

# **GRADUATE COUNCIL**

Faculty Senate

## **MINUTES**

Thursday, May 7, 2026, 1:00 PM

Graduate School Conference Room, RH 2215

**PRESENT:** Gloria Sweida (Chair), Beidi Qiang, Cinnamon VanPutte, Chin-Chuan Wei, Kyong-Sup Yoon, Dan Segrist, Carole Frick, Jill Smucker, Joe Kohlburn, Duff Wrobbel, Ram Madupalli, Mindy Dilley, Chris Slaten

**EXCUSED:** James Monahan, Elizabeth Cali

**ABSENT:** Andrea Keller, Musah Sumaila, Cheryl Borowiak, Mary Frazier, Saad Ullah

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

### **I. Announcements**

- A. Course Review Committee (CRC) Report – The CRC report is available on Teams.
- B. Graduate Committee on Assessment (GCOA) Report – There was no report.
- C. Enrollment Management Report

James Monahan was not present. Chris Slaten reported that domestic graduate applications are up approximately 18%, while international applications are down over 50%, largely within engineering programs. It is anticipated that overall fall enrollment may be impacted due to lower international enrollment, though domestic enrollment is expected to increase.

### **D. Student Affairs Announcements**

Mindy Dilley reported that care and concern reporting has increased more than 35% from last year. The increase reflects improved reporting practices, though it also highlights that students are experiencing significant challenges. The Behavioral Intervention Team and campus threat assessment team recently completed two days of training and have strengthened processes. Plans are underway to conduct outreach with departments to increase awareness of reporting options.

E. International Affairs Announcements – No report.

F. Graduate School Announcements

Chris Slaten thanked the Council for its work and provided an update on changes to how Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degrees are reported to IPEDS. Historically, SIUE has reported the DNP as “Other,” which is uncommon among peer institutions. After consultation with Institutional Research and the School of Nursing, the determination is to reclassify the DNP as a research doctorate. This change does not require a vote but is important for accurate institutional reporting and has implications for Carnegie classification and research funding eligibility. The change is expected to contribute to the university’s R2 status following the required reporting lag period. Council members asked questions regarding research classification, grant eligibility, and joint doctoral programs.

G. Other Announcements

Discussion occurred regarding the formation of the University Strategic Planning Committee (UBSPC), which will consolidate planning efforts previously split across multiple groups. A new Graduate Council representative will be needed.

II. Approval of Minutes of April 16, 2026

The minutes of the April 16, 2026, meeting were approved.

III. Public Comments – None.

IV. Report of the Educational and Research Policies (ERP) Committee

GR2526-09: Responsible Conduct of Research Training and Individual Development Plan Policy was approved. Beidi Qiang reported as the new ERP chair.

V. Report of the Programs Committee

Full Program Review: English – voted as “in good standing” and “enrollment sustainable at present level.” 91A: MS in Marketing Analytics & Insights – approved. Cinnamon VanPutte volunteered to serve as the new Programs Committee chair for 26-27.

VI. Continuing Business

The Council continues to seek an at-large member from the College of Arts and Sciences.

VII. New Business

A. Vote on ERP, PC, and GCOA Chairs for 2026–2027. Beidi Qiang (ERP), Cinnamon VanPutte (Programs Committee), and Angela Andrews (GCOA) were nominated. Duff Wrobbel motioned to approve and Ram Madupalli seconded. The motion carried.

B. Representative Needed for Centers and Institutes Review Committee. Ram Madupalli volunteered to serve as the Graduate Council representative for a three-year term.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.