

CGPSP Minutes
January 17, 2024
3:30-5:00 p.m.
Graduate Life Center Room 238/Zoom

Present: Monty Abbas (presiding), Coy Allen, Lisa Becksford, Stephen Biscotte, Nancy Bradley, Carolyn Commer, Zai Cook, Christina DiMarino, Joe Eifert, Paul Emmons, Chip Frazier, Renee LeClair, Sattar Mansi, Aimée Surprenant, Kwok Tsang, and Jerald Walz

Absent with Notice: Rob Emmett, Mary Kasarda, Scott Weimer

Absent: Tom Ewing, Charly Hartle, Rose McGroarty, Tarisa Ross, Tyler Walters

Guests: Janice Austin, Kevin Edgar, Cathy Grimes, Barbara Hoopes, Bill Huckle, Rachel Maizel, Carrie Mayer, April Myers, Lauren Surface, Emily Tirrell

Monty called the meeting to order at 3:32. There was an establishment of a quorum.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Agenda was approved and adopted.

2. Approval of or Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of December 6, 2023

Minutes were approved.

3. New Business-

- o **Discussion of Generative AI and its impact on graduate education---Montasir Abbas**

*Time to rethink the curriculum, syllabus, and rubrics

*Chat GPT

*Chair Abbas asked the commission: what are your thoughts and opinions?

*invite Dale Pike from TLOS (<https://tlos.vt.edu/>) to a commission meeting to give his thoughts and ideas.

*What can faculty put on syllabi re: cheating? Look at it proactively. How can this be beneficial?

*A member (who is an editor of an academic journal) has mixed reviews. The member stated that articles should be cited if used. Students having used AI is obvious since faculty can see a different writing style than they may have had before.

*What is VT's policy on AI? Is there one?

*Authorship implies responsibilities and tasks that can only be attributed to and performed by humans.

*Another member: Students need to learn research techniques.

*A guest commented that a PI has encouraged using it in one department as an aid to finding piece of a code. It should be used as more of a tool in the workplace.

*In the Visual Arts: It can be used to generate imagery, but the source of the image should be acknowledged.

*Last question was: how do we want to educate or advise the students?

o **Agenda for spring semester----Montasir Abbas**

*The dean announced that we have received a pilot grant for Sloan center for systemic change

*Culturally aware mentoring

*Use an eye towards diversity and equity.

*Reach out to Undergrad policies. Stephen said that it started with a “send us your concerns” and went from there.

*Ad Hoc Committee: changing rules and policies based on accreditation

*Reach out to post docs re: mentoring roles

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

• **Graduate Student Appeals Committee-** Aimée Surprenant

No current appeals

• **DAP-** Coy Allen

Current members are Kevin Edgar and William Huckle. DAP is in need of 4 more members.

• **Ad Hoc Masters-**Barbara Hoopes

A more complete report will be presented at the next meeting.

• **Graduate School Updates-**Aimée Surprenant

*working on the budget process (increase in minimum stipend)

*projection to increase candidacy discount plan to move toward 60%.

*Hokie One Stop for NVC students originally fell under Innovation Campus. It will now be managed by the Graduate School and director Bryan Mitchell is part of the Grad School team.

*Innovation Campus is not opening quite yet.

• **Constituency Updates-**Monty Abbas

a. Graduate and Professional Student Senate—Rachel Maizel

GPSS is hearing from some students that they are being denied equitable resources when it comes to applying for ADA. Their question is how can we shift the culture? How can policies that exist be enforced?

b. Graduate Student Honor System—Rose McGroarty

No report

c. University Library Committee—Lisa Becksford

No update

d. Faculty Senate—Carolyn Commer and Jerald Walz

No update

e. Undergraduate Student Senate—Jacob Curry

No update

f. Board of Visitors—Emily Tirrell

No update

g. AP Faculty Senate—Rob Emmett

No update

- **University Council and Commission Updates**—Monty Abbas

a. University Council –Monty Abbas

No update

b. Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies—Rachel Holloway

No update

5. Adjournment- Monty Abbas

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:19.