

Graduate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2023

MEETING LOCATION: Converse 3007

Present: Becky da Cruz, John Lairsey, Anne Price, Michelle Ritter, Mitch Lockhart, Debra Gresham, Ann Greenfield, Dixie Haggard, Natalie Kuhlmann, Zhong Lin, Forrest Parker, Arrington Stoll, Mike Webster, Nancy Swanson, Lenese Colson, Kelly Davidson, Ellis Heath, Keith Lee,

Proxy: Mike Webster for Matthew Carter

Guests: Crystal Marshall, Rebecca Petrella, Cordell Moats, and Darli DeVane,

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

Minutes from January 19, 2023 were approved. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved - 0 opposed – 0 abstained

College of Business Administration

Department of Accounting

Request for New Course: MACC 7010- Financial Fundamentals- This program is designed for non-accounting undergraduate degree holders needing special accounting knowledge prior to beginning regular MACC courses. Adopted from another institution that successfully used it for over five years to expand its enrollment. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Kelley Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for New Course: MACC 7020-Summer Accounting Institute- This program is designed for non-accounting undergraduate degree holders needing special accounting knowledge prior to beginning regular MACC courses. Adopted from another institution that successfully used it for over five years to expand its enrollment. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Kelley Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for New Course: MACC 7120-Financial Statement Analysis-Needed for AACSB accreditation. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Kelley Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course: MACC 7220 Consolidations and partnership Accounting-Deactivating ACCT 3203 Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Kelley Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course: MACC 7600 Accounting Research-Pre-req. necessary for level of material. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Kelley Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course: MACC 7700 Advanced Managerial Accounting-Data Analytics are a required part of AACSB accreditation and the CPA exam. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Kelley Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course: MACC 7980 Accounting Internship-The Career Strategies Coordinator is no longer associated with the college. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Kelley Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Deactivate a Course: MACC 7453 State Tax, Trusts, and Wealth Transfer-No longer taught. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Kelley Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Reactivate a Course: MACC 7700 Advanced Managerial Account-Data Analytics is now a required part of the curriculum for AACSB accreditation and the CPA Exam. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Kelley Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Graduate school Website revision: MACC- Currently, students are required to take these tests for admission. From internal analysis these tests are not a good indicator of student success. Other resources are already in place to support student success. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Kelley Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for curriculum change (catalog): Masters of Accountancy-Curriculum change reflects the feedback from our recent AACSB Continuous Improvement Review and our assurance of learning process. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Kelley Davidson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Department of Management

Request for New Course: MBA 7020 Financial Accounting for Managers- The course will provide students with basic financial accounting knowledge needed to succeed as managers. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for New Course: MBA 7680 Data Mining- The course will help us address one of the deficiencies noted in our recent AACSB accreditation visit. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course: MBA 7030 Managerial Accounting-The listed pre-requisites are no longer required to enter the MBA program. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course: MBA 7350 Managerial Finance- The listed pre-requisites are no longer required to enter the MBA program. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for curriculum change (catalog): Graduate Certificate in Health Administration- Certificate programs were proposed by the Business Analytics task force based on current business practices and a review of competitors' programs. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised catalog copy (catalog): MBA-Currently, students are required to take these tests for admission. From internal analysis these tests are not a good indicator of student success. Other resources are already in place to support student success. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Graduate school Website revision: MBA- Currently, students are required to take these tests for admission. From internal analysis these tests are not a good indicator of student success. Other resources are already in place to support student success. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Graduate school Website revision: Web MBA- Currently, students are required to take these tests for admission. From internal analysis these tests are not a good indicator of student success. Other resources are already in place to support student success. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

College of Nursing and Health Sciences

School of Nursing

Request for catalog copy (catalog): MSN- The changes address the Essentials for Doctoral Education for

Advanced Nursing Practice (2006) outcomes and educational requirements of the APRN Consensus Model (ANCC, 2012). Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for catalog copy (catalog): BSN-DNP, MSN Opt-Out- Students are required to have a basic understanding of the principles of evidence-based practice in order to prepare for the DNP project. Opt-Out students will take the DNP Research class as part of their DNP program requirements. Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Graduate school Website revision: Nursing- The changes address the Essentials for Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice (2006) outcomes and educational requirements of the APRN Consensus Model (ANCC, 2012). Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Graduate school Website revision: M.S.N- The changes address the Essentials for Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice (2006) outcomes and educational requirements of the APRN Consensus Model (ANCC, 2012). Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Graduate school Website revision: MSN-2N.P- The changes address the Essentials for Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice (2006) outcomes and educational requirements of the APRN Consensus Model (ANCC, 2012). Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Graduate school Website revision: D.N.P- The changes address the Essentials for Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice (2006) outcomes and educational requirements of the APRN Consensus Model (ANCC, 2012). Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

