

CGPSP - Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies
October 19, 2022
3:30-5:00 p.m.
Graduate Life Center Room 238 or Zoom
<https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/87513733962>
Meeting ID: 875 1373 3962

Present: Montasir Abbas (presiding), Kayla Alward, Lisa Becksford, Nancy Bradley, Joseph Eifert, Robert Emmett, Tom Ewing, Mary Kasarda, Eric Kaufman, Sattar Mansi, Hannah Parks, Rebecca Pauly, Donna Sedgwick, Aimée Surprenant, Noor Tasnim, Alina Valop, Scott Weimer, Pengtao Yue

Absent with Notice: Coy Allen, Paul Emmons, Rachel Holloway

Absent: Christina DiMarino, Chip Frazier, Rose McGroarty, Tyler Walters

Guests: Janice Austin, Danette Beane, Monika Gibson, Bill Huckle, Carrie Mayer, April Myers, Lauren Surface, Kenneth Wong

Monty called the meeting to order at 3:31. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

2. Approval of or Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of September 21, 2022

A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 21, 2022 minutes. The motion carried.

3. Chair Report Updates-Montasir Abbas

None

4. Committee Reports-Montasir Abbas

a. Graduate Curriculum Committee-Coy Allen

The report from the last meeting on October 13 is posted in Sharepoint. This report will need to be approved at the next CGPSP meeting.

Dr. Huckle asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the GCC meeting on September 8 on behalf of Coy Allen who was not in attendance. A motion was made and seconded. The motion carried.

b. Graduate Student Appeals- Aimée Surprenant

There are currently no appeals.

c. DAP-Mary Kasarda

- UG/G accelerated masters discussion

Mary summarized points of the DAP committee members' ideas. She shared more information in Sharepoint and encouraged members of this commission to take a look. Dr. Shaffer attended the DAP meeting to share his thoughts. The dean prefers a case-by-case basis for now. CGPSP will vote at the next meeting.

- Co-op policy recommendation

The next step is to write a resolution if this policy is voted on (or is a consensus item). There is more information posted in the *October 19, 2022* and the *CGPSP 22-23 Documents* Folders in Sharepoint.

5. Old Business

a. None

6. New Business

a. Graduate School Ombuds Annual Report- Bryan Hanson

Bryan shared a presentation that is posted in Sharepoint.

A few things to highlight:

There was an increase in visits to the ombud's office this past year. Bryan reported that the increase is due in part to awareness of an ombuds' service and more willingness to get help.

Question from member: Regarding a professor's Leave of Absence for a Sabbatical, can the professor make sure that their students are a part of the plan to avoid undue stress on the students? Guidelines should be provided.

The main question Bryan sees in the Graduate School is: can there be better communication around collaborative relationships? This is in regards to expectations between advisors/advisees.

A member asked if a certain department or college stands out as not having problems so others can learn from them? Bryan tracks this but does not share this information.

A member asked about the timing of surveys that are sent. Can there be a longer-term follow-up? The survey takes place at the beginning of a new semester.

7. Acceptance and Posting of Committee Reports and/or Minutes

• Graduate School Updates-Dean Surprenant

The student services survey results are in and there will be a hybrid town hall meeting scheduled to discuss the results in order to be clearer in communication.

The Graduate Stipend Task Force is working on a draft.

ORDI has had connect lunches with first generation and Latin X students. There is a more formal plan to work with faculty/student mentoring.

The HBCU/MSI Summit is November 6-8. There are 15 universities coming to VT. The goal is to make research connections.

8. Constituency Updates-Montasir Abbas

a. Graduate and Professional Student Senate-Ben Beiter

No update

b. Graduate Honor System- Kayla Alward

2 active cases

c. University Library Committee-Lisa Becksford

No update

d. Faculty Senate-Donna Sedgwick and Eric Kaufman

Donna reported that the committee is waiting for commissions to bring items to vote on

e. Board of Visitors-Anna Buhle

No update

f. AP Faculty Senate-Rob Emmett

Kayla Alward received the Aspirations for Student Integrity Award

9. University Council and Commission Updates-Montasir Abbas

a. University Council-Montasir Abbas

No update

b. Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Polices-Rachel Holloway

No update

10. Announcements-

- Next meeting will be on November 2, 2022

9. Adjournment-

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:30.