

**Graduate Academic Affairs Committee
Saint Louis University
Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday, August 13, 2021**

Present: Martha Allen, Chris Arnatt, James Duffy, Felicia Echols, Lisa Fischer, Jesus Garcia-Martinez, Elizabeth Gockel-Blessing, Michael Elliot, Audra Frick, Elizabeth Gockel-Blessing, Christine Harper, Riyadh Hindi, Chayce Kenny, Helen Lach, Hisako Matsuo, Katelyn McConnell, Srikanth Mudigonda, J. Mark Pousson, William Rehg, Laura Russell, Steven Sanchez, Ann Scarlett, Robert Wood, and Gina Yosten

Excused: Anthony Breitbach, Latoya Cash, David Cassens, Marissa Cope, Jami Curley, Henrietta Ehrenreich, Angeles Encinar, Stacey Harrington, Jay Haugen, Irma Kuljanishvili, Maureen Wikete Lee, Ben Looker, Shreya Nagendra, Christopher Thomas, and April Trees,

The Graduate Academic Affairs Committee (GAAC) meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was presented to the committee for approval. The motion passed. The committee adopted the agenda with additions.

Associate Provost's Remarks

Announced that GAAC meetings will be by Zoom through November 2021.

Minutes

The May minutes passed with no corrections.

Correspondence

None

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE:

Dr. Lisa Fischer - Duolingo Score Concordance Update

Announced that in Spring 2020, Duolingo Score Concordance (DSC) replaced the English Language Proficiency Test due to the closing of test centers because of COVID. Below are key points to instituting the DSC:

- Focuses on general English with some academic content
- The test can be taken at home
- The DSC passing test score is 110, equivalent to the 550 TOEFL, which is aligned with other ivy league academic institutions

As a test, graduate programs are asked to use the DSC and include a writing component to help determine proficiency. The information collected will help determine how the DSC will be integrated into the graduate admission process.

Dr. James F. Duffy – Medicine Master’s in Medical Sciences

The Master’s in Health Science proposal would allow students to gracefully exit the medical school program, acknowledging their successful completion of the science courses in the pre-clinical phases.

Committee provided feedback with a recommendation for the proposal to conduct an assessment review. Committee sent the proposal back to the department for revisions.

Dr. Steven Sanchez – Policy on Establishing and Closing Academic Programs

The Policy on Establishing and Closing Academic Programs a draft policy that codifies and builds upon the University’s practice for establishing new academic programs. It also codifies a process for academic program closure. It identifies steps to ensure the review and endorsement of voluntary or involuntary proposals in a manner that is consistent with shared governance principles.

The task for the committee is to review the draft policy for feedback by September.

New Business

None

Announcements/Issues

Martha Allen announced the Graduate Student Reading Room 321 in Pius Library is now open with card access only for graduate students.

Chayce Kenny introduced himself as the new GSA representative to serve on GAAC.

The GAAC adjourned the meeting.

Felicia C. Echols, Ed.D.
Graduate Coordinator

Dr. Robert Wood
Associate Provost, Academic Affairs