



# Graduate Council Meeting Summary

January 18, 2024

2:00 - 3:30 pm

[Zoom](#)

## **I. Call to Order**

Dr. Stoloff, Associate Dean, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

## **II. Approval of the Graduate Council Minutes from September 21, 2023\***

No changes were made to the minutes from The Graduate Council Meeting on September 21, 2023. The September 21, 2023 meeting minutes were approved.

## **III. Business Items**

### **A. Graduate Student Association Report**

The GSA has recruited all executive board member positions. They are as follows:

- President: Sophia Park
- Vice President: Brittany Shultz
- Secretary: Mackenzie Harry
- Treasurer: Allyson Whitt
- Social Chair: Sidnie Baker
- Program Representative Liaison: Juste Mehou

This semester, the GSA will be coordinating a Clothing and Food Drive to replenish supplies in the Graduate Lounge. They also plan to produce a graduate handbook to assist graduate students with helpful hints from experienced students and faculty. The GSA may be contacted by emailing [gsa@jmu.edu](mailto:gsa@jmu.edu).

### **B. Curriculum Report**

The Curriculum Committee received many new curriculum proposals during the Spring and Fall semesters. Some proposals have been unresolved due to the quantity and submission dates. It is encouraged that proposals be submitted as soon as possible as the approval process takes time.

Dr. Stoloff reminded Graduate Council members that we now have a policy and procedures to propose accelerated graduate programs for JMU undergraduates, but no proposals have been received. If anyone would like to discuss a proposal for an accelerated program, please reach out to Dr. Stoloff. He asked that this opportunity be shared among colleagues. More information regarding accelerated programs can be found [here](#).



# Graduate Council Meeting Summary

January 18, 2024

2:00 - 3:30 pm

Zoom

---

## IV. New Business

### A. Policy Discussion

#### 1. Assistantships and Academic Warning

The main change within this policy is that students whose GPA falls below 3.0 will not be required to relinquish their graduate assistantship until their current contract has expired.

Dr. Julie Carr made a motion to approve the policy changes and Dr. Corey Hickerson seconded the motion. This policy changes were approved by the voting members present.

#### 2. Transfer Credit

This proposed policy allows, with the support of the student's academic program, up to one-third of the program's required credit hours to be transferred from other universities. It also allows up to two-thirds of the required credits for a program to be completed at JMU prior to admission to that program.

Dr. Gubser made a motion to approve the policy changes and Dr. Knopp seconded the motion. This policy changes were approved by the voting members present.

The approved policy changes will be implemented immediately but will be reflected in the Fall 2024 catalog updates.

#### 3. One Year Wait and Repeat, Forgive

Students who receive an F are discontinued and need to wait one year before continuing their program. They need to retake required courses if they choose to continue the program, but the F currently remains on their transcript and is calculated into their GPA. This makes it extremely difficult for the student to achieve the 3.0 GPA required for graduation. This policy change would allow students to **replace** the F with the new grade, so that the F is not calculated into the GPA. The new policy would allow up to two repeat-forgive courses within the student's graduate career. It would be at the program's discretion to allow their students to utilize this policy.

Graduate Council members asked for more information regarding how many programs will want to allow this, and what peer institutions are doing in this regard. They would also like to know how often students are dismissed from their programs and how often do they request to be readmitted. Michael and Laura will gather information to bring back to the Graduate Council for discussion.



# Graduate Council Meeting Summary

January 18, 2024

2:00 - 3:30 pm

[Zoom](#)

---

## B. 3MT Competition

The 3MT will not take place this year, as there were not enough entries. Other options and alternative modes of delivery are being considered for future competitions.

## C. Call for award nominations (Deadline 3/11)

Faculty is encouraged to nominate students for the TGS Outstanding Thesis, Dissertation, Excellence in Scholarship, Innovation and Engagement Awards. Nominations can be sent to [gradstudentservices@jmu.edu](mailto:gradstudentservices@jmu.edu). More information regarding awards can be found [here](#).

