

Minutes of CGSR Meeting #8 on 12/7/2020

The Committee on Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR) held its 8th meeting of 2020-21 on December 7, 2020 (Monday) via Zoom.

Present: T. Camesano (Dean of Graduate Studies), M. Demetriou (AE), L. Fichera (RBE), K. Gandomi (RBE), S. Johnson (FBS), D. Korkin (CS), M. Rolle (BME, Chair), S. Shell (BBT), B. Vernescu (Vice Provost Research)

Guests: A. Gold (University Librarian), M. Elkabakh (CS), K. McAdams (Director Academic Programs), S. Miles (Registrar), R. Rao (Associate Dean of Graduate Studies), M. Terrio (Executive Director of Graduate Studies)

Prof. Rolle called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

1. The minutes of meeting #7 were revised and approved.
2. Graduate student Katie Gandomi was thanked for her service to CGSR.
3. To ensure timely review of motions, M. Rolle proposed to revise and vote on consent agenda motions electronically prior to the holiday break, and to hold a special meeting before C-term begins to discuss items that might be presented at the February 11 faculty meeting.
4. M. Rolle was elected as CGSR Chair for C-Term 2021; D. Korkin was elected as CGSR Chair for D-Term 2021. S. Johnson was elected as Secretary for Spring Semester 2021.
5. A student petition regarding FBS degree requirements was approved (S. Miles; S. Johnson). Conducting audits for graduate students prior to the graduating term was discussed as a valuable means of identifying potential issues early.
6. Several Data Science motions were presented by M. Elkabakh and approved, including:
 - A motion to reduce the number of M.S. in Data Science degree credits from 33 to 30.
 - A motion to waive the M.S. degree requirement of the Integrative Data Science Core Area for students who are completing or have completed B.S. degree in the WPI Data Science program.
 - A motion to add the course, MIS 587-Business Applications in Machine Learning, as a core Data Science course.
7. Several FBS motions were presented by S. Johnson and approved, including:
 - A motion to revise the MS in Innovation with User Experience (IUX)
 - A motion to create a Custom-Designed Specialty
 - A motion to create a Research Specialty
8. Potential revisions to Spring Semester 2021 academic calendar were presented for discussion (R. Rao). The effects on the onboarding of graduate students to work in labs was discussed (referencing the Holiday Break Researcher Lab Access Plan Flow Chart) as well as any impacts on graduate student TA/RA reimbursement and internships.

9. University Librarian A. Gold reviewed e-Project registration and submission workflow, as well as current policies/processes for embargos, redactions, and revisions for ETDs. Opportunities for revisions to policy and practice were discussed.
10. Several motions from the Aerospace Engineering Department (AED) were presented by M. Demetriou, and approved electronically, including:
 - A motion to remove cross-listing of 10 AE/ME courses
 - A motion to drop 20 AE courses
 - A motion to add 20 courses.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Johnson
FBS
Secretary