College of Education (COE) Graduate Programs Committee (GPC)

Meeting Minutes

April 2025

Call to order: *The COE-GPC meeting was called to order via Zoom video-conferencing at 1:00 pm on April 30, 2025.*

In Attendance: *Maysaa Barakat (ELRM), Katie Friesen (ELRM), Sharon Darling (DSE), Lisa Finnegan (DSE), Christy Timm Fulkerson (CSD), Liliana Zmijak (CSD), Adrianna Labarta (CE), Elizabeth Villares Sacks (CE, Chair of GPC), Sabrina Sembiante (C&I), Michelle-McGovern (C&I), Deborah Shepherd (Dean's Representative)*

Roll Call and Convening Announcements; *Welcome extended and committees thank for all their work this year* by *E. Villares sacks, GPC COE Chair*

1. **Minutes Approval.** *Minutes from March 2025 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve made by L. Zmijak and seconded by S. Sembiante.*

2. **Recorder for Minutes.** *Recorder role for the COE GPC rotates among the committee members. Lisa F. volunteered to take this meeting's minutes*.

3. **Curriculum Committee Report and Recommendations** (presented by Elizabeth S).
   Curriculum Sub-committee reviewed two curriculum items.
   - *DCI: Program change of concentration title from Early Childhood Education to Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education. The new concentration will require 9 credits/2 courses from a core concentration and 6 credits/2 courses from a set of 5 course options to choose from as electives. One of the new courses (electives) is undergoing the approval process and is currently being offered as a seminar until approved. A new combined degree program between DCI and the College of Science for a combined (4+1) B.A. in Biology & M.Ed. in Secondary Education. A review of the Biology coursework indicates that some courses are not listed in the catalog and the committee had other questions on the impact of departments/colleges.*

   The subcommittee recommended approval on the requested changes for the Early Childhood program and will request the combined degree return to DCI and resubmit in August. GPC accepted the subcommittee's recommendations.

4. **Student Petitions Committee Report and Recommendations** (presented by Sharon D.).
   Eight Petitions from two departments were reviewed.
   - *CE: Four petitions considered: One is to waive the GRE, one is to request a leave of absence, one is to waive continuous enrollment, and one is to waive recency of credit. The Petitions Subcommittee recommended approving all, with the caveat that leave of absence is granted until the end of fall 2025 (the student would not have been enrolled in spring, summer, and fall 2025). Student is advised to re-petition at the end of fall 02025 if additional time away is needed.*
   - *EDLRM: Four petitions considered: Three to waive recency of credit, one to waive continuous enrollment. The Petitions Subcommittee recommended approval on all four.*

   The COE-GPC accepted the recommendations from the Petitions Subcommittee, approving all petitions with the caveat stated for the leave of absence petition

5. **University Graduate Council (UGC)/University Graduate Programs Committee (UGPC) Updates** (presented by Elizabeth S.) *No updates. University committee last met in March prior to previous COE GPC meeting.*

6. **Other Business.**
   - *S. Darling shared that at Senate President Hasner mentioned that FAU has some students whose student visas were revoked and that we have no visibility into the reasons why, however since that time Bill Trapani, current FAU Faculty Senate President, shared with faculty that two of those students had their visas reinstated.*
   - *S. Sembiante congratulated both M. Barakat and M. Vaughn-McGovern on their promotion to Full Professor*
   - *E. Villares-Sacks noted that the University P&T committee have requested candidates be informed in a more timely manner on the university vote before portfolios move forward to the Provost.*

7. **Adjourn:** *S. Darling. moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by M. Vaughn-McGovern. Meeting adjourned at 1:32 pm.*