



# University of Pittsburgh

*Office of the Provost*  
*Graduate Studies*

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

**Tuesday, September 18, 2018**  
**2:00-4:00 p.m. 2017 Cathedral of Learning**

### **Members Attending**

Nathan Urban (Provost's Office, Chair), Oliver Beale (GPSG – Medicine), Jessica Burke (GSPH), Vivian Curran (Law), Jennifer Enriquez (GPSG – VP of Committees), G. Kelley Fitzgerald (SHRS), Maggie Folan (Substitute Pharmacy), Dennis Galletta (Katz), Phillip Harding (GPSG – Bioengineering), Holger Hock (A&S Assoc Dean), John Horn (Medicine), Satish Iyengar (A&S – Natural Sciences), Ken Jordan (Interdisciplinary), Amanda Leifson (Substitute – GPSG President), Lindsay Matsumura (Education), Tara Meyer, (Arts and Sciences), Paul Nelson (Graduate School of Public and International Affairs), Marnie Oakley (Substitute – Dental Medicine), Jeff Shook (Social Work), Suraj Subramanian (GPSG – Computing & Information), and Jennifer Walker (Office of the Provost, Staff)

### **Guests**

Ann Cudd (Provost), Katie Pope (Title IX Coordinator), Ryan Streno (University Registrar's Office)

Katie Pope, Title IX Coordinator, discussed the mission of the Title IX Office as well as their interest in increasing contact with the number of graduate and professional students throughout the University. Katie reminded Council of the website that was created specifically for the graduate and professional students

<https://www.titleix.pitt.edu/resources/resources-graduate-and-professional-students>.

The AAU Campus Climate Survey will be administered again in 2019.

Ryan Streno from the University Registrar's Office presented a demonstration of Curriculog – a workflow management system by Digarc. The new system will be used to create and approve academic planning proposals from department level through final approval. The pilot project involved SHRS, SCI, and Katz/CBA. The remaining schools will be added to the process in phases.

Provost Ann Cudd briefly visited to meet the members of council and share her vision of the committee as being not only a body that reviews policy and program proposals, but also an innovative body that looks to increase the quality of our graduate student experiences overall.

Council discussed a proposal to modify the current guidelines addressing graduate-level certificates in Regulations Governing Graduate Study. Council showed a general interest in recommending a change, but made some suggested changes to the proposed

modifications such as: listing “related work” as a possible requirement, specifying all classes must be at the graduate level, and addressing course overlap for students registered in other programs simultaneously. The vote to recommend approval was tabled and will be discussed again at a future meeting once the suggested changes are added.

Council considered a suggestion to remove the requirement that a student must be registered in the term of graduation, as is currently the guideline in Regulations Governing Graduate Study. A motion was made and supported to recommend removal of this requirement to the Provost for final approval.

UCGS Chair, Nathan Urban, shared two of his high priority goals for the upcoming academic year: mental health of graduate students and increasing NSF graduate fellowships.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00