

## Minutes of CGSR Meeting #22 on 03/14/2024

The Committee on Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR) held its twenty-two meeting of AY 23/24 on March 14, 2024 (Thursday) at 3 pm ET via Zoom and in person.

Present: Sarah Olson (MA, Chair), David Medich (Physics), Luis Vidali (BBT, Secretary D term), Purvi Shah (BUS), Yunus Teliel (ISGD)

Guests: Sarah Miles (Registrar), Gillian Smith (IMGD Director)

Prof. Olson called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm (US Eastern Time).

1. The committee reviewed and approved the minutes of the 2/29/2024 meeting #21.
2. The committee approved the motion to change the number of the course entitled Machine Learning for Engineering & Science Applications from “DS557” to “DS5006,” including the necessary corrections to the record.
3. The committee discussed the updated motion from the Department of Social Science and Policy Studies (SSPS) to create the DEV 550 Policy Evaluation course. The committee recommended the motion be returned to clarify the need to use the term “program evaluation” in the catalog description instead of “program policy,” which is the name of the course.
4. The committee discussed the need for better preparation of the motions submitted by departments and programs to the committee to help reduce the burden on the committee in editing the motions and finding typographical errors, which should allow the committee to focus on higher-level discussions such as graduate policy level problems.
5. The committee approved a group of motions: Business Special Topics Courses - ETR 598, MIS 598, OBC 598, FIN 598, MKT 598.
6. Prof. Gillian Smith, Director of IMGD, presented a motion from IMGD for changes to the graduate catalog for our MFA in Interactive Media and Game Design, which the IMGD faculty voted on 2/29/24.
  - a. The motion aims to reduce the number of credits required for the MFA to 45 from 51, putting us better in line with peer institutions. The motion also Introduces a Bachelor’s/Master’s option for the MFA to allow students who complete their undergraduate degree at WPI to have a reduced credit requirement for completing their MFA, similar to the BS/MS program.
  - b. The committee was informed that WPI’s program is currently longer than other programs, which are typically 2-3 years, and that credits may not be the best way to compare MFAs. Prof. Smith also mentioned that there are several faculty members holding MFA degrees at WPI, because MFA is a terminal degree.
  - c. The Registrar recommended separating the motion into three different motions. One to create a Bachelor’s/Master’s degree option section in the catalog listing all available options, a second one to remove the existing section of the catalog

concerning the BS/MS, and a third one for changing the MFA requirements for 51-45, in the last motion it should be specified IMGD 6000 and 6001 will be kept in the books.

7. The committee noted that WPI's BS/MS webpage shows a variety of degrees (such as BS/ME), but the buttons all say BS/MS.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.