College of the Arts

Department of Music

Request for New Course: MUSC 5821 Voce Vita- Voce Vita will fulfill the same learning outcomes and ensemble participation requirements as Chamber Singers and Concert Choir. Voice majors will be placed in one of these three ensembles each semester depending on their audition. For nonvoice majors or minors, the ensemble is open by audition to anyone who wishes to participate, just as Chamber Singers is currently (MUSC 5810). In addition to giving more vocally advanced treble singers another ensemble possibility, Voce Vita will expose participants to the growing field of choral literature for treble voices. Mitch Lockhart motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

College of Education and Human Services

Department of Human Services

Request for Revised catalog copy (catalog): Master of Social Work Degree- The Social Work program is revising their curriculum to better represent the learning goals of the program. The change of request form is being developed for catalog changes to match the revised curriculum. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Ellis Heath seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request to Deactivate a Courses:

- SOWK 6001-Orient Prof SOWK Practice I (1 Hour)
- SOWK 6003-Practice with Group (1 hour)
- SOWK 6202-Human Behavior in the Social Environment II (3 Hour)
- SOWK 6600-Practicum I (3 Hour)
- SOWK 6610-Practicum Seminar I (1 Hour)

SOWK 6710-Practicum Seminar II (1 Hour)

SOWK 7630-Professional Seminar (2 Hour)

In review of the Fall 2022 Graduate School catalog's list of Social Work courses, the seven listed courses above will not be offered in Fall 2023 and should be deactivated. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Ellis Heath seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Courses:

SOWK 7000-Independent Study in Social Work

SOWK 7322-Program Development for Human Services

SOWK 7611-Advanced Social Work Practicum I

SOWK 7612-Advanced Social Work Practicum II

SOWK 7830-Social Work Practice in Mental Health

SOWK 7910-Advanced Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Meeting the learning outcomes and course effectiveness will be assessed through course assignments/activities. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Ellis Heath seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for New Course: SOWK 7826 Perspectives in Substance Use and Mental Health- Social workers provide an array of services across the human services spectrum, in both clinical and non-clinical contexts. Regardless of their area of expertise, they encounter clients who use substances on a spectrum from non-problematic use to addiction. We already have an elective which provides instruction on traditional, abstinence-based clinical assessment and treatment for substance users. This course is designed to extend and broaden the students' perspectives and to provide opportunity for critical thinking about our established protocols/public policy associated with both mental health and substance misuse. This intersectionality is important because mental health issues and substance misuse issues co-occur so frequently. This course challenges students to recognize substance use/misuse and mental health issues in whatever context it occurs as well as to intervene as necessary with clients from a broad, client-centered approach. Finally, this course will serve as one of the necessary courses for students to receive an embedded Substance Use Certificate along with their MSW (if the certification proposal is approved). Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Ellis Heath seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Department of Teacher Education

Request for Revised Course: KSPE 8420 Foundations of Sports Coaching & Theory-EDUC 5999 is not required for these students because they already hold Health and Physical Education certification. This is the only KSPE 7000-8000 level course that still had the prerequisite listed. The program already has the course removed from the curriculum. Kelly Davidson motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for curriculum change (catalog): M.A.T. Middle Grades Education & M.A.T. Secondary Education Kelly Davidson motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Graduate school Website revision: MAT Middle Grades Education & MAT Secondary Education- These changes will allow for the program to admit applicants who would otherwise be successful but do not meet current admission requirements. Kelly Davidson motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Graduate school Website revision: MED Health and Physical Education- These changes will allow for the program to admit applicants who would otherwise be successful but do not meet current admission requirements. The application deadline was administratively changed to April 15 in December 2022. Kelly Davidson motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Graduate school Website revision: EdS Coaching Pedagogy in Physical Education- These changes will allow for the program to admit applicants who would otherwise be successful but do not meet current admission requirements. The application deadline was administratively changed to April 15 in December 2022.

