

**Graduate Studies Council - GSC**  
**Agenda**  
**10/6/2021**  
**Social Science Room 240**

Roll Call: Alex Garlick (chair), Mary Ann Dugan (vice-chair, taking minutes), Tim Clydesdale, Lauren Foxworth, Mark Woodford, Michael Ellard, and student members Cassidy Carr and Yaffa Kornsgold

Absent: Kathryn Jervis

Approved Minutes from September 22, 2021 meeting -unanimously

**New Business**

- New student member welcome and introductions
- Department of Special Education, Language & Literacy proposal for standalone certificates
  - TC mentioned that 7-8 certificates, a Masters of Civil Engineering, and stackable masters could be received by the GSC in near future.
  - Next meeting Nov 3, potentially one in mid-November and Dec 1
  - LF and MW mentioned strengths of this proposal, that these certificates could help boost enrollments, especially for those who want to matriculate into them. They could also boost connections with area schools. Each would be 3 courses.
  - TC commented school-wide stackable (usually 30-36 credits) M.Ed being worked on at this time – has been an ongoing conversation in undergraduate and graduate
  - TC also commented could be very appealing to stack and apply to an M.Ed
  - LF suggested could focus on a certain area such as special ed or literacy
  - MD wondered if some courses could be 4 credits instead of 3 credits
  - TC also suggest getting some data from current students to better design a certificate to market
  - Several members discussed the ideal number of credits for such certificates (9 or 12) more credits would allow for FT in one semester to earn certificate. 9 may be a minimum.
  - AG and TC discussed the addition of a culminating or reflective element as part of the last course/need to demonstrate to accreditation agencies that any masters degree has a culminating element/will ask this to department as well
  - TC suggests feedback is that we are excited they are thinking about this/consider market/evidence to support/consider 4 courses and culminating element as above
  - CC and YK commented online/hybrid may be more practical for the busy adult
  - AG commented hybrid may be the best of both worlds when considering in person versus online offerings

- LF also suggested some Saturday coursework. TC shared MBA model online during week and in person on Saturday. YK shared Saturdays may not be appealing to some with religious holidays on weekends
- AG will ask for SELL representative next time
- TC volunteered to meet with department if they do not want to delay answering our questions
- Graduate Certificate Program Policy
  - TC suggest consider revising Graduate Certificate Programs II.3.48 policy
  - AG GSC may consider setting up an agenda for any policies that need review at next meeting
- Future Business
  - Plan next meetings Nov. 3, potentially one in mid-Nov, Dec. 1