

University Council on Graduate Study Report on 2016-2017 Activities

As stated in its bylaws, the University Council on Graduate Study is to communicate its decisions to the faculty, students, and administrative officers of the University. If you have comments on the activities as reported here or suggestions for agenda items, please contact Vice Provost Alberta Sbragia at 412.624.2137 or via email at sbragia@pitt.edu.

Reports Given to Council

The Year of Diversity –November 22, 2016

Dr. Waverly Duck

Co-chair of The of Year of Diversity Committee

ETD Changes: Requiring the ORCID on the ETD – February 21, 2017

Tim Deliyannides and Lauren Collister

University Library System

Tuition Models for Newly Proposed Joint Programs – February 21, 2017

Patti Mathay, University Registrar

Stephanie Hoogendoorn, Office of the Provost

Larry Feick, Office of the Provost

Graduate and Professional Student Government, End of the Year Report – May 17, 2016

Justin Saver, President

Graduate and Professional Student Government

Review of Guidelines and Policy

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy Review – November 22, 2016 and December 13, 2016

Presenters: Randy McReady (Office of Admissions and Financial Aid), Michelle Jackson (Office of Admissions and Financial Aid), and Stephanie Hoogendoorn (Office of the Provost)

See [policy 09-04-02](#) for final policy. Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of these modifications.

Changes to Regulations Governing Graduate Study – December 13, 2016

Presenter: Jennifer Walker, Office of the Provost

Changes were recommended for approval to the credit requirements section under “Regulations Pertaining to Master’s Degrees” to align the language with the newly approved [Credit Hour Policy 09-04-15](#). Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of these modifications.

G and I Grade Policy – May 16, 2017

Presenter: Jennifer Walker, Office of the Provost

The changes to the G and I grades primarily affect the undergraduate students. Undergraduates are to use a G grade in all cases, which will automatically be changed a NG grade after three terms of no activity. Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of these modifications.

Review of Proposals

John A. Swanson School of Engineering: establish a major in sustainable engineering leading to the new Master of Science in Sustainable Engineering degree

The new professional master's program aims to help students identify and solve sustainability issues using systems approaches in the context of environmental, societal, and economic problems.

Establish the new School of Computing and Information

The school will provide an environment enabling larger scale computing and information-related research, and fostering new scientific discovery, deeper and broader education of undergraduate and graduate students, and greater impact on society. The faculties of the School of Information Sciences and the Department of Computer Science in the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences have led the academic development of the new school.

School of Nursing: establish a graduate certificate in nursing informatics to be offered as a distance learning option

The program is designed for working professionals and aims to provide students with the knowledge to develop, analyze, and evaluate information systems that support, enhance and manage patient care. The certificate will be offered through Pitt Online.

School of Medicine: establish a major in microbiology and immunology leading to the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees

The new major combines, with minor modifications, the molecular virology and microbiology and immunology majors, which have been offered separately since 1997. The program aims to support the growing fields of microbiology and immunology, and allow the school to train more graduate students in these disciplines.

School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences: establish a major in occupational therapy and termination of the Area of Concentration in Occupational Therapy

The new program will shift from an area of concentration to a major in occupational therapy. The change will more accurately reflect the level of training students are receiving. The new program will focus on working occupational therapists who are seeking advanced knowledge and skills, and will help practitioners keep pace with the complex changes and advances in our health care system.

School Education: establish a post-baccalaureate certificate and Area of Concentration

The new certificate and ARCO will provide training to address a growing need in the field of infant mental health. The certificate will require 18 credits and will be eligible for Gainful Employment.

Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences: establish new major in Critical European Culture Studies leading to the Doctor of Philosophy Degree

This proposal addresses the concerns about resource inefficiencies that led to the suspension of admissions to the German doctoral program in 2014. The program will be the first of its kind in the United States and will pioneer the field of European Studies to develop within humanistic and cultural studies. Prerequisites to this program will include a Master's degree and established competency in a second European language. The program will admit two students every other year.

Documents and Websites Available to the University Community

Report on 2015-2016 Activities, University Council on Graduate Study, University of Pittsburgh.
<http://www.pitt.edu/~graduate/UCGSAnnualReport15-16.pdf>

Graduate and Professional Admissions, Office of the Provost, University of Pittsburgh.
<http://www.pitt.edu/admissions/graduate-professional>

Graduate and Professional Academics, Office of the Provost, University of Pittsburgh.
<http://www.pitt.edu/academics/graduate-and-professional>

2016-2017 UCGS Members

Jonathan Arac, Arts and Sciences, Humanities, English
Kathleen Blee, Arts and Sciences, Associate Dean
Ayres Mario Freitas, Arts and Sciences, Physics and Astronomy
Marla Ripoll, Arts and Sciences, Social Sciences
Tara Meyer, Arts and Sciences, At-Large, Natural Sciences
Bernard Costello, School of Dental Medicine
Michael Gunzenhauser, School of Education
Anthony Petrosky, School of Education
Jay Rajgopal, School of Engineering
Qing Ming Wang, School of Engineering
Dennis Galletta, Katz Graduate School of Business
G. Kelley Fitzgerald, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Martin Weiss, School of Information Sciences
Vivian Curran, School of Law
John Horn, School of Medicine
Sandra Engberg, School of Nursing

Sam Poloyac, School of Pharmacy
Eleanor Feingold, Graduate School of Public Health
Paul Nelson, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs
Jeff Shook, School of Social Work
Teresa Hastings, Interdisciplinary Programs
Justin Saver, Graduate and Professional Student Government, President, Pharmacy
Nicole McAllister, Graduate and Professional Student Government, Pediatrics
Mitali Patil, Graduate and Professional Student Government, Katz
Corbin Powlus, Graduate and Professional Student Government, Business Administration
Michael Turnwald, Graduate and Professional Student Government, Physical Therapy
Aliyah Weinstein/Greg Logan, Graduate and Professional Student Government, Medicine
Alberta Sbragia, Office of the Provost, Chairperson, Political Science
Jennifer Walker, Office of the Provost, Staff
Travis Wisor, Office of the Registrar, Observer