

## UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL

### MINUTES

April 1, 2026

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

LJH 325

#### Council in Attendance:

Marc Giullian (Business)  
Chris Livingston (Architecture)  
Amy Reines (Sciences)  
Katey Franklin (Health & Human Development)  
Rollin Beamish (Arts)  
Ryan Thum (Agriculture)  
Sarah Mannheimer (Library)  
Kari Perry (Student Representative)  
Anna French (Student Representative)  
Sally Mudiamu (Office of International Programs)  
Stephan Warnat (Engineering)  
Katherine Johnston (Letters)  
Molly Secor (Nursing)  
Doug Downs (Faculty Senate)  
Deborah Haynes (Dean of The Graduate School)

#### Also in Attendance:

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

#### Absent

Sweeney Windchief (Education)  
Akash Gulati (Student Representative)

Meeting started at 10:33 a.m.

#### **March 4, 2026 minutes**

Motion to approve by Beamish, Livingston 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimous approval, motion passes

#### **Announcements**

- Graduate School update
  - Crawford fellow showcase on April 16<sup>th</sup>
  - Three Minute Thesis Competition on April 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - Discussion on funding and tuition waivers
    - Graduate students will go to other schools if they do not receive tuition waivers
    - Graduate students save costs of employee salaries and benefits and are essential for R1 status

- Could we do an economic analysis of the benefit graduate students provide?
    - It is important for UGC to consider how graduate students can fund graduate education
  - Graduate School presentation to alumni foundation. Alumni foundation is beginning to raise funds.
  - Graduate student appreciation week: April 6-10
- Faculty Senate update
  - Faculty Senate providing feedback on revision to student code of conduct regarding AI,
    - Policy draft is available on university policy review page
  - Academic Standing Policy: approved by FS, no feedback
  - Appeal Policy: FS leadership waiting for Academic Council feedback to determine whether FS leadership will take to full senate or not
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of learning outcome policy at next meeting
  - Senate revising bylaws
- Graduate Student update
  - GSLC meeting on student safety concerns: UPD, campus civil rights, legal
    - Plan to offer training next fall for GTAs
  - GSLC is holding a town hall on Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Recruiting new GSLC members for next year
    - Email Anna French or Dean Haynes if you have potential students
  - ASMSU passed a resolution encouraging MSU administration to consider graduate student financial wellbeing when making decisions
  - Housing Council: main focus has been on community building events
  - Encourage graduate students to attend VPGE open forums
  - Developed a survey to assess graduate student wellbeing to operate on same schedule as the survey that goes out to undergraduate

## **New Business**

- Vice Provost of Graduate Education
  - Provide brief overview of graduate council and accomplishments
  - Give candidates 10 minutes to discuss their vision for graduate education
  - 20-25 minutes for questions
  - Opportunity for candidates to ask questions to council
  - Discussion on potential questions

Subcommittee updates

Adjourned at 11:50 am

Next scheduled meeting – April 15, 2026