



GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES
September 27, 2010

The Graduate Council met on Monday, September 27, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in room 311 of the Byrnes Building.

Graduate Council members present: Dr. Francisco Sanchez, Chair; Drs. Cheryl Addy, Deborah Brosdahl, Nancy Brown, Subra Bulusu, Edward Gatzke, John Grego, Rhonda Jeffries, Murray Mitchell, Srihari Nelakuditi, Joe Quattro, Donna Shannon, Andrew Shifflett, Lauren Sklaroff, Ercan Turk, Nic Ularu, and Nancy Zimmerman; Drew Newton

Graduate Council members absent: Drs. Kartik Kalaignanam, Michelle Maher, and Timothy Mousseau

Graduate School Representatives: Dale Moore and Janice Byrd

Provost Office Representative: Dr. Kristia Finnigan

Guests: Dr. Aaron Marterer; Georgiana Baker, Andy Graves

NOTE: These minutes will become final on November 7, 2010, if not challenged.

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Francisco Sanchez)

Dr. Sanchez called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. **Approval of minutes** (Minutes of the [August 23, 2010](#) meeting). The minutes were reviewed electronically and approved by the Council. [A copy of Minutes are on file at The Graduate School; also posted on The Graduate School website at <http://gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes/>]

3. **Report of the Chair** (Francisco Sanchez)

No report

4. **Report of the Interim Dean of The Graduate School** (Timothy Mousseau-absent)

No report

5. **Report of the Associate Dean / Secretary of the Graduate Council**
(Nancy Zimmerman)

- Dr. Zimmerman advised the Council that the National Research Council's third and most comprehensive assessment of more than 5,000 doctoral programs has been released to the University for review, but is embargoed until the official release date of September 28th. The NRC task force, appointed by Dr. Mousseau, has worked hard to review and interpret all of the data and will release their analysis of the USC data on the 28th. Information will be posted to the Office of Research and Graduate Education website.

6. **Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative** (Drew Newton)

- Dr. Zimmerman advised the Council that the Graduate Student Association (GSA) has selected a Graduate Council representative, Drew Newton, for the 2010-11 academic year. Mr. Newton is a student in the Higher Education program and works actively with GSA.
- Mr. Newton advised the Council that GSA is working diligently on strengthening the organization. He stated that GSA plans to issue a needs survey to all graduate students and asked that the Council share any concerns with him directly by email at newtona4@mailbox.sc.edu so that he may discuss it with the GSA cabinet. Dr. Shifflett asked that graduate housing be added to the GSA list of concerns. Dr. Zimmerman suggested that he might want to contact the FemGrad group to work cooperatively on projects with that group and that he might want to contact Drs. Julie Morris and Brianna Timmerman, who work with undergraduate research initiatives, to explore how GSA might help recruit graduate student mentors for undergraduate student researchers.

7. **Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee** (Cheryl Addy)

Dr. Addy advised that the Committee had reviewed the comprehensive examination policy for master's programs and are proposing the following wording revision to the policy:

Comprehensive Assessment

All candidates for a Master's degree must complete a comprehensive assessment in the major field of study that is distinct from program course requirements. A comprehensive assessment is one that requires a student to synthesize and integrate knowledge acquired in coursework and other learning experiences and to apply theory and principles in a situation that approximates some aspect of professional practice or research in the discipline. It must be used as a means by which faculty judge whether the student has mastered the body of knowledge and can demonstrate proficiency in the required competencies. Many different models are possible, including written or oral comprehensive examinations, portfolios, supervised practice placements, a major written paper such as a thesis or an applied research project, development of case studies, capstone seminars, and others. Each degree program must require a comprehensive assessment. Completion of course requirements does not satisfy the comprehensive assessment requirement. The Graduate School must be notified by the graduate director of the student's academic program of successful completion of the comprehensive assessment. Completion remains valid for two years after which the assessment must be repeated.

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- Dr. Addy also updated the Council on several policies reviewed by the Council that remain unresolved. They include:
 - the Criminal and Behavioral Infraction Policy as adopted by undergraduate admissions. Currently, the proposed undergraduate policy is under review by University legal and action on this will be postponed until the Committee receives that review.
 - the new Term Appointment policy already approved by the Graduate Council that would allow departments to appoint individuals to the status of associate faculty with a rigorous appointment process is being reviewed by Drs. Kresovich, Admiridis, and Mousseau. Once reviewed, it may be sent back to Graduate Council with comments for reconsideration and/or it will be sent to the appropriate Faculty Senate committee for review and possible consideration by the Faculty Senate for a vote and consideration of a necessary vote of the full graduate faculty.
- Dale Moore asked that the Policy and Practices committee review the doctoral comprehensive exam policy and identify and correct any discrepancies or confusing language. He also asked that the Committee review the requirement for a standardized test, such as the GRE, MAT, and GMAT for admission.
- Dr. Zimmerman has been charged by the Council to review Graduate Bulletin wording that links financial aid to admission testing. Programs must not have different admission requirements for students who do and who do not need financial aid. Once identified, Dr. Zimmerman and Dale Moore, Director of Graduate Admissions, will work with departments to clarify admission requirements and correct Bulletin wording.

