

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL

MINUTES

November 19, 2025

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

LJH 325

Council in Attendance:

Marc Giullian (Business)
Doug Downs (Faculty Senate)
Katherine Johnston (Letters)
Chris Livingston (Architecture)
Rachael Filwett (Sciences)
Katey Franklin (Health & Human Development)
Molly Secor (Nursing)
Anna French (Student Representative)
Ryan Thum (Agriculture)
Stephan Warnat (Engineering)
Deborah Haynes (Dean of The Graduate School)

Also in Attendance:

Emily Peters (Graduate School)
Lauren Cerretti (Graduate School)
Donna Negaard (Graduate School)

Absent

Rollin Beamish (Arts)
Sally Mudiamu (Office of International Programs)
Sweeney Windchief (Education)
Sarah Mannheimer (Library)
Akash Gulati (Student Representative)
Kari Perry (Student Representative)

Meeting started at 10:02 a.m.

November 5, 2025 minutes

Motion to approve by Filwett, Livingston 2nd, unanimous approval, motion passes

Announcements

- Graduate School update
 - Board of Regents meeting in Missoula this week. Will be recruiting at the graduate fair.
 - Continued efforts to advance housing council
- Faculty Senate update

- Collaborating with CFE on sessions related to academic freedom, likely will be offered in spring

Old Business

- Policy Approval Pathway
 - Overview of revised policy review pathway
 - Discussion
 - Will be a change in gathering feedback instead of approval
 - Was redundant, college representatives on UGC
 - Gathering feedback at the same time is a significant improvement
 - Motion to vote by Giullian, Thum seconds
 - Vote: unanimous approval of policy approval pathway
 - Next Steps
 - Get approval in writing from Provost Office
 - Present as informational item to Faculty Senate
- Appeal Policy & Academic Standing Policy (first reading)
 - Overview of changes
 - Academic Standing Policy
 - Corrected policy to match current procedure
 - Separated section for Academic Progress toward degree and clarified process for graduate committees to dismiss students for unsatisfactory degree progress
 - Appeal Policy
 - Clarify process for different types of appeals/policy exception requests
 - Clarified language regarding being dismissed from a graduate program
 - Added criteria for eligibility to appeal dismissals
 - Council members to gather feedback from colleges, move to Faculty Senate for feedback
- Learning Outcomes for 590/690
 - Discussion on implementation and timeline
 - Suggest starting as voluntary guidance and later can make it a formal requirement
 - Important for accreditation, guidance and clear expectations for student, help with time to degree, protecting both the faculty and student, consistency
 - Can provide students a template and they individualize it and review with faculty
 - Accreditation review mentioned that every class in CIM needs to have a syllabus
 - 590/690/575/592/692 Canvas shell where standard syllabus is available, UGC could create the standard syllabus
 - Warnat will send an email to Tracy Dougher

- Discussion on course approvals in CIM
 - Chemical Engineering has 690 credits built with traditional letter grade instead of pass/fail
 - Reviewing course approvals and deactivations in CIM
 - Could the CIM entries be more standardized for research credits?
 - Curriculum subcommittee will forward agenda to Cerretti to review
- Search for Leader of Graduate Education
 - Thank you for the feedback on leader of graduate education position
 - Outlined pros/cons and emphasized the need for transparency
 - Discussion
 - Based on feedback, the Provost changed the position title changed to Vice Provost of Graduate Education and Director of Graduate School
 - Listening session on December 1st
 - Please share with your colleagues. Consider what criteria in the new leader of graduate education would be beneficial for your college.
 - If interested in nominating a candidate, email search chair: Dean Adams

Adjourned at 11:27 am

Next scheduled meeting – December 10, 2025