

Graduate Policy & Affairs Committee (GPAC)

Elizabeth Bifuh (absent), Ramanpreet Kaur, Saira Latif, Jeff Moore (absent), Suzanne Moore, Nese Orbey, Neil Shortland, Noah Van Dam, Kevin Petersen** (absent), Mai Nguyen¹, Nancy Ludwig¹, Deborah White¹ Mubarak Ayinla² (absent), E. Shakira Fedna² (absent), ** Ex-officio, ¹non-voting, ²student representative

MINUTES

https://uml.curriculog.com/agenda:161/form Tuesday February 18, 2025 at 3:30-5:00 PM in Saab ETIC – Perry Atrium

- 1. Executive Session (Noah Van Dam) Graduate Student Petitions in ETIC-445.
 - 1. Due to no faculty member in attendance to present student petitions the Chair asked for a motion to table the Executive Session. Motion by Suzanne Moore, seconded by Nese Orbey. The motion to table the Executive Session was approved: Yes 6, No 0, Abstain 0.
 - 2. Due to the arrival of a faculty member to present a student petition the Chair put forth a motion to hold the Executive Session, seconded by Neil Shortland. The motion to hold the Executive Session was approved: Yes 6, No 0, Abstain 0. The committee relocated to ETIC-445 for a private Executive Session and then returned to ETIC Perry Atrium.
- Minutes from the December 16, 2024 Meeting (Noah Van Dam) <u>https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2270/form</u> Motion to approve by Nese Orbey, second by Neil Shortland. Approved: Yes 6, No 0, Abstain 0.
- 3. Program Proposals (Noah Van Dam)

Change Plan

 M.S. Physics – Quantum Information Option (Viktor Podolskiy) – New Subplan https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2328/form Interdisciplinary: Physics, Math, and other departments. Questions from the committee focused on the resources needed and expected student numbers. Given that the courses are in the catalog and running now, there are no new resources required, and the program is somewhat unique in the area in that it is a master's and not just a graduate certificate in quantum information. There is also demand as evidenced by enrollments in the courses that will make up the degree. Motion to approve by Saira Latif, second by Ramanpreet Kaur. Approved: Yes 6, No 0, Abstain 0.

- 2. M.S. Physics General Option & Photonics Option (Viktor Podolskiy) Change Plan (All Subplans) <u>https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2288/form</u> Change list of approved electives: Add PHYS.7800 Graduate Physics Internship (proposed below); update catalog description, introduce internship into the program and formalize advising committee composition. Questions from the committee included whether the internship would be included and if it would be displacing a class. The internship would be used to replace seminar or colloquia credits. There was a question about whether an individual department could create their own thesis committee requirements, but as long as they don't conflict with university or college requirements and aren't so extreme as to be out of the ordinary then a department may set their own requirements. Motion to approve by Nese Orbey, second by Suzanne Moore. Approved: Yes 6, No 0, Abstain 0.
- 3. Ph.D. Physics Five Subplans: General, Aerospace Sciences, Energy Engineering, Medical Physics, Radiological Sciences (Viktor Podolskiy) – Change Plan (All Subplans) <u>https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2329/form</u> Change list of approved electives: Add PHYS.7800 Graduate Physics Internship (proposed below); update catalog description, update the committee language on all subplans, and update the addition of internship on all options with the exception of Medical Physics. Motion to approve modified committee composition language for all five subplans: General, Aerospace Sciences, Energy Engineering, Medical Physics, Radiological Sciences by Noah Van Dam, second by Saira Latif. Approved: Yes 6, No 0, Abstain 0. Motion to approve the addition of internship course as elective option to four subplans: General, Aerospace Sciences, Energy Engineering, Radiological Sciences by Noah Van Dam, second by Suzanne Moore. Approved: Yes 6, No 0, Abstain 0.
- 4. Graduate Certificate in Pathogen Diagnostics (Mingdi Yan) Change Plan (Certificate) <u>https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2072/form</u> This proposal had been tabled from the December meeting due to questions about the total number of credits a student might end up having to take. The Chemistry department is requesting a small change to the course list (a 2-credit course became a 3-credit course, but the total credits of the certificate aren't changing). Students previously had to take 5 courses, now it could be 4 courses with a strong motivation to take the 3-credit course. The committee expressed concern about the enrollment impact and wants evidence that the Chemistry department has talked to the other departments. Motion to table until we have evidence of consultation with the impacted department (Operations Management) by Noah Van Dam, second by Suzanne Moore. Tabled: Yes 6, No 0, Abstain 0.