Kelly Davidson motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Graduate school Website revision: MED Elementary Education-- These changes will allow for the program to admit applicants who would otherwise be successful but do not meet current admission requirements. Kelly Davidson motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Department of Leadership, Technology & Workforce Development

Request for Revised catalog copy (catalog): Master of Education with a Major in Adult & Career Education- Career & Technical Education Option- The program has one faculty taking charge of evaluation on capstone experience. John Lairsey motioned to approve. Michelle Ritter seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised catalog copy (catalog): Ed.S. Degree with a Major in Education Leadership (Tier I Certification)- This degree program was not approved by the GaPSC and needs to be removed from the catalog. John Lairsey motioned to approve. Michelle Ritter seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised catalog copy (catalog): M.Ed. Higher Education Leadership- Catalog Change reflects curriculum change approved by Academic Committee in November, 2022. Removal of MAT as a standardized test option is due to the fact that the MAT will no longer be given effective November 2023. John Lairsey motioned to approve. Michelle Ritter seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Department of English

Request for curriculum change (catalog): Certificate for Teaching College English-face to face option- ENGL 7000 and ENGL 7600 are no longer regularly offered in the English MA program, and they have been replaced here with their closest, regularly-offered alternatives. Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for curriculum change (catalog): MA in English for Language Arts Teachers-

- 1) The admission deadline changes will give students more time to submit their applications, and these are in alignment with the deadlines of comparable programs in the region.
- 2) Since the GRE requirement was removed in 2022, references to GRE scores needed for probationary admission have been omitted.
- 3) Written comprehensive exams are no longer required to be taken in a proctored environment, a change prompted by COVID-era distancing that has proven effective and that should be permanent. The integrity of these exams is ensured by the one-hour oral defense that takes place following the written exam, which is conducted in a live setting with both the student and faculty examiners present.
- 4) Probationary admission requirements for non-English majors have been revised to accommodate suitably-prepared students at the discretion of the Graduate Studies Committee.
- 5) Elective requirements for the degree have been revised to give students more choice in selecting courses, a change that will help students to tailor their coursework to better prepare them for their comprehensive exams.

Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised catalog copy (website): MA in English- Requiring both a statement of intent and a cover letter is redundant, and therefore the latter has been omitted. Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised catalog copy (catalog): MA in English-

- 1) The admission deadline changes will give students more time to submit their applications, while requiring Graduate Assistantship applicants to submit early enough for timely onboarding requests to be submitted to the Graduate School each spring.
- 2) Since the GRE requirement was removed in 2022, references to GRE scores needed for probationary admission were omitted.
- 3) Probationary admission requirements for non-English majors have been revised to accommodate suitably-prepared students at the discretion of the Graduate Studies Committee.

Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice

Request for Revised catalog copy (catalog): Criminal Justice Accelerated Program Curriculum-During the Fall 2022 semester, 70 criminal justice students responded to an informal survey to examine their interest in the Four Plus One Track. The survey results indicated that: 51 percent were considering going to graduate school; 34 percent indicated that they were considering attending graduate school at VSU; 38 percent revealed that are considering pursuing a graduate degree in criminal justice; and 44 percent indicated that would be interested in completing the Four Plus One Track in criminal justice at VSU. Based on the results of the survey, there is potentially strong interest in the Four Plus One Track in criminal justice. The criminal justice E-Degree program provides a natural feeder into the Four Plus One Track and combined with survey results, and students on campus, we believe that the program offers a viable opportunity for criminal justice students to complete their education and achieve their career goals in an efficient manner. The vote was taken virtually. Motion passed unanimously.

Department of Political Science

Request for curriculum change (catalog): MPA- A course change request was submitted for PADM 7900 and PADM 7210 requesting PADM 7210 be dropped from the core requirements and PADM 7900 changed from 2 credit hours to 3 credit hours. This catalog revision will update the program of study in the catalog to match these changes. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. John Lairsey seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised catalog copy (catalog): Master of Public Administration Degree- This Revised catalog copy proposal seeks to update our MPA curriculum to reflect recent proposed Accelerated Track proposals for our Political Science (POLS) and Organizational Leadership (ORGL) program. Upon approval, we would launch two Undergraduate to Graduate Accelerated Tracks: one for ORGL and one for POLS majors. Recent studies in career journals and Public Administration publications indicate a healthy job forecast for the professionals in this line of work. This, coupled with our robust MPA, ORGL, and POLS enrollment, indicate a strong interest in the Public Administration profession (and related subfields such as Public Policy, Public Personnel Management, and Information Management), which offers numerous, lucrative careers in this area. An Accelerated Track into our MPA Program, such as this proposal, also seeks to capitalize on the skills and knowledge gained through our undergraduate Capstone course and the emphasis on experiential learning projects. Through this work, it is clear that this is an area in high demand as emphasized in the June 2022 issue of Public Management magazine. This proposal also supports the Strategic Plan's emphasis on growing graduate enrollment as well as focusing on the 41-county service area. The vote was taken virtually. Motion passed unanimously.

