



# University of Pittsburgh

*Office of the Provost*  
*Graduate Studies*

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## **University Council on Graduate Study Minutes**

**Tuesday, May 15, 2018**

**3:00 PM in 817 Cathedral of Learning**

### **Members Attending**

Nathan Urban (Provost's Office, Chair), Jonathan Arac (A&S Humanities), Jessica Burke (GSPH), Vivian Curran (Law), G. Kelley Fitzgerald (SHRS), Maggie Folan (Pharmacy - substitute), Dennis Galletta (Katz), Holger Hock (A&S Assoc Dean), Kenneth Jordan (Interdisciplinary), Satish Iyengar (A&S Natural Sciences), Tara Meyer, (Arts and Sciences), Paul Nelson (GSPIA), Anthony Petrosky (Education), Jay Rajgopal (Engineering), Elizabeth Stahl (GPSG Student), Jennifer Walker (Office of the Provost, Staff), Martin Weiss (SCI), and Travis Wisor (University Registrar)

### **Guests**

Lori Delale O'Connor (Education)

Council voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the April 24, 2018 meeting.

### **Proposal to establish a new major in Urban Education leading to the PhD degree and 15 new ARCOs within the new major in the School of Education.**

The School of Education proposed to establish a new major in Urban Educations leading to the PhD degree and 15 new ARCOs within the new major. The new major aligns with the School's strengths and addresses a broad need in the field as a whole. The 15 areas of concentration will allow students to cross train with urban education. The ARCOs will each be worth 18 credits.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend to the Provost that the proposal be approved provided the following is addressed: 1) Provide letters of support from the Deans of Social Work and Public Health to support the ARCOs housed primarily in those schools or remove them from the proposal, 2) Modify the names of the ARCOs housed within the Dietrich School to match the Department names, and 3) On page 5 of the proposal, in the Reference section of the table, there was a suggestion to modify the sentence "No personal acquaintance recommendations will be accepted." Instead, Council suggests the following: "Recommenders should be able to describe the applicant's professional and educational qualifications e.g. advisors, direct supervisors, etc." All members voted in favor of the motion.

### **Review TA/TF/GSA Policy Edits proposed by Student Affairs Subcommittee**

Co-chairs Tara Meyer and Kelley Fitzgerald highlighted some of the suggested changes to the policy. The modifications primarily focus on clarifying language describing multi-year appointments and about orientation for new appointees. Dr.

Urban will review further in consultation with the Office of University Counsel. A draft will be brought back to Council for review before any recommendations are made to the Provost.

**Graduate Studies Retreat Debrief**

At the inaugural graduate studies retreat on May 10, 2018, administrators, faculty, and student leaders came together to share resources, understand gaps, and cultivate ideas. Attendees identified action items aimed at enhancing graduate and professional education and training. Council briefly discussed their views of the retreat and are interested to see the action items evolve.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15