



**Graduate Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Madison Union 404**

February 9th, 2017

2:00-3:30 p.m.

*Supporting, facilitating and promoting excellence in lifelong education  
through graduate programs of distinction, innovative outreach programs and a diverse student body.*

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**Members present:** Michael Stoloff (The Graduate School), Terry Dean (The Graduate School), Lynette Michael (The Graduate School), Laura Ryman (The Graduate School), Marilou Johnson (Academic Affairs), Diane Wilcox (Adult Ed/HRD), Deborah Bandalos (Assessment & Measurement), Christine May (Biology), Matthew Rutherford (Business Administration), Kristi Shackelford (Catalog) Chris Arndt (College of Arts & Letters), Tisha McCoy (College of Business), Margaret Kyger (College of Education), Corey Hickerson for Pete Bsumek (Communication & Advocacy) Ayasakanta Rout (CSD), Michelle Hughes (Education), Dannette Bronaugh (Exceptional Education), Courtney Sanders (Graduate Student Representative), Alyse Lehrke (Graduate Student Representative), Catie Mathers (GSA president), Brian Flota for Lara Sapp (Libraries & Ed Tech), Mary Jean Speare (Music), Melody Eaton (Nursing), Sarah MacDonald (Outreach & Engagement), John Scherpereel (Political Science), Jeff Dyche (Psychological Sciences), Fred Mayhew (Public Administration), Tammy Gilligan (School Psychology), Karen Ford (Strategic Leadership), Michael Klein (WRTC), Anthony Tongen (Mathematics Education)

**Guests:** Justin Whetzel (The Graduate School), Chris Campbell (Career & Academic Planning)

**Graduate Programs Not Represented:** Art & Art History, Cross Disciplinary Programs & Curriculum Planning, Computer Science, Health Sciences, CISE, History, Integrated Science & Technology, Kinesiology, Occupational Therapy, OIP, Physician Assistant Studies, Research & Scholarship, University Communications

**1. Approval of minutes**

Dannette Bronaugh moved to approve the January meeting minutes. Brian Flota moved to second the motion. Last month's minutes were approved by the Council.

**2. Announcements & Reports**

Michael Stoloff shared APR updates.

The on-site external review of the APR will take place April 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>. During that time period, a meeting will be held for Graduate Council members to discuss concerns and suggestions with the external review team.

Terry Dean highlighted information about the annual Scholarship Showcase. Both the Graduate Scholarship Showcase and The Graduate School Awards Reception will take place on April 20<sup>th</sup> in Madison Union Ballroom. Calls for proposals and nominations have been posted. Encouragement of participation from graduate faculty would be appreciated.

Jie Chen discussed the Graduate Certificate Task Force. Chris Arndt will serve as the chair of the task force, and other members will be announced soon. The group will meet every other week. Jie thanked everyone for participating in and volunteering to be a part of the task force.

Michael Stoloff has recently been appointed to the Engagement Advisory Group. He has been asked to meet with graduate faculty to discuss how they are acting to further the mission of having an engaged university. Michael will be holding a meeting on February 23, from 1:30-2:30 in Student Success Center to discuss the roles faculty play in engagement. Faculty may also send Michael an email describing their roles.

A survey has been emailed to all faculty regarding the university's brand. All are highly encouraged to complete this survey, as it will be influential in the future of JMU's brand.

Catie Mathers gave the GSA report.

On January 29<sup>th</sup>, the GSA voted to readjust their budget. They will now offer ten \$100 grants for professional development; the application is being released soon.

The GSA received 22 applications for travel grants (separate from the above-mentioned grants).

Upcoming events:

February 24<sup>th</sup> – Learning Strategies Instruction Workshop

February 24<sup>th</sup> – Happy hour at Pale Fire Brewing Co. Open to students and faculty.

February 26<sup>th</sup> – GSA Meeting. Dr. Jie Chen and Dr. Jerry Benson will be speaking.

### **3. Discussion & Action Items**

#### Program Changes

Kristi Shackelford provided an overview of the program changes that will take effect for the Behavior Specialist M.Ed., EXED 5<sup>th</sup> Year M.A.T. K-12 Concentration, and the Strategic Leadership Studies Ph.D.

#### Honor Code Discussion

Chris Campbell from Career & Academic Planning joined the meeting to discuss honor code policies and procedures. Some graduate faculty believe graduate-level honor code violations are handled too lightly. Others believe the hearings for graduate students may not be accurately judged, as student members of the Honor Council are typically undergraduate students.

The consensus seemed to be that a separate panel should exist in the Honor Council for graduate students, as undergraduate students may not be familiar with theses, dissertations, and comprehensive exams; therefore, they may not be able to accurately judge each situation. Most of the Graduate Council agreed that our graduate students should be held to a higher standard.

#### April Meeting

The idea of reintroducing an April Graduate Council meeting was proposed. Members of the Council came to the consensus that an April meeting will not be held, because faculty are very busy during that time period.

#### **Graduate Council 2016-17 Meeting Dates**

March 30, 2:00 – 3:30 pm, The Cohen Center, Wilson 107

No April Meeting

May 19, 2017, 9:00am – 12:00, Morning Retreat, Montpelier Rm, East Campus Dining Hall

**TGS Calendar of Events:**

**On-Site External APR Review:** April 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

**TGS moves to Madison Hall:** April 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>

**Scholarship Expo:** April 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, Madison Union Ballroom

**Graduate Showcase:** April 20<sup>th</sup>, The Cohen Center and Madison Union Ballroom

**The Graduate School Awards Reception:** April 20<sup>th</sup>, 4:30pm, Madison Union Ballroom

**Graduate Commencement:** May 4<sup>th</sup>, 7pm