8. **Report of the Committee on 500/600 Level Courses, Distance Education, and Special Courses** (Nancy Zimmerman)
9. **Fellowships and Scholarships Committee** (Joe Quattro)
- Dr. Quattro advised the Council that the Fellowships and Scholarships Committee reviewed submissions for the Outstanding Thesis Award. After review, the following students received awards in the following three categories:
 - Math, Physical Sciences and Engineering – Shelby Zelonis
 - Humanities and Fine Arts – Inti Sodemann
 - ETD Master's Thesis – Diana Farfan
10. **Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional Programs Committee** (Murray Mitchell)

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Anthropology

APPROVED

Academic Program Actions Proposal/Bulletin Change:

[M.A. in Anthropology](#)

We are eliminating ANTH 712 from the requirements for the M.A. in Anthropology because we are currently unable to staff the course on an annual rotation needed to make it available to all M.A. students.

[Effective: Spring 2011]

Philosophy

APPROVED

Academic Program Actions Proposal/Bulletin Change:

[Ph.D. in Philosophy](#)

We have restructured the core requirements for the Ph.D. program and instituted a "portfolio" system, and thus PHIL 765: Proseminar (which used to be a required course in the first semester of the Ph.D. program) has been eliminated.

[Effective: Spring 2011]

APPROVED

Course Change Proposal:

From: [PHIL 765 Proseminar \(3\)](#)

Critical reading of a philosophical text or series of related texts. Required of all doctoral degree candidates during the first year of course work.

Note: Pass-Fail Grading

To: **PHIL 765 Proseminar (3)**
Delete Course

[Effective: Spring 2011]

APPROVED

Course Change Proposal:

From: [PHIL 790 Teaching Philosophy \(1\)](#)

Materials, techniques, and problems of teaching philosophy.

Repeatable for credit. Pass-Fail Grading.

To: **PHIL 790 Teaching Philosophy (3)**
Materials, techniques, and problems of teaching philosophy.

Standard Grading

[Effective: Spring 2011]

Language, Literatures, and Cultures**APPROVED**

Academic Program Actions Proposal/Bulletin Change:

[M.A. in Spanish](#)From the recent curricular changes, approved by the Graduate Council in March 2010 that took effect in the 2010-2011 *Graduate Bulletin*, we omitted the elimination of SPAN 512, Advanced Writing and Research in Spanish Language Studies. With the approval and implementation in Fall 2010 of the new SPAN 700, Introduction to Graduate Studies in languages, literatures and cultures, SPAN 512 will be duplicating much of the content taught in SPAN 700. The Graduate Faculty of the Spanish Program voted on April 27, 2010 to eliminate SPAN 512 from the M.A. curriculum.

[Effective: Spring 2011]

APPROVED

Academic Program Actions Proposal/Bulletin Change:

[M.A. in Spanish](#)

The Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures proposes to reduce the number of credit hours required for the Master of Arts, Spanish, from 33 to 30.

This proposal results from curricular actions proposed by the Spanish Program faculty and the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (DLLC) and approved by the Graduate Council in Spring 2010. On January 25, 2010, the Graduate Council approved a new course: SPAN 700 - Introduction to Graduate Studies in Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. At the same time, the Graduate Council approved the Spanish Program faculty/DLLCs proposal to require the new SPAN 700 course in the M.A. curriculum. With these changes accomplished, the Spanish Program faculty reviewed the existing curriculum and voted on April 27, 2010 to delete the SPAN 512 course from the list of curricular offerings and to delete it as a requirement in the M.A., thus reducing the total number of hours for the M.A. from 33 to 30. (The CCP form to delete SPAN 512 as a course has been submitted to the University Curricula and Courses Committee.)

The proposed reduction of hours in the M.A., Spanish, from 33 to 30 brings this degree in line with other language master's degrees in French and German, which require 30 hours.

With the proposal to reduce the total hours from 33 to 30, the Spanish Program faculty/DLLC also proposes to recalibrate the number of required hours at the 700 or above level from 18 to 15 credit hours. This proposal is consonant with the *Graduate Bulletin's* specification that, "At least half of the credit hours on the Program of Study, exclusive of thesis preparation (799), must be earned in courses numbered 700 and above. With the approval of this proposal, the three language (French, German and Spanish) M.A. programs will have the same total number of credit hours and the same requirement for courses taken at the 700 or above level.

