

Graduate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2024

MEETING LOCATION: Odum Library 1470

Present: Becky da Cruz, Debra Gresham, Ann Greenfield, Dixie Haggard, Lenese Colson, Md Ruhul Amin, Lynn Crump, Mitch Lockhart, Connie Porcaro, John Lairsey, David Nelson, Zhong Lin, Kelly Davidson, Chris Downing, Lorna Alvarez-Rivera, Matthew Grant, Julie Lester, Ellis Logan, Dee Ott,

Proxy: No Proxy

Guests: Rebecca Petrella, Crystal Marshall, Georgia Wynn and Darli DeVane

Special Guest: Bailey Raffield

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Becky da Cruz at 2:00 pm.

Dr. da Cruz informed the committee that the graduate school reached over 3000 grad students for the first time in VSU history and was celebrated.

Dr. da Cruz welcomed the new members to the committee.

Minutes from April 25, 2024 were approved. Matthew Grant motioned to approve. John Lairsey seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved - 0 opposed – 0 abstained

Bailey Raffield, from IT demonstrated Slate’s new advising portal. Students will see who their primary advisor is and schedule appointments.

College of Arts

Department of Music

Request to Curriculum Change (catalog): Master of Music Performance-Vocal performance students were missing Advanced Vocal Pedagogy in their studies while all other students were receiving Advanced Pedagogy training. This fixes a program mistake and enables vocal performance students to receive the same quality of education. Mitch Lockhart motioned to approve. Kelly Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course (catalog): Chamber Singers MUSC 5810- Previous description lacked the phrase "may be repeated for credit" even though students take ensembles for repeat credit frequently and regularly in the music department since ensembles cover different repertoire every semester and therefore, present new content every semester. No repeat restrictions are set to permit students to enroll in ensembles throughout the duration of their enrollment in the degree program, a common practice among institutions. Mitch Lockhart motioned to approve. Kelly Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course (catalog): Opera and Musical Theatre MUSC 5840- Previous description lacked the phrase "may be repeated for credit" even though students take ensembles for repeat credit frequently and regularly in the music department since ensembles cover different repertoire every semester and therefore, present new content every semester. No repeat restrictions are set to permit students to enroll in ensembles throughout the duration of their enrollment in the degree program, a common practice among institutions. Mitch Lockhart motioned to approve. Kelly Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course (catalog): Concert Band MUSC 5850- Previous description lacked the phrase "may be repeated for credit" even though students take ensembles for repeat credit frequently and regularly in the music department since ensembles cover different repertoire every semester and therefore, present new content every semester. No repeat restrictions are set to permit students to enroll in ensembles throughout the duration of their enrollment in the degree program, a common practice among institutions. Mitch Lockhart motioned to approve. Kelly Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course (catalog): Wind Ensemble MUSC 5860- Previous description lacked the phrase "may be repeated for credit" even though students take ensembles for repeat credit frequently and regularly in the music department since ensembles cover different repertoire every semester and therefore, present new content every semester. No repeat restrictions are set to permit students to enroll in ensembles throughout the duration of their enrollment in the degree program, a common practice among institutions. Mitch Lockhart motioned to approve. Kelly Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course (catalog): Orchestra MUSC 5860- Previous description lacked the phrase "may be repeated for credit" even though students take ensembles for repeat credit frequently and regularly in the music department since ensembles cover different repertoire every semester and therefore, present new content every semester. No repeat restrictions are set to permit students to enroll in ensembles throughout the duration of their enrollment in the degree program, a common practice among institutions. Mitch Lockhart motioned to approve. Kelly Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course (catalog): Marching Band MUSC 5880- Previous description lacked the phrase "may be repeated for credit" even though students take ensembles for repeat credit frequently and regularly in the music department since ensembles cover different repertoire every semester and therefore, present new content every semester. No repeat restrictions are set to permit students to enroll in ensembles throughout the duration of their enrollment in the degree program, a common practice among institutions. Mitch Lockhart motioned to approve. Kelly Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course (catalog): Instrumental Ensembles MUSC 5890- Previous description lacked the phrase "may be repeated for credit" even though students take ensembles for repeat credit frequently and regularly in the music department since ensembles cover different repertoire every semester and therefore, present new content every semester. No repeat restrictions are set to permit students to enroll in ensembles throughout the duration of their enrollment in the degree program, a common practice among institutions. Mitch Lockhart motioned to approve. Kelly Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course (catalog): Jazz Combo MUSC 6870- Previous description lacked the phrase "may be repeated for credit" even though students take ensembles for repeat credit frequently and regularly in the music department since ensembles cover different repertoire every semester and therefore, present new content every semester. No repeat restrictions are set to permit students to enroll in ensembles throughout the duration of their enrollment in the degree program, a common practice among institutions. Mitch Lockhart motioned to approve. Kelly Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for New Course (catalog): Advanced Vocal Pedagogy 7750- All other areas of study in the Master of Music Performance has an advanced pedagogy course attached, but the voice area had been overlooked in the initial creation of the degree and writing of the catalog requirements. This new course will allow voice students to receive the same study in advanced pedagogy that instrumental and conducting students receive. Mitch Lockhart motioned to approve. Kelly Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Department of Modern and Classical Language

