Council on Graduate Studies

October 6, 2026

Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dr. Maranda Schaljo, Dr. Beth Gill, Dr. Gopal Periyanna, Dr. Michael Beck, Dr. Melissa Jones-Bromenshenkel.

Members Absent: Dr. Nichole Hugo, Dr. Toqeer Israr, Mr. Muzahid Abdullah Maruf.

Staff Present: Dean Angela Jacobs, Ms. Melanee Bates, Mr. Brad Bennington, Ms. Morgan Baker, Ms. Myra Taylor.

Guests: None.

1. Minutes

a. Approval of the September 22, 2026 meeting minutes

Hearing no corrections or revisions, the minutes stand as written.

2. Communication

a. EA-27-CLAS-03 HIS 4955 Course Description Revision

b. EA-27-CLAS-04 MA in History Revisions

c. EA-27-LCBT-05 TEC 5823 Create Z Course for Shared Credit in MS in Technology

d. EA-27-LCBT-06 Add/Remove Courses in MBA GIS degree

Motion: Dr. Jones-Bromenshenkel moved to accept all communication items; seconded by Dr. Gill. Outcome: Motion carried by acclamation.

3. Items to be Added to the Agenda

a. 27-03 MBA STEM Program Creation

Motion: Dr. Beck moved to add item 27-03 to the October 20 meeting agenda; seconded by Dr. Gill. Outcome: Motion approved (5-0-0).

4. Items to be Acted Upon

a. 27-02 Waiver and Appeal Form Revision

Motion: Dr. Jones-Bromenshenkel moved to amend the Waiver and Appeal Form to retain “The restriction on undergraduate access to courses numbered 5999 or higher” and strike “The 9 graduate semester hours required to hold a graduate assistantship”; seconded by Dr. Beck. Outcome: Motion approved (5-0-0).

Motion: Dr. Schaljo moved to approve the amended Waiver and Appeal Form Revision (27-02); seconded by Dr. Gill. Outcome: Motion approved (5-0-0).

5. Items Pending

a. None

6. Other

a. None

7. Committee Reports

a. Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC): Next meeting October 9, 2026.

b. Booth Collaborative Advisory Committee (BCAC): No meeting.

c. Textbook Rental Advisory (TRS): Dr. Schaljo reported the committee plans to meet later in October.

8. Dean's Report

a. 2027 3MT Competition

Dean Jacobs reported that, following the success of the inaugural 3MT Competition, the event will be held again on Research Day, April 21, 2027. Student information sessions are planned for November and January. Cash prizes will be $500 for first place, $200 for second place, and $100 for third place.

b. Fall Commencement for Graduate Students

One commencement ceremony will be held December 19, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Graduate and undergraduate programs will be recognized by their respective colleges during the ceremony.

c. Graduate Program of Excellence

Dean Jacobs reported that the Graduate Program of Excellence (GPE) will continue but will require modifications. Initial donor funding provided recipient programs $7,500 to promote, grow, and/or innovate their programs, along with an additional graduate assistantship; that funding has been exhausted. The Dean will explore whether an additional graduate assistantship can still be offered to recipients. She plans to ask CGS members to serve on a subcommittee in spring 2027 to update current GPE requirements.

9. Adjournment

Dr. Beck moved to adjourn; seconded by Dr. Jones-Bromenshenkel. The meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

Summary of Motions and Outcomes

#	Motion	Mover	Seconder	Outcome
1	Accept communication items	Jones-Bromenshenkel	Gill	Acclamation
2	Add 27-03 to October 20 agenda	Beck	Gill	5-0-0
3	Amend Waiver and Appeal Form	Jones-Bromenshenkel	Beck	5-0-0
4	Approve amended 27-02	Schaljo	Gill	5-0-0
5	Adjourn	Beck	Jones-Bromenshenkel	Adjourned