



Committee approved: [02-26-2020]  
Sent to ACC: [02-26-20]  
ACC Approved: [-----]

**GRADUATE FACULTY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL  
Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2020**

**Meeting Location:** BOT Room OM 340

*GC Chair* Sofield called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m., welcoming a total of 14 attendees (roster attached).

**ACTION ITEMS**

A **motion** to endorse the Decision Package in its three major requests for expanded tuition waiver authority, staff support for marketing and recruitment with increased operating budget, and an increase in TA stipend levels to achieve target rate by 2024 (moved by Mark Staton and seconded by Patrick Czichas) **passed** by unanimous consent.

**Consent Agenda:**

- Meeting minutes of 02-11-2020 were approved.

**Review of Curriculum Proposals:** 7 curriculum proposals were reviewed and discussed via [Curriculog agenda](#) (individual proposals linked in summary below).

- 7 proposals approved and sent to the Academic Coordinating Commission (ACC)
  - 1 Accounting course cancellation
    - [MPAC 565](#)
  - 1 Accounting course revision
    - [MPAC 590](#): Internship in Professional Accounting (credits)
  - 1 Accounting program of study revision
    - [Professional Accounting, Non-Thesis, MPAcc](#)
  - 1 Business Administration program of study revision
    - [Business Administration, Daytime, MBA](#)
  - 2 Environmental Sciences program of study revisions
    - [Environmental Science, Marine and Estuarine Science \(MES\), Thesis, MS](#)
    - [Environmental Science, Thesis, MS](#)
- 1 proposal approved (with minor revisions to catalog description) and sent to ACC
  - 1 new Accounting course
    - [MPAC 564](#): Professional Accounting Research

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Decision Packages:** *Chair* Ruth Sofield opened a discussion about the role of GFGC in supporting and advocating for graduate students at Western, particularly regarding needed stipend increases. The Decision Package will be presented to UPRC on March 4<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm in OM 530. Sofield asked if GFGC should take further actions in addition to submitting the Decision Package. Craig Dunn suggested that Dave Patrick cede part of his UPRC presentation time to a current graduate student to give a human face to the problems

of the current salary structure. Gabe Gossett recommended holding a series of hearings to gather stories and data to present to UPRC. Craig Dunn suggested that the GFGC members attend the UPRC meeting as a group with visible buttons or badges advocating for pay equity.

**Transitioning to GFGC:** *GC Chair* Ruth Sofield tabled the discussion until *Vice-chair* Elizabeth Boland can be present.

**Grad School Dean /Vice Provost for RSP Interview Process:** Search Committee member Patty Bourne reported that five candidates are currently being considered; three will be invited to campus. Robert Mitchell will look up questions that were used during the last interview process for distribution at the next meeting. Michael Barr encouraged the committee to invite as many candidates as possible to campus for interviews.

**Program Reviews:** Chair Sofield asked program review chairs who have not done so contact her for Qualtrics surveys.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m.**

### GRADUATE COUNCIL – ROSTER 2019-2020

VOTING ATTENDEES			NON-VOTING ATTENDEES	
Craig Dunn	Management (GS)	P	<b>Ex Officio members</b>	
Clint Spiegel	Chemistry (CSE)	P	David Patrick, <i>Interim Dean, Graduate School</i>	--
Linda Keeler	Health and Human Development (CHSS)	P	Michael Barr, <i>Associate Dean, Graduate School</i>	P
Elizabeth Boland (Vice-Chair)	Health and Community Studies (WCE)	--	<b>Recorder</b>	
Ruth Sofield (Chair)	Environmental Science (HCE)	P	Dayna Patterson, <i>Graduate School</i>	P
Patty Bourne	Music (CFPA)	P	<b>Guests</b>	
Mark Staton	Finance & Mktg (CBE)	P	Megan Spiegel, <i>Graduate School</i>	--
Gabe Gossett	Library	P		
Chris Loar	English (CHSS)	P		
Kristi Lemm	Psychology (CHSS)	P		
<b>At Large</b>				
Tammi Laninga	Environmental Studies	P		
Robert Mitchell	Geology	P		
Wayne Landis	Environmental Science	--		
<b>Student members</b>				
Jasmine Balasa, <i>GSAC</i>		--		
Preston Smith, <i>GSAC</i>		--	<b>Voting attendees</b>	12
Patrick Czichas, <i>AS</i>		P	<b>Non-voting attendees</b>	2
José Cervantes-Aguilar, <i>AS</i>		--	<b>TOTAL ATTENDEES</b>	14