

Minutes of CGSR Meeting #14 on 4/30/2020

The Committee on Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR) held its 14th meeting of AY '19/'20 on April 30, 2020 (Thursday) via Zoom.

Present: G. Fischer (ME, Chair), M. Rolle (BME), H. Walker (CEE, Secretary), T. Camesano (Dean of Graduate Studies), Katie Gandomi (Robotics), M. Demetriou (ME), S. Johnson (FBS)

Guests: K. McAdams (Director of Academic Program Planning), Melissa Terrio (Executive Director of Graduate Studies), Sarah Miles (Registrar)

Prof. Fischer called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

1. The minutes of Meeting #13 were reviewed and approved with minor revision.
2. Given the Covid-19 pandemic, the committee agreed to meet during the summer as needed to address urgent business.
3. PET 20-003 - Petition to Readmit after Suspension. The petition was reviewed and approved.
4. PET 20-004 - Petition to Readmit after Suspension. The petition was reviewed and approved on condition the student develop a plan of study approved by their faculty advisor.
5. Committee organization for next AY. The membership of the committee will remain the same through A-term of AY '20/'21 with newly elected members beginning their term in B-term. Prof. Walker was elected to serve as the next Chair of the committee. He will serve as co-Chair over the summer with Prof. Fischer and through A-term. The committee may choose to hold another election of Chair at the beginning of B-term once the new elected members are present.
6. Committee Feedback to CERT. The committee discussed the re-opening of WPI and provided the following feedback to the CERT. The committee suggested that students carrying out research, in addition to faculty, should be prioritized. Also, it was noted that not all students carrying out research are serving as TAs or RAs and so faculty should be consulted to identify all students involved in research. It was also suggested that a process similar to the "Review of On-Campus Research Continuation Appeals" be used to prioritize and approve the re-starting of specific research activities.
7. Motion 20-024 - Revised Data Science Certificate. The committee reviewed and approved the revised motion.
8. Motion 20-039 - Graduate Plus/Minus Grading. Prof. Demetriou presented a motion to add +/- grading to graduate courses. The committee agreed the first step in reviewing this motion should be to consult with the Registrar to determine the feasibility of implementing +/- grading for graduate courses. If feasible, the committee would reach out to programs, faculty and students for additional input.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold Walker
Secretary