## D. Grad Showcase

The Showcase of Graduate Student Scholarship and Creative Activities (AKA: The Grad Showcase) will take place April 17 in The Hall of Presidents. This will be a full day of graduate student presentations. More information will be sent via email, the Graduate Community Newsletter and can be found [here](#).

## E. Questions and Concerns

Last year programs were told that assistantships would be residency neutral, will this be the case for next year as well? Yes, we will continue to have the same policy. The assistantships need to be offered as early as possible, especially for international students.

It was mentioned that graduate students need more on-campus housing. Dr. Stoloff confirmed there are plans for a graduate student housing facility to be built in the future. We are unsure when this will come to fruition.

It was also mentioned that the Environmental Sustainability students need housing for the Fall semester and the SLP online students need housing for 6 weeks in the Summer.

## V. Announcements

The next Graduate Program Director Assembly Meeting is scheduled for February 8. The main focus of the meeting will be international students.

## VII. Conclusion

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 pm.



# Graduate Council Meeting Summary

January 18, 2024

2:00 - 3:30 pm

[Zoom](#)

Graduate Council Voting Members			
Last Name	First Name	Academic Unit	Joined Zoom Meeting
Aga	Zareen	Middle, Secondary and Mathematics Education	
Almjeld	Jennifer	Writing, Rhetoric, & Technical Communication (WRTC)	
Coates	Tabitha	Learning, Technology, & Leadership Education	Yes
Dabback	William	Music	
Diop	Corinne	College of Visual and Performing Arts	Yes
Dorne	Rachelle	Health Professions	
Gubser	Michael	History	Yes
Hefner	Brooks	English	Yes
Heydari	Hossain	Computer Science	
Hickerson	Corey	Communication & Advocacy	Yes
Imbrescia	Eric	Early, Elementary & Reading Education	
Irving	Jim	Accounting	
Knopp	Andrea	Nursing	Yes
Marcopulos	Bernice	Department of Graduate Psychology	Yes
Moore	Kethera	Psychology	Yes
Nye	Susan	Kinesiology	
Park	Sophia	Graduate Student Association	Yes
Piker	Erin	Communication Sciences & Disorders (CSD)	Yes
Rutherford	Matthew	Business Administration	



# Graduate Council Meeting Summary

January 18, 2024

2:00 - 3:30 pm

Zoom

Sloan	Margaret	School of Strategic Leadership	Yes
Spindel	an	School of Integrated Sciences	Yes
Stevens	Alexis	Mathematics	Yes
Taylor	Jennifer	Political Science	Yes
Wallace-Carr	Julie	Sport & Rec Leadership	Yes
Wasta	Stephanie	Educational Foundations & Exceptionalities	
Wunderlich	Roshna	Biology	Yes

## Graduate Council Non-Voting Members

Last Name	First Name	Title	Joined Zoom Meeting
Thomas	Linda	Dean	
Stoloff	Michael	Associate Dean, Admissions and Recruitment	Yes
Ryman	Laura	Assistant Dean and Director of Graduate Student Services	Yes

## Guests

Last Name	First Name	Academic Unit	Joined Zoom Meeting
Bell	Pamela	Dean's Office, The Graduate School	Yes
De Hertogh	Lori Beth	Associate Professor, College of Arts and Letters	Yes
Doss	Cheryl	Dean's Office, The Graduate School	Yes
Hegg	Kevin	Director of IS, Digital Projects, Libraries	Yes
Hochstetler	Douglas	Associate Dean, College of Health and Behavioral Studies	Yes
Kurti	Stephanie	Associate Professor, College of Health and Behavioral Studies	Yes



# Graduate Council Meeting Summary

January 18, 2024

2:00 - 3:30 pm

[Zoom](#)

MacDonald	Sarah	Associate Dean, School of Professional and Continuing Education	Yes
Maxwell	Paula	Faculty and Curriculum	Yes
McDonnell	Kristi	Student Records and Graduation Specialist, The Graduate School	Yes
Michael	Lynette	Dean's Office, The Graduate School Director of Admissions	Yes
Webb	Angela	Associate Professor, College of Education	Yes
White	Sian	Associate Dean, College of Arts and Letters	Yes

DRAFT