Note: The number of credit hours for the non-thesis option in the M.A., Spanish, remains at 33. The non-thesis option in the three language (French, German, and Spanish) M.A. programs requires 33 credit hours.

[Effective: Spring 2011]

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Instruction and Teacher Education

APPROVED

Course Change Proposal:

From: [EDSE 730 Advanced Study of the Teaching of Foreign Language in Secondary Schools \(3\)](#)

A study of historical developments and recent innovations in curricula resources and techniques in the field of teaching foreign languages in secondary schools. Students will be expected to investigate research as it relates to the improvement of instruct

Cross-listed Course: FORL 730

To: **EDSE 730** Advanced Study of the Teaching of Foreign Language in Secondary Schools (3)

Delete Course

[Effective: Spring 2011]

Physical Education

APPROVED

Academic Program Actions Proposal/Bulletin Change:

[M.A.T. in Physical Education](#)

PEDU 750 (Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Physical Education) has been a required course for our students in the M.A.T. program. As we have reflected on the needs of our students, we the faculty in the pedagogy option within in our department believe that an alternative course offers more needed content for this group of students. Hence, we explored the course PEDU 732 (Analysis of Instructional Behavior in Physical Activity), as an appropriate substitute for several years. Based on feedback from this change, we believe that this course should be a more permanent change to the required program of study for the MAT degree. The course meets student needs and has no negative impact on any other students in other degree programs within or beyond our department.

[Effective: Spring 2011]

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

APPROVED

New Course Proposal:

[MUSC 748 Major Choral Works \(3\)](#)

A survey of major oratorios, cantatas, and masses.

[Effective: Spring 2011]

11. **Report of Science, Math, and Related Professional Programs Committee**
(John Grego)

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

APPROVED

Statistics

Academic Program Actions Proposal/Bulletin Change:

[Master of Industrial Statistics](#)

The Department of Statistics proposes to change the name of the Master of Industrial Statistics degree and the configuration of degree requirements.

The Master of Industrial Statistics (MIS) degree is currently offered by the Department of Statistics at the University of South Carolina. It is an approved distance program and the only such offering in the Southeast. There are currently 30 active participants in the program. The intent of this request is to change the name and configuration of courses currently making up the Master of Industrial Statistics degree.

Originally, the MIS was configured to focus on industrial applications and the needs of industrial statisticians. The flexibility of the degree encouraged many who were employed in business, government, or education, or who were pursuing a Ph.D. in another field, to complete the degree program. The name "Master of Industrial Statistics" does not serve these non-industrial students well. As such, we request the degree be retitled to Master of Applied Statistics.

The degree currently consists of the 15-hour core of STAT 525, 700, 701, 702, and 703; the industrial-focused STAT 506 or 706; STAT 750 or STAT 761; and five three-hour elective courses. While many of the non-industrial students benefit from at least some of these industrial-focused courses, we propose to make the program more flexible by no longer requiring the industrial-focused courses and, instead, requiring STAT 700, 701, 702, 703, 517 and allowing students to continue to choose five three-hour electives. This will give students a broad base in applied statistics, mathematical statistics and statistical computing, while allowing them to formulate, under the guidance of the graduate advisor, an area of concentration appropriate for their individual needs. These changes will reduce the number of credit hours from 36 to 30 which, based on feedback from our graduates, is a more reasonable expectation for students who are attending part-time while working full-time. This reduction of credit hours does not sacrifice the quality of our program and aligns it with national models, including a competing distance program at Penn State University.

The name change to Master of Applied Statistics and new configuration of courses will position the degree better to serve professionals working full-time in business, industry, government and education; we expect the degree to have

wider appeal and increased enrollment as a result of these proposed changes.

[Effective: Spring 2011]

12. **Report of the Petitions and Appeals Committee** (Nancy Zimmerman for Nic Ularu)

Shanitra Smith – Petition approved with revisions.
13. **Other Committee Reports**

No report
14. **Old Business**

None
15. **New Business**

None
16. **Good of the Order**
17. **Adjournment**
The meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Nancy Zimmerman, Secretary

cc:

President Harris Pastides
Vice President for Research and Graduate Education Stephen Kresovich
Provost Michael Amiridis
Deans
Department Chairs
Graduate Directors
Barbara Blaney, University Registrar
Jodie Morris, Office of the Registrar
Gail Stephens, Office of the Registrar
Aaron Marterer, Office of the Registrar
Nancy Floyd, Office of Institutional Assessment and Compliance