

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To: University Committee on Graduate Studies

From: University Committee on Graduate Studies Agenda Committee

Subject: Agenda for the Meeting of the University Committee on Graduate Studies on **April 20, 2026, 3:00-5:00 pm.**

Meeting is held in Chittenden Hall, room 110, unless otherwise stated.

Attendees: Sung Ham, Andre Lee, Jordanelle Caldwell, Paige Baisley, Pero Dagbovie, Jeremy Francis, Ruth Shillair, Trixie Smith, AJ Robison, Thomas Holt, Karilyn Sant, Greg Fink, Rebecca Jacobsen, Julie Helber, Elizabeth Mack, Rita Strakovsky, Emily Huff, Sarah Cox, Kara Schrader, Melissa del Rio, Esther Tonade, Eva Thor, Nicolas Reynolds (AG), Kari Stone-Sewalish (guest), Martha Faner (guest), Thomas Holt (guest), Michael W. Everett (guest), Brittany Dillman (guest)

MINUTES

Call to order: 3:02

1. Approval of Agenda, approved with addition of elections, Andre Lee moved, approved by general consent
2. Approval of [Minutes](#) from March 16, 2026. Jeremy Francis moved, approved by general consent
3. Remarks from the Chairperson (AJ Robison)—it has been a pleasure to learn from this committee and the folks on it.
4. Elections for 26-27; Anyone interested in serving; Trixie Smith willing to serve as chair—Andre Lee moved, Jeremy Francis seconded, approved; Ruth Shillair willing to serve again as vice chair—Andre Lee moved, Paige Baisley seconded, approved; Emily Huff volunteered—Andre Lee moved, Ruth Shillair seconded, approved.
5. Remarks from the COGS President (Paige Baisley)—transitioned into its new committee, several returners; COGS approved/funded 14 applications for conferences, 16 for PD workshops; reviewing Student Rights and Responsibilities; always looking for more members and event participation
6. Remarks from the Dean of the Graduate School (Pero Dagbovie)—Thanks to everyone for their service; thank you AJ for fulfilling this role. Thanks to our newly elected leaders. Melissa ordered swag for all of us

7. UCGS Opening Business (AJ Robison)
 - a. Accreditation, Assessment, Curriculum, Compliance (Kari Stone-Sewalish)—overview of the new form, the reasons for the updated form and the hopes for the future; from committee ---one of the major problems for our committee is an explanation of “why” in #15; moratorium extensions need to include a status update; there will be one more training in August for new folks in the new system; requesting more robust training; might consider recording it for the August training or make a video for new users.
8. University Committee on Graduate Studies Subcommittee Reports
 - **Academic Research Policy Subcommittee** (Tom Hult)--none
 - **Graduate Instruction, Employment, & Mentoring Subcommittee** (Trixie Smith)
 - [Graduate Assistantship 2026-27 Raise Memo](#)
 - Ruth Shillair moved to approve, Andre Lee seconded, approved, will move forward to the Dean
 - **Curriculum and Program Review Committee** (Andre Lee)—none

Change Requests

9. * Request to change the requirements for the **Graduate Certificate in Adult-Gerontology – Clinical Nurse Specialist** in the College of Nursing. (~~Marei Meehtel~~/Kara Schrader)
10. *Request to change the requirements for the **Graduate Certificate in Nurse Practitioner – Adult -Primary Care** in the College of Nursing. (~~Marei Meehtel~~/Kara Schrader)
11. *Request to change the requirements for the **Graduate Certificate in Nurse Practitioner - Psychiatric Mental Health** in the College of Nursing. (~~Marei Meehtel~~/Kara Schrader)
12. *Request to change the requirements for the **Graduate Certificate in Nurse Practitioner – Family** in the College of Nursing. (~~Marei Meehtel~~/Kara Schrader))
13. *Request to change the requirements for the **Doctor of Nursing Practice** degree in **Nursing Practice**. (~~Marei Meehtel~~/Kara Schrader)
14. *Request to change the requirements for the **Master of Science in Nursing** degree in **Nursing**. (~~Marei Meehtel~~/Kara Schrader)
 - a. 9-14 considered together
 - b. Mainly adapting curriculum to new accreditation requirements
 - c. Change to language requirements
 - d. Grandfather curriculum for existing students
 - e. Jeremy Francis moved, Sung Ham seconded, approved
15. *Request to change the requirements for the **Master of Arts** degree in **Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Education** in the Department of Community Sustainability. (Michael W. Everett)
 - a. Paige Baisley moved, Andre Lee seconded, approved

16. *Request to change the requirements for the **Master of Science** degree in **Basic Medical Science** in the College of Osteopathic Medicine. (Martha Faner)
17. *Request to change the requirements for the **Professional Program in Osteopathic Medicine** leading to the **Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine** degree the College of Osteopathic Medicine. (Martha Faner)
 - a. 16 and 17 considered together, Kara Schrader moved, Andre Lee seconded, approved
18. *Request to change the requirements for the **Master of Science** degree in **Construction Management** in the School of Planning, Design and Construction to the following.

Sung Ham moved, Ruth Shillair seconded, approved
19. *Request to change the requirements for the **Doctor of Education** degree in **Educational Leadership** in the Department of Educational Administration. (Julie Helber)

Jeremy Francis moved, Kara Schrader seconded, approved
20. *Request to change the requirements for the **Master of Arts** degree in **Educational Technology** in the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Special Education. (Brittany Dillman)
 - a. Moving from 3 modalities to 2 modalities as education abroad can still happen in Galway
 - b. Need to update the language requirements to line up with the grad school language test requirements
 - c. Sung Ham moved, Jeremy Francis seconded, approved
21. *Request to delete the curriculum and degree requirements for the **Graduate Certificate** in **Teacher Leadership** in the Department of Teacher Education.
Sung Ham moved, Andre Lee seconded, approved

Moratorium Request:

22. *Request for a Moratorium on Admission to the **Master of Science** Degree in **Criminal Justice**. (Thomas Holt)
 - a. Seeing quite a bit of difference between in-person students and online students—different goals, so different populations and intentions (job advancement vs academic focus in particular)
 - b. Kara Schrader moved, Andre Lee seconded, approved

***Action item**

**** Being reviewed by the Curriculum and Program Review Subcommittee for a recommendation to the full committee.**

Adjourn: 4:15

*Action Items