Request for New Course: PADM 7210 Internship in Public Administration (Approved in January)- Currently, students with 3 or more years of experience are exempt from the internship requirement. More than half the students exempt the internship each semester. Therefore, the program is requesting a revision to PADM 7210 by removing it from the required coursework and changing the credit hours to 3 hours. Traditional students, i.e., those enrolling in the program immediately after undergraduate education, may benefit from an internship as they enter the workforce. These students will be able to use the internship as a course to satisfy concentration requirements. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. John Lairsey seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Request for Revised Course: PADM 7900 Capstone Seminar in Public Administration (Approved in January)- The current capstone seminar is an in-depth review and assessment of the public administration discipline. The

program requests a change to the course to align with the program, college, and university mission, whereby students will engage with communities and provide actionable deliverables in the form of program evaluation, strategic plans, and/or policy memos. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. John Lairsey seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Women & Gender Studies

Request for New Course: WGST 6600 Special Topics in Women's and Gender Studies- Gender, race and sexuality are present in multiple graduate programs of study. This graduate level elective will allow graduate students working on thesis and/or dissertations to work across disciplines and investigate how complex cultural, social and political contexts shape race, gender and sexuality. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Ellis Heath seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Academic Division

Request for Revised catalog copy (catalog): Graduate Catalog Regional Accreditation- The Department of Education now does not distinguish between regionally and nationally accredited institutions. Both types of institutions are accredited by CHEA (Council for Higher Education Accreditation). This change does not include nationally accredited programs. This only extends to nationally accredited *institutions*. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

Sub/Committee Reports

- **Graduate Student Success** –Chris Downing shared the spring 2023 Online Kickoff report showing the breakdown of the survey that was completed.
- **Doctoral Program Sub-Committee**- No report; however, Dr. da Cruz stated she will be calling a meeting to talk about serving on dissertation committees.
- **Graduate Appeals**-No update
- **Graduate Faculty Scholarship**-Spring deadline February 10th. The committee will be meeting on February 20th and awards will be going out after the meeting.
- **Graduate Faculty Membership**-Spring deadline March 10th; Dr. da Cruz reminded the committee that if their full status has expired or will expire soon they need to get their application in by the deadline. The committee voted on the new guidelines for the Department Head & Associate Dean Exemption. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Keith Lee seconded. Motion passed: 18 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.
- **Graduate Research Symposium**- The committee was reminded that the deadline to submit nominations is February 24th.

Other Business/Topics from the floor

- **Graduate Admissions Update**-Rebecca stated there were no new updates at this time.
- **Graduate Assistant Update**- The committee was reminded that the deadline to request a summer competitive GA is February 22nd.
- **Graduate Student Change of Degree Form**-Dr. da Cruz explain that this form would be used if a student wanted to change a degree from one program to another. The committee took a vote on this form. John Lairsey motioned to approve. Dixie Haggard seconded. Motion passed: 17 approved – 0 opposed – 1 abstained.
- **Graduate Student Retention**- Barrie Fitzgerald has been asked to pull some data on why the retention is low. Once the report is complete it will be shared with the committee.
- **Possible Graduate Program/s for OCCA (AA Strategic Plan)**-The committee was informed that if they had a graduate program they would like to be considered for this to let Dr. da Cruz know.
- **Schools w/Grade Replacement**-Will be discussed at next GEC meeting
- **AGS & SGA Updates**- Cordell Moats reported: AGS has a meeting scheduled for February 20th. Dr. da Cruz will be the guest speaker.
- **Items from the Floor**- No items were discussed

Motion make to adjourn at 3:37 pm

Next AC Meeting: March 6, 2023

Next GEC Meeting: March 23, 2023

X *Darli DeVane*

Darli DeVane
Administrative Coordinator

X *Becky K. da Cruz*

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