**YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Graduate Council Meeting Minutes – DRAFT**

**Meeting date: November 29, 2023**

**TEAMS @ 4:00 pm**

Attending: Douglas Genna, Chair, Patrick Bateman, Christopher Bellas, Joseph W Carucci, Kendra Fowler, Paul Louth, Jake Protivnak, Constantin (Virgil) Solomon, Sal Sanders, Angie Urmson Jeffries, Linda Hulburt Blosser, Vincent Hepola, STEM

Doug Genna, Chair, called the Graduate Council Meeting to order when the required faculty joined the meeting.

1. The October 25, 2023, meeting of Graduate Council Minutes approved by the Graduate Council faculty via evote. (7 Approve, 0 Approve with edit, 1 Abstain)

2. Committee Chair reports

 a. Admission and Appeals Committee Chair: J. Paul Louth

The November 2023 meeting of the Admission and Appeals Committee included the review of an MBA academic suspension appeal. The program was in support and the committee granted the appeal. They now have two student representatives on their committee.

 b. Graduate Curriculum Chair: Virgil Solomon

The Committee met and all items have been approved. Please see the Graduate Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes for November 15 -November 27, 2023.

See Attachment #1

 c. Exceptions Chair: Sal Sanders

 Sal Sanders reported the Committee had no exceptions this month.

 d. Grievance Chair: Christopher Bellas

 Christopher has nothing to report.

 e. GSAC – Vincent Hepola, STEM

 Vincent Hepola has nothing to report.

3. Discussion of adding maternity leave to the GA (Graduate Assistants) leave policy-

Doug Genna. See below.

Sal Sanders reviewed the current Board of Trustees policy of the Employment of Students 3356-9-03 – which prohibits paid leave for student employees.

Sal Sanders did not think this was the best time to seek this benefit for our student employees - including the graduate assistants, given the financial state of the University. If most of the Graduate Council feels we should pursue this, we can seek a change to the Board of Trustees policy that prohibits it.

Sal reported that he did not hear back from the Board of Trustees but talked with the staff in the Human Resources Office and with the Office of Academic Affairs. After a good discussion, the Graduate Council faculty decided not to make a change. Sal Sanders and Douglas Genna received thanks for their efforts in getting this reviewed. There is no change in the Board of Trustees policy for the Employment of Students 3356-9-03. See Attachment #2.

1. The curriculum that requires approval will now take effect in the fall semester rather than the summer semester – Angie Urmson Jeffries

Angie Urmson Jeffries informed Graduate Council that the term is going to change when curriculum items take effect. For the last couple of years, all the curriculum courses and programs approved throughout the year took place at the start of summer and that is going to change starting this year. Items will now take effect in the fall. Now curriculum for undergraduates and graduates will take effect at the same time.

1. Intra-university Transfers – Change in procedure – Sal Sanders and Angie Urmson Jeffries.

Currently, we have a lot of transfers because students are changing their specialization within a degree. Sal Sanders suggested that to ease processing and decrease time for approval that his approval no longer be required. The group discussed the logistics of processing. The details will be investigated further and we will move forward with approving IUTs without Sal’s required approval.

1. Sal Sanders comments –

Thank you for all your support this year and for getting things done at our Graduate Council meetings. Happy Holidays to all!

Reminder: The next Graduate Council meeting is Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

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The current BOT policy – Employment of Students 3356-9-03 - prohibits paid leave for student employees. I copied the section here for convenience.

*Leave and time off without pay. Student employees are not eligible to receive vacation, sick leave, or holiday pay.  ~* [3356-9-03 Employment of students.docx](https://ysuprod-my.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/g/personal/sasanders_ysu_edu/EeT-kNyO_FBKgoYosQ9fn00B3hoYmJB-Ldki9DCW7rZKcQ?e=aJHW2z)

I do not think this is the best time to seek this benefit for our student employees - including the graduate assistants, given the financial state of the university. If most of the Graduate Council feels we should pursue this, we can seek a change to the BOT policy that prohibits it.

Our current policy, GA leave policy is mostly in compliance because time missed for short-term leaves can typically be made up. We should add a sentence that the stipend will need to be reduced in cases where the opportunity to make up missed work is not possible.

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Respectfully,

**Linda Hulburt Blosser,**

**Linda A. Hulburt Blosser, Academic Ops Specialist2**

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**https://catalog.ysu.edu/graduate/**

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Report from Virgil Solomon, Chair

Graduate Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes

November 15-November 27, 2023

Email Meeting

Members Participating: Virgil Solomon (chair), Daniel Ayana, Christopher Bellas, Joseph Carucci, M. Kathleen Cripe, Ying Wang, Judin Balella (student representative), Colleen Richardson (student representative)

Agenda: November 15, 2023, circulation memo

New Business:

Requested Action:

***The following items were approved:***

Doctor of Physical Therapy. Removal of PHYT 8942 and addition of PHYT 8950.Change in degree requirements.

Master of Business Administration. Change of required GMAT (Graduate Management Admissions Test) score for provisional pathway from 500 to 450. (Admission change).

Certificate in Organizational Leadership. New certificate program.

Post-Master's Certificate in Counseling Certificate for Counseling Practice. New certificate program.

ACCT 6968E. Special Topics in Accounting State and Local Taxes. Course deactivation. (Informational item).

ACCT 6970. Capstone Experience. Course deactivation. (Informational item).

ECON 6939. The Economics of Financial Markets and Institutions. Change of prerequisite. (Informational Item.)

ECON 6970. Economics Internship. Change of prerequisite. (Informational Item.)

ECON 6976. Econometrics. Change of prerequisite. (Informational Item.)

FIN 6910. Business Internship. Course deactivation. (Informational item).

MGT 6910. Business Internship. Course deactivation. (Informational item).

MGT 6910A. Business Internship Advanced. Course deactivation. (Informational item).

MUIN 5878. Special Topics in the Music Industry. Change of prerequisite. (Informational Item).

PHYT 8942. Mental and Behavioral Aspects of Healthcare. Course deactivation. (Informational item).

CSCI 5858. Blockchain and Cryptocurrency Technologies. This course introduces the fundamentals and mechanics of blockchain and cryptocurrency. Topics include an introduction to basic cryptography and cryptocurrencies, decentralization and mechanism of bitcoin, storage and transactions of bitcoin, mining of bitcoin, and regulation, platforms, and applications of bitcoin. 3 s.h. Prereq.: Senior or graduate student. (Add a new swing course.)

CSIS 5825. Natural Language Processing. This course will explore the field of NLP (Natural Language Processing) as it is concerned with the theory and practice of modern AI (Artificial Intelligence). It covers major concepts of NLP. It presents important algorithms, methods, structures, and techniques needed to construct natural language interfaces for software agents and physical agents. It introduces students to important approaches necessary to build practical, useful, and interesting systems that require natural language processing, interfaces, and models. Prereq.: CSCI 3710, CSCI 5835, CSCI 5870, or CSIS 5824. 3 s.h. (Add a new swing course.)

PHIL 6926. Data Ethics. In the early days of computing, there is an expression that is generally attributed to William Mellin: “garbage in, garbage out”. As many are aware the phrase loosely denotes that what comes out of the computer process is only as good as what goes into the machine. While some outputs may be seen as trivially bad, others carry with them substantial moral harm. The way data is collected and processed has real-world ethical implications. In this course, we examine the ways data can have unintended moral consequences in the hopes of avoiding these errors in the future. 3 s.h. (Add a new 6900 level course.) ///

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Board of Trustees Policy:

Please see <https://ysu.edu/sites/default/files/university_policies/3356-9-03%20Employment%20of%20students.docx>

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