MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING
Friday, March 17, 2023 – 3:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Chair – Kameelah Martin, Dean of the Graduate School

Members Present: Keonya Booker (GSO), Mike Braswell (ACCY), Navid Hashemi (DATA), Alex Kasman (MASC), Kate Keeney (ARCM), Brian Lanahan (EDEL), Mike Lee (MCOM), Ellie Lovellette (CSIS), Will McCorkle (MTLA), Purushottam Meena (SCIM/SOB), Shawn Morrison (CGE), Matt Nowlin (MPA), John Peters (SMFE), Craig Plante (MBIO), Susan Simonian (MSCL), Jacob Steere-Williams (HIST), Laura Turner (EDPA), Anton Vander Zee (ENGL), Tony Varallo (MFA), Joseph Weyers (HISP/LCWA)

Guests Present: Divya Bhati (OIE), Tom Buchheit (RO), Jessica Carter (LGC), Lucy Davis (ENSS), Katharine Hargrave (FFIS), Aimée Pfeifer (Registrar), Paul Schwager (SOB)

GSO Staff Present: Matt Bowersox (Marketing and Communications), Susan Hallatt (Admissions), Robyn Olejniczak (Assistant Dean), Erica Shirley (Admin Coordinator)

I. Welcome – the meeting was called to order at 3:02pm

II. Director of Marketing and Communication – Matthew Bowersox

Kameelah Martin (GSO) introduced the new staff member in this role, Matthew Bowersox. Bowersox then introduced himself and spoke about his background. He will be working one week in the office and the other three weeks remotely. Bowersox (GSO) plans to meet with each program director to learn more about their needs and is looking forward to working with everyone.

III. Approval of the Minutes February 24, 2023 Meeting – unanimous approval

IV. Curriculum Proposals – Shawn Morrison, CGE

A. Executive Master of Business Administration, M.B.A.
   a. New program
   b. MBAD 570 Executive Communications 1: new course
   c. MBAD 571 Executive Communications 2: new course
   d. MBAD 572 Executive Communications 3: new course

   The proposal was moved to be the first item for availability of the proposer. The proposals passed unanimously without discussion.

B. Accelerated Programs
   a. Updated guidelines and requirements
   b. Arts Management BA & MPA
   c. Music BA & Performing Arts MAT
   d. Theatre BA & Performing Arts MAT

   The proposals passed unanimously without discussion.

C. Advocacy, Learning, and Inquiry, Ed.D.
   a. New program
   b. EDDA 901 Inquiry and Practice: new course
   c. EDDA 902 Introduction to Advocacy, Learning, and Inquiry: new course
d. EDDA 910 Home, School, and Community Relationships: new course  
e. EDDA 912 Quantitative Research in Advocacy, Learning, and Inquiry: new course  
f. EDDA 915 Qualitative Research in Advocacy, Learning, and Inquiry: new course  
g. EDDA 920 Grant Writing: new course  
h. EDDA 930 Inquiry and Learning: new course  
i. EDDA 934 Program Evaluation: new course  
j. EDDA 936 Contemporary Advocacy: new course  
k. EDDA 938 High Impact Practices in Contemporary Advocacy: new course  
l. EDDA 940 Trends and Issues in Education and Community: new course  
m. EDDA 945 Creativity and Inquiry: new course  
n. EDDA 950 Inquiry and Innovation: new course  
o. EDDA 952 Research Development Intensive I: new course  
p. EDDA 960 Research Development Intensive II: new course  
q. EDDA 999 Dissertation: new course

Keonya Booker (GSO) provided an overview of the program and its curriculum via a brief powerpoint presentation. She shared how the program aligns with the strategic plan for DPU status and an independent School of Education. Booker (GSO) explained that EdD programs typically target K-12 administrators and this program is unique in its focus on advocacy. While PhD programs generate and contribute to the field’s scholarship, the EdD will be more applied and practitioner oriented. The dissertation will be of applied innovation. Susan Simonian (MSCL) asked if there are prerequisite courses required for admission. Booker (GSO) responded no, and as the program is predominantly online, the first on-campus residency is meant to socialize students to the coursework. Matt Bowersox (GSO) asked about the demand for the program. Booker (GSO) responded that market assessment conducted by EAB showed mixed interest in the program; the most direct interest is in administration and curriculum. Laura Turner (EDPA) congratulated Booker for her hard work.

The proposals passed unanimously.

D. Computer and Information Sciences, M.S.  
a. Admissions changes: remove GRE, add statement of goals  

The proposal passed unanimously without discussion.

E. Data Science and Analytics, M.S.  
a. Program change: add course to electives (PUBA 514)  

The proposal passed unanimously without discussion.

F. Teaching, Learning, and Advocacy, M.Ed.  
a. Curriculum and Instruction Concentration change: add courses to electives (MTLA 606, EDFS 630, EDFS 667, EDEE 610, EDEE 615)  
b. Diverse Learners Concentration change: add courses to electives (MTLA 606, EDFS 630, EDFS 667, EDEE 610, EDEE 615)  

The proposals passed unanimously without discussion.
V. **Announcements, Updates, and Reminders – GSO Staff**

Martin (GSO) announced that the graduate tuition study is still in progress, and the Provost and CFO will provide an update to the Deans next week. As final tweaks are being made, they plan to return to Graduate Council to provide an update. A special meeting may need to be called as there is one more meeting of Graduate Council. The plan is to present the proposal to the Board of Trustees at their June meeting. Martin (GSO) also announced that the annual poster session was canceled due to low participation. As discussed last year, Graduate Council decided to continue to hold the Graduate School poster session even with the introduction of the Expo. However, this year there was not enough interest to hold the event. Those who are interested in participating will be encouraged to present at the Expo. Martin (GSO) shared a few reminders: the deadline to apply for opportunity funds from the Lowcountry Graduate Center is April 14, the deadline to submit nominations for Graduate Student Awards is April 1, and the last meeting of Graduate Council will be held April 21. Martin (GSO) closed with an announcement that she will be convening an ad hoc committee to review and update the graduate assistantship policy. Although the work will likely take place during the summer, no changes will be implemented this fall.

Susan Hallatt (GSO) encouraged anyone experiencing issues with the new application review process to reach out for assistance.

Erica Shirley (GSO) reminded program directors of the upcoming tabling event on Cougar Mall and asked that programs share the event information with CofC undergraduates.

VI. **For the Good of the Order**

Turner (EDPA) asked about the availability of abatement funding for the summer. Martin (GSO) responded that the office is typically aware of which programs have required summer enrollment.

Simonian (MSCL) asked how to discuss tuition and funding with newly accepted students with the potential changes. Martin (GSO) responded that until changes are formally approved, the current processes and information apply to new students.

Ellie Lovellette (CSIS) asked if a student’s tuition rate was fixed during their entire program of study. Robyn Olejniczak (GSO) responded no, tuition does not function like a catalog year. Lovellette (CSIS) also asked if in-state tuition is being increased. Martin (GSO) responded that it is likely. Jacob Steere-Williams (HIST) asked if the assistant pay rate is being increased. Martin (GSO) responded that it is being considered, but no decision has been made.

VII. **Adjournment** – the meeting adjourned at 4:02pm