



# University of Pittsburgh

*Office of the Provost*  
*Graduate Studies*

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## **University Council on Graduate Study Minutes** **Tuesday, February 19, 2019** **3:00-5:00 p.m. 2017 Cathedral of Learning**

### **Members Attending**

Nathan Urban (Office of the Provost, Chair), Vivian Curran (Law), Sandra Engberg (Nursing), Jennifer Enriquez (GPSG – VP of Committees), Eleanor Feingold (Substitute - GSPH), Kelley Fitzgerald (SHRS), Dennis Galletta (Katz), Mike Gunzenhauser (Education), Holger Hook (Arts and Sciences), Milos Hauskrecht (Computing & Information), John Horn (Medicine), Amanda Leifson (Substitute – GPSG – President), Ryan Mahramas (University Registrar's Office), Paul Nelson (GSPIA), Kaitlin Powers (GPSG – Behavioral and Community Health Sciences), Jeff Shook (Social Work), Suraj Subramanian (GPSG – BioEngineering), and Jennifer Walker (Office of the Provost, Staff)

### **Guests**

Cynthia Golden (University Center for Teaching & Learning), Alan Juffs (Linguistics), Bill Valenta (Office of the Provost)

### **Minutes**

The minutes from the January 2019 meeting were approved pending the correction of abstention votes for the proposals discussed.

### **Proposal to establish a new major in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages leading to the Master of Arts degree in the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences.**

The School of Arts and Sciences proposed to establish a new major in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) leading to the Master of Arts degree. The new program will focus on principles and practice of teaching English to students who are not proficient in English or who do not speak, read or write English, and that may prepare individuals to function as teachers and administrators in such programs. The new program will not replace the existing 2-year opportunity to pursue a Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics with the TESOL graduate certificate.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend to the Provost that the proposal be approved. All members voted in favor of the motion.

### **Presentation**

Cynthia Golden, Director of the University Center for Teaching and Learning) and Bill Valenta (Associate Vice Provost for Professional Programs) discussed online learning at Pitt. Nationwide, online enrollment is on the rise and 1/3 of all students are taking at least one online course. Pitt is looking to increase enrollment in online programs at the graduate level and the University Center for Teaching and Learning welcomes discussion for potential opportunities. In addition, the new Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) rules favor online education and flexible tuition considerations are available for in-state vs out-of-state rates.

**Announcements (given by Dr. Nathan Urban)**

Upcoming Events:

- Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation week in April 1 – 5. The University-wide 3MT competition will kick off the week on April 1. Details of the competition and other event plans are forthcoming.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10