslowsky reported that the subcommittee had not met and had nothing to report. Academic Research Policy Subcommittee Chairperson Kyonghee Kim did the same.

Curriculum and Program Review Subcommittee Chairperson Thomas Sharkey reported that the subcommittee had approved several requests for curricular changes that would be addressed later in the meeting. Sharkey also reported that the subcommittee would consider the issue of what replaces the Graduate Record Examinations when a department stops requiring the GRE for admission. Discussion ensued.

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Sharkey moved to approve the following curricular changes: 1) A request to delete the curriculum and degree requirements for the Master of Jurisprudence degree in American Legal System in the College of Law; 2) a request to change the requirements for the Master of Arts degree in Applied Behavior Analysis in the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Special Education; 3) a request to change the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry; 4) a request to change the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in English in the Department of English; 5) a request to change the requirements for the Master of Human Resources and Labor Relations degree in Human Resources and Labor Relations in the School of Human Resources and Labor Relations; and 6) a request to change the requirements for the Master of Arts degree in Special Education in the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Special Education. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

The Chairperson introduced a guest speaker, Kiersten Latham, whose subjects were 1) a request to establish a Graduate Certificate in Arts and Cultural Management in the College of Arts and Letters, 2) a request to change the name for the Master of Arts degree in Arts and Cultural Management to “Arts, Cultural Management and Museum Studies” in the College of Arts and Letters, and 3) a request to change the requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies in the College of Arts and Letters.” The Chairperson moved to consider the three requests as a block. The motion was adopted by consent. Tomas Hult moved to approve the three requests. The motion was adopted by consent.

The Chairperson introduced a guest speaker, Kristin Mahoney, who requested to remove the GRE as a requirement for the Master of Arts degree in Literature in English in the Department of English. Lorraine Weatherspoon moved to do so. The motion was adopted by consent.

The Chairperson introduced two guest speakers, Arthur Versluis and Gretel Van Wieren, who requested to establish a Master of Arts degree in Nonprofit Leadership, Global Cultures, and Social Enterprise in the Department of Religious Studies. Rajesh Kulkarni moved to do so. The motion was adopted by consent following debate and an amendment.

The Chairperson introduced a guest speaker, Karen Renner, who requested changes to the requirements for the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Crop and Soil Sciences in the Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences. Kulkarni moved to approve the requested changes. The motion was adopted by consent following debate and two amendments.

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Renner gave another presentation, the focus of which was requested changes to the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Plant Pathology in the Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences. Sharkey moved to approve the requested changes to the Master of Science degree. The motion was adopted by consent. Weatherspoon moved to approve the requested changes to the Doctor of Philosophy degree. Abel moved to postpone consideration of the Doctor of Philosophy degree until the January 11, 2021 UCGS meeting. The motion was adopted by consent.

The Chairperson introduced a guest speaker, Carl Borchgrevink, who requested Moratoriums on Admission to 1) the Master of Science degree in Foodservice Business Management, 2) the Master of Science Degree in Hospitality Business Management, and 3) the Graduate Specialization in Hospitality Business. Abel moved to consider the three requested moratoriums as a block. The motion was adopted by consent. Abel moved to approve the requested moratoriums. The motion was adopted by consent following debate.

The meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyler Silvestri".

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Tyler Silvestri  
Secretary for Academic Governance

**Approved:** January 11, 2021