

CGPSP Meeting Minutes  
March 17, 2021  
3:30 – 5:00 pm

**Present:** Madlyn Frisard, Montasir Abbas, Barbara Hoopes, Coy Allen, Maruf Hoque, Robert Sumachrist, Nathaniel Porter, Hannah Parks, Pengtao Yue, Paul Emmons, Emily Burns, Karen DePauw (ex officio), Kayla Alward, Gabriela Carillo, Lujean Baab, Awad Abdelhalim, Richard Vari, Sara Hooshangi, Marcia Feuerstein

**Absent with Notification:** Ashley Shew (on leave), Nancy Bodenhorn, Rachel Holloway (ex officio)

**Absent without Notification:** Lesa Hanlin, Cliff Shaffer, Hypatia Alexandria, Chad Bolding, Sabrina Sturgeon

**Visitors and Invited Guests:** Janice Austin, Bill Huckle, Kevin Edgar, April Myers, Aiden Murphy, Ben Beiter, Sarah Parker, David Musick, Bob Hicok

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 pm.

Members once again approved a motion to vote by objections and abstentions, assuming approval unless otherwise stated. This motion was made to accommodate the Zoom meeting format.

**Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as-is

**Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes from March 3, 2021 were approved as-is.

**Committee Reports**

Graduate Curriculum Committee

No updates - GCC has not met since the last meeting

Graduate Student Appeals Committee – Karen DePauw

There is one active appeal. The committee has the case information to review, and will be meeting next week to discuss.

Degree Requirements, Standards, Criteria, and Academic Progress (DRSCAP) Committee – Barbara Hoopes

Dean DePauw has asked DRSCAP to look into two new items - Retroactive Graduate Degrees and how the Student Code of Conduct (aka Hokie Handbook) applies to graduate students. Task groups have been formed, and both topics will be discussed further at their next meeting this upcoming Wednesday.

**Old Business**

Principles of Doctoral Residency - Barbara Hoopes

2nd Reading and Vote

No changes to the document have been made since the 1st reading.

The resolution was approved.

## **New Business**

### Resolution 2020-2021E: Resolution to Rename the Department of Interprofessionalism to the Department of Healthcare Innovation and Implementation Science - Sarah Parker and David Musick

1st reading

This rename has been introduced to reflect an expansion in the department's curriculum, which now includes a significant focus on health systems education, also called system science. This broader, more holistic approach follows national trends and innovative programs like those found at Penn State. It is the hope that this additional curriculum will allow for more collaboration with other departments, including but not limited to vetmed and environmental science. The VP for Research and Innovation has also been discussing a move from OneHealth to WholeHealth.

A second reading a vote will occur at our next meeting.

Graduate Student Assembly: New Proposed Organizational Structure - Ben Beitner and Aiden Murphy  
Ben Beitner presented the new proposed internal structure and constitutional amendments to the GSA as shifts are made to accommodate shared governance changes.

The Graduate Student Assembly, or GSA, will now be called the Graduate and Professional Student Senate, or GPSS.

The previous constitution was found to be lacking, both in use and content. The new constitution will focus on providing the functional structure of the new senate, and will clearly outline the purpose of the group. The new mission statement focuses on four main tenants: advocacy, community building, scholarly & professional development, and movement building, which refers to the development of similar structures within departments and increased representation at the local level.

The new structure will be provided by a new constitution as well as written bylaws and a student handbook. The proposed structure includes 2 senators for each department, internal caucuses for each college (with additional caucuses for diversity, extension campuses, and interdisciplinary graduate programs), an Executive Board, and a Cabinet. The Executive Board will include two new positions - a Chief of Staff and a Director of Advocacy. The Chief of Staff will take on many of the administrative tasks, which will allow for a more manageable workload for other members. Ideally, this role would be a funded GA position. The Director of Advocacy would encourage more departments to send representatives, as many currently do not, and would advocate for parallel organizations within departments. The new structure will not change the intended size of the GSA, but ideally will encourage higher participation.

Clarified legislative roles and powers, along with election schedule changes, will help to maintain institutional memory and allow the GSA (or GPSS) to undertake larger, multi-year initiatives and carry learning through terms.

Discussion mainly focused on proposed changes in language, as well as the possible issues with staggered elections. The constitution will not go before CGPSP for a vote, but is presented for consideration.

Shared Governance and Commission and Senate Relations - Bob Hicok

Bob Hicok helped to lead discussion on how changes to shared governance may affect CGPSP. The new structural changes propose that each commission will report to a parent senate. Due to the broad nature of CGPSP, it has been suggested that CGPSP itself will report to the Faculty Senate, but several of its current tasks will change hands. Non-academic items (for example, the Mental Health Task Force) may shift to the commission that will report to GPSS (currently GSA). Other processes, like curriculum changes, may be streamlined to cut out the need for a commission vote entirely.

Discussion is ongoing, and your thoughts are appreciated.

### **Graduate School Updates**

- Next week is Graduate Education Week. The Graduate School will be hosting virtual gatherings for students and alumni. Events can be found here: <https://graduateschool.vt.edu/student-life/graduate-education-week.html>
- No updates on commencement or candidacy status

### **Constituency Updates**

#### Graduate Student Assembly – Maruf Hoque

As part of Graduate Education Week, GSA is hosting the Graduate Research Symposium next week. Speakers have been announced. Additional information can be found here: <https://gsa.vt.edu/programs/gsars.html>

#### Graduate Student Honor System – Kayla Alward

There are currently 3 active cases. GHs is also looking for a new Associate Chair.

#### University Library Committee – Nathaniel Porter

No update

#### Faculty Senate - Montasir Abbas

No update

#### Student Government Association – No Representative

#### Board of Visitors – Sabrina Sturgeon

Representative absent

### **University Council and Commission Updates**

#### University Council - Madlyn Frisard

UC approved Resolution 2020-2021C – the Resolution to Discontinue Master of Science Degree in Biomedical Technology Development and Management and had their 1st reading of the Resolution to Discontinue Degree: Doctor of Education (EdD) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Career and Technical Education (EDCT).

#### Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs – Lujean Baab

CAPFA continues to discuss the establishment of the Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate.

#### Commission on Student Affairs

No updates

Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies – Rachel Holloway  
Representative Absent.

**Announcements and Discussion**

None

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Kehr

On behalf of Karen P. DePauw, Ph.D.

Vice President and Dean of Graduate Studies