4. Course Proposals (Noah Van Dam)

New Courses

- BIOL.5395 Model Organisms (*Jeff Moore*) New Course <u>https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2240/form</u> Motion to approve by Neil Shortland, second by Suzanne Moore. Approved: Yes 6, No 0, Abstain 0.
- PHYS.7800 Graduate Physics Internship (Viktor Podolskiy) New Course https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2271/form The Physics department envisions this to be a one-semester elective course. The committee would like to see a syllabus. Viktor attempted to create a syllabus for non-existent syllabi. Partha Chowdhury would like to have some broad language that can be used to justify that this is Curricular Practical Training. Students may earn 0-3 credits, depending upon department and faculty. Motion to approve by Suzanne Moore, second by Nese Orbey. Approved: Yes 5, No 1, Abstain 0.

Change Courses

- EECE.5330 Microwave Engineering (*Mike Geiger*) Change Course <u>https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2269/form</u> Change catalog number from 5330 to 5030 for consistency. Motion to approve by Suzanne Moore, second by Neil Shortland. Approved: Yes 6, No 0, Abstain 0.
- 4. EECE.5492 Systems, Modeling and Simulations for Digital Eng (Mike Geiger) Change Course <u>https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2264/form</u> Update catalog description. The suggestion was brought up to, whenever possible, remove references to specific software or tools from course descriptions. Any future changes to the course that would use a different tool would require changing the catalog description, but there is only one single instructor of the course for the foreseeable future so the department representative thought it is unlikely to become an issue in the near future. Motion to approve by Noah Van Dam, second by Neil Shortland. Approved: Yes 5, No 0, Abstain 1.
- 5. NURS.7070 Epidemiology of Health Promotion (Lisa Marchand) Change Course <u>https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2205/form</u> Rejected at the "Update Course in Catalog" step and returned to GPAC: NURS.7070 currently does not have a requirement for the graduate career. It does have the following requirement for the CSCE career: "Students with a CSCE or UGRD career need permission to take Graduate Level Courses". This is added to ALL graduate courses that do not have a requirement and cannot be removed. The course description includes the pre-requisite. Lisa Marchand does not want to make changes. The proposal has been deleted.
- NURS.7170 Evaluation Research (Lisa Marchand) Change Course <u>https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2119/form</u> Rejected at the "Update Course in

Catalog" step and returned to GPAC: NURS.7170 currently does not have a requirement for the graduate career. It does have the following requirement for the CSCE career: "Students with a CSCE or UGRD career need permission to take Graduate Level Courses". This is added to ALL graduate courses that do not have a requirement and cannot be removed. The course description includes the pre-requisite. Lisa Marchand does not want to make changes. The proposal has been deleted.

5. For Information Only

 MS and DNP in Nurse Course Outcomes (Lisa Marchand) – Handout <u>https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2340/form</u> All courses were updated according to accreditation guidelines. Courses and degree pathways were changed in 2024.

6. Discussion

GPAC New Course Proposal Guidelines (Noah Van Dam) – Other File
https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2203/form Noah would like to formalize what is
expected on course syllabi when a new course is being proposed, and would like
instructors to make the argument for why the course is need. Saira Latif expressed
concern about the choice to either accept or reject a proposal, with members reluctant
to reject if reasons not to approve are unclear. Noah will share the drafted guidelines
with the graduate college curriculum committees.

Meeting adjourned at 5:09pm

Next GPAC Meeting: Monday March 24, 2025 at 3:30-5:00pm in Alumni Hall 102.