Request for Curriculum Change (catalog): MAT World Languages- Due to declining enrollment in the ESOL program, it was decided to merge into one major the three educator certification fields offered by the CHSS: Spanish, ESOL, and French. We chose the major of World Languages because it is the new terminology used by the Professional Standards Commission regarding educator certification related to language learning. David Nelson motioned to approve. Matthew Grant seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Sub/Committee Reports

- **Graduate Student Success** – Chris Downing spoke about the Fall New Grad Student kickoff -- there were over 100 students who participated in the event.
- **Doctoral Program Sub-Committee**- Dr. da Cruz informed the committee that the updated program handbooks were online. She informed them that there were some updated changes to the Graduate School website.
- **Graduate Appeals**-No Report
- **Graduate Faculty Scholarship**-Dr. da Cruz noted the deadline to submit a request for Scholarship travel funds is September 27th for faculty planning to travel between October 16th -February 20th. She informed the committee with budget cuts funds will be limited.
- **Graduate Faculty Membership**-Dr. da Cruz noted the deadline to submit for Full Graduate membership is September 20th and to use the new updated form.

Other Business/Topics from the floor

- **Graduate Admissions Update**-Rebecca stated they are working on students who want to defer a later semester. She noted the upcoming webinar this fall for students who are interested in Graduate School. Also, that the Graduate School was not doing the fee waiver months (November and March)any longer but if a department wanted to have a fee waiver for recruitment for their program they can request one.
- **Graduate Assistant Update**-Dr. da Cruz sought feedback about the new GA Allocation Model in which the Division VP's and Deans provided how many GA's they needed which the model is based. If someone needs a GA they need to get with their Dean or Department head.
- **Update Course Repeat process**-Dr. da Cruz informed the Committee that the Graduate School will inform the Registrar once a student successfully completes the approved repeated course.
- **Proposed Dismissal Policy**-Tabled at this time
- **AGS & SGA Updates**- Georgia Wynn, the new AGS President, informed the committee the first AGS meeting will be Thursday, August 29th at 4pm, and that they will have a table at the Happening on that day. AGS is going to work on getting more online students to attend meetings as well.
- **Items from the Floor**-Dr. da Cruz stated that Gary Bush sent out a text to newly admitted students to see if they were attending this fall. She will share that list with the departments so the department can reach out to these students to find out why they are not attending. If a student needs to be dropped, the department can handle that rather than Alicia Roberson and Grad School can defer them if needed.
- Doctoral students are getting charged the \$442 online fee. There are two proposal to address this. 1) Exempt the Doctoral students from this fee, but this will need to get approved from USG and in order to do this there needs to be data. Dr. da Cruz asked the committee to share any data they may have from students who complain about this fee. 2) It was suggested that students enroll in 3 hours in the fall pay the \$442 and not enroll for spring and summer. A catalog change would need to take place and somebody would need to track these students that have been enrolled for the year.
- Dr. da Cruz reminded the committee that Doctoral students should not be assessed the Health Insurance fee as they are online students.

Motion made to adjourn at 3:40 pm

Next AC Meeting: September 9, 2024
Next GEC Meeting: September 19, 2024

X *Darli DeVane*

Darli DeVane
Administrative Coordinator

X *Becky K. da Cruz*

Dr. Becky da Cruz, Associate Provost
for Graduate Studies & Research