



**University Council on Graduate Study Minutes
Tuesday, January 14, 2025**

The November meeting minutes were approved with 21 in favor, 3 abstentions. 6 members arrived after the minutes were approved.

Academic Program Proposals

The School of Public Health presented a modification to their long-dormant Disaster Preparedness Certificate. The Certificate will meet student and faculty demand as determined by a recent survey of interest with 80 respondents. The certificate will be 15 credits (12 mandatory, 3 elective), and all courses will be taught by full-time faculty. Students will be drawn from SPH as well as other health science programs, and the program expects 10 students to enroll annually. It is anticipated that most students will be enrolled in other graduate programs at the University of Pittsburgh and so the program will generate limited tuition revenue. Any tuition revenue will likely be generated by supplemental tuition charged for credits more than those allowed by full-time enrollment. Market research data shows significant demand for training in this field, with 3% job growth annually and the field ranking in the top 10 most searched for among prospective students. Council approved the certificate with no discussion and 23 yes votes, 8 abstentions.

The School of Education presented a modification to their Combined Applied Studies in Education (CASE) M.Ed. program, which would reduce the credits required for the program from 40 credits to 30 credits beginning in the Summer of 2026. This modification brings the degree into alignment with the CASE undergraduate program as well as state certification requirements. The CASE M.Ed. program is fed exclusively by the CASE undergraduate program; as such, Council members asked that the two programs be aligned in enrollment projections, requirements, and budget projections. The proposal was approved pending final revisions with 24 yes votes, 7 abstentions.

Academic Policy Review

Academic Probation/Suspension/Dismissal

The revised Academic Probation/Suspension/Dismissal policy was presented by VP Godley for discussion. Additional edits incorporated UCGS feedback from November as well as updated policy language to maintain consistency with undergraduate policy language. There was general support for the revised policy. Council discussion centered around ensuring that the language used is clear to both students and schools and creates a transparent appeals process.



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Suggestions for revisions were incorporated into new draft, which will be reviewed by PACUP before a final version returns to UCGS for a vote at a future meeting.

No policy vote was taken at this meeting.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.



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Attendance

Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences	Grad Student	Juwon	Adenuga
Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences	Grad Faculty	Marc	Coutanache
Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences	Grad Faculty	Peng	Liu
Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences	Grad Faculty	Jonathan	Woon
Graduate School of Public and International Affairs	Grad Student	Zena	Kesselman
Graduate School of Public and International Affairs	Grad Faculty	Carissa	Slotterback
Katz Graduate School of Business	Grad Student	Denise	Bergdolt
Office of the Provost	Chair	Amanda	Godley
Office of the Provost	Staff	Courtney	Syskowski
Office of the Registrar, Observer	Staff	Jonathan	Helm
School of Dental Medicine	Grad Student	Dylan	Baxter
School of Dental Medicine	Grad Faculty	Dobrawa	Napierala
School of Education	Grad Student	Gerard	Dorve-Lewis
School of Education	Grad Faculty	Michael	Gunzenhauser
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	Grad Student	Abdulmohsen	Alroumi
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	Grad Faculty	Mark	DeRuiter
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	Grad Faculty	Michael	Dickey
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	Grad Faculty	Ketki	Raina
School of Law	Grad Faculty	Joshua	Ash
School of Medicine	Grad Student	Brooke	Dresden
School of Medicine	Grad Faculty	Arjumand	Ghazi
School of Medicine	Grad Faculty	Arjumand	Ghazi
School of Medicine	Grad Faculty	Saleem	Khan
School of Nursing	Grad Student	Myeong-ga	Cho
School of Nursing	Grad Faculty	Elizabeth	Schlenk
School of Pharmacy	Grad Student	Christina	Kazarov
School of Public Health	Grad Faculty	Ying	Ding
School of Social Work	Grad Student	Bianca	DeBellis
School of Social Work	Grad Faculty	Suzanne	Pritzker
SEPC	Grad Faculty	Michelle	Schein
Swanson School of Engineering	Grad Student	Yousra	Bensouda
Swanson School of Engineering	Grad Faculty	Bryan	Brown
Swanson School of Engineering	Grad Faculty	Bob	Parker

Additional attendees: Stephanie Hoogendoorn, OTP; Tina Ndoh SPH, Elizabeth Felter SPH, Katrina Bartow Jacobs SOE