



University of Pittsburgh

Office of the Provost
Graduate Studies

801 Cathedral of Learning
4200 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
412-624-2137
Fax: 412-383-9640

University Council on Graduate Study Minutes

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Zoom

Members Attending: Amanda Godley (Chair), Kara Bernstein (Medicine), Jessica Burke (GSPH), Rosemary Capo (Arts and Sciences At-Large), Haley Cartwright (Graduate Student Rep – Medicine), Sabina Dietrick (GSPIA), Sandie Engberg (Nursing), Kelley Fitzgerald (SHRS), Malena Hirsch (GPSG President), Holger Hooch (Arts & Sciences), John Horn (Medicine), Michaela Houckhope (Grad Student Rep – GSPH), Jung Kun Lee (Engineering), Prashant Krishnamurthy (School of Computing & Information), Dobrawa Napierala (Substitute - Dental Medicine), Helen Petracchi (Social Work), Jennifer Phillips (Substitute - University Registrar's Office), Morgan Pierce (Graduate Student Rep – A&S), Jay Rajgopal (Engineering), Jawanza Rand (Graduate Student Rep – Education), Milsha Reed (Graduate Student Rep – Education), Jennifer Walker (Office of the Provost, Staff),

Guests: Neeraj Gandhi (Engineering), Al Hirschman (Engineering), Bob Parker (Engineering), and Sanjeev Shroff (Engineering)

The January 2021 Minutes were unanimously approved with no edits.

Academic Planning Proposals

- 1. Proposal to establish a new major in Medical Product Engineering leading to a new degree type, the Master of Science in Medical Product Engineering within the Swanson School of Engineering.**

The creation of the new degree type aims to provide opportunities for students to acquire relevant business, advanced engineering and technology skills such as entrepreneurship, product development, regulatory processes, and commercialization. The new program will be unique to this part of the United States and therefore anticipated to attract a number of students looking to seek employment in this growing field.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend to the Provost and Chancellor that the proposal be approved. Engineering representative, Jay Rajgopal was recused from the discussion and vote. Members present voted unanimously in favor.

Presentations

Status of GRE Requirement at the University of Pittsburgh – Amanda Godley

Dr. Godley presented a University-wide overview on the GRE requirement among Pitt's graduate programs. As of March 2021, 42% of all graduate programs list the GRE requirement as optional, 40% will not accept GRE scores at all, 14% still require the GRE and 4% accept standardized other than the GRE. The number of GRE optional programs has increased since the last assessment in 2019.

Announcements

Engaged Research Forum - March 2

Student self-care days – February 23 & March 24

Mentoring and Advising Summit (including graduate strand) – March 11

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM.