



University Council on Graduate Study Minutes
Wednesday, October 12, 2022
3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Zoom Meeting

Members Attending

Ada	Youk	School of Public Health	Faculty
Ali	Schultz	School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	Student
Amanda	Godley	Office of the Provost	Chair
Ammar	Kinkhabwala	Katz Graduate School of Business	Student
Bharath	Chandrasekaran	School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	Faculty
Bryan	Brown	Swanson School of Engineering	Faculty
Danielle	Nahas	School of Public Health	Student
Dennis	Galletta	Katz Graduate School of Business	Faculty
Elizabeth	Schlenk	School of Nursing	Faculty
Erica	Owen	Graduate School of Public and International Affairs	Faculty
Greg	Kinzler	Swanson School of Engineering	Student
Helen	Petracchi	School of Social Work	Faculty
Jenay	Willis	School of Education	Student
Jonathan	Woon	Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences	Faculty
Julia	Reese	School of Computing and Information	Student
Madeline	Kreider	School of Pharmacy	Student
Michael	Dickey	School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	Faculty
Michelle	Schein	SEPC	Faculty
Neil	Hukriede	School of Medicine	Faculty
Prashant	Krishnamurthy	School of Computing and Information	Faculty
Rithika	Behera	School of Medicine	Student
Robert	Clift	Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences	Faculty
Robert	Marshall	Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences	Student
Robin	Lee	School of Medicine	Faculty
Sara	Moeller	Katz Graduate School of Business	Faculty
Shannon	Mischler	Office of the Provost	Staff
Wendy	Mars	School of Medicine	Faculty
Xander	Silva	School of Law	Student

Substitute:

Neil Hukriede for Saleem Khan, School of Medicine



University of
Pittsburgh

Office of the Provost
Graduate Studies

The minutes from the September 2022 meeting were approved (22 in favor).

Academic Planning Proposals

Proposal to establish a PhD major in Africana Studies in the Department of Africana Studies, the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences.

The Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, Department of Africana Studies proposed to establish a new PhD major in Africana Studies. This new major will provide an advanced graduate degree that places the experiences, perspectives, agency, and initiative of people of African descent at the center of its focus and provides intellectual frameworks for equipping graduates to produce new scholarship and understandings about those experiences. Moreover, there is strong demand across higher education for scholars and teachers of Black experiences and with the expertise to place those experiences in historical and social context. The major aligns well with the Plan for Pitt, as it will contribute to an inclusive and equitable campus environment that welcomes, values, and embraces diverse perspectives of every member of our community, and creates more preeminent teaching, learning, scholarship, and research experiences.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend to the Provost that the proposal be approved. Members present voted unanimously in favor of recommending approval to the Provost.

There were no announcements. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.