

Minutes of CGSR Meeting #12 on 11/30/2023

The Committee on Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR) held its **twelfth meeting** of AY 23/24 on **Nov 30, 2023 (Thursday)** at 3 pm ET via Zoom and in person.

Present: Sarah Olson (MA, Chair), Yunus Telli (HUA), Dave Medich (PH), Luis Vidali (BBT), Terri Camesano (Dean of Graduate Studies), Bogdan Vernescu (Vice Provost for Research)

Guests: Sarah Miles (University Registrar), Melissa Terrio (Grad Recruitment and Admissions), Carolina Ruiz (CS+Neuro), Alex Wyglinski (Associate Dean of Graduate Studies)

Prof. Olson called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm (US Eastern Time).

1. The committee reviewed and voted on the minutes of the 11/16/2023 meeting # 11.
2. The committee discussed a student petition that was received late. The committee opposed the motion to approve the petition.
3. Prof Carolina Ruiz visited CGSR to present a new joint Bachelor's/MS degree with Assumption in Neuroscience.
 - a. This provides a mechanism to recruit talented undergraduates in Neuroscience or a related Bachelor's degree to double count up to two courses and then complete a MS at WPI. Students would apply in their junior year and undergo the same admissions process as a BS/MS student that completed their BS at WPI.
 - b. HECCMA already provided a framework for Assumption to take undergraduate courses at WPI but now up to two of these courses could be WPI graduate courses that could double count for both degree programs.
 - c. NECHE was consulted and that is the reason only 2 undergraduate courses from Assumption may potentially count towards the WPI MS degree.
 - d. Course requirements are in line with the MS in Neuro and equivalent courses between WPI and Assumption have already been outlined in the proposed plan of study.
 - e. Assumption attracts a different profile student than WPI for undergraduate programs, so this would not negatively impact our undergraduate programs but could increase synergies with regional universities and provide a pipeline of domestic students interested in staying in the area.
4. Dean Camesano informed CGSR of the Graduate Vision Task Force. This will help to provide a vision for graduate education at WPI and the goal is to get feedback from different stakeholders. There will be an effort to identify what makes WPI and our programs distinctive, understanding price point vs expected jobs and earnings post-graduation, as well as an effort to think specifically about different graduate student populations (e.g. domestic full time vs part time, international full time vs domestic students). A portion of CGSR members or potentially a CGSR appointee will participate in future sessions.
5. Discussion of Motions from Aerospace Engineering
 - a. There was discussion of pros/cons of 0 vs 1-credit for Dissertation and Prelim

- b. The change of the internship course number might lead to an inconsistency with other offerings in other departments.
- c. There was a question about the proposed grading for Dissertation and Prelim
- d. We will invite representatives from AE to the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.