

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Graduate Studies Executive Committee**  
**Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 3:00pm**  
**Provost's Conference Room, Derryberry**

**Members Present**

Dr. Julie C. Baker—Executive Officer  
Dr. Alice Camuti—Ex-Officio  
Dr. Michael Burdick—Chair  
Dr. Dan Combs  
Dr. William Eberle  
Dr. Dennis Tennant for  
    Dr. Mike Gotcher  
Dr. Rachel Hall  
Dr. Samantha Hutson  
Dr. Steve Isbell  
Dr. Barbara Jared  
Dr. Hayden Mattingly  
Dr. Tony Michael  
Dr. Allan Mills  
Dr. Julie Pharr  
Dr. Michael Phillips  
Dr. Darron Smith  
Dr. Jeremy Wendt  
Dr. Lisa Zagumny  
McKenna Stevens  
Braxton Westbrook

**Members Absent**

Dr. Alfred Kalyanapu  
Dr. Thomas Payne  
Dr. Bedelia Russell  
(non-voting)  
Dr. Joseph Slater  
Dr. John Zhu  
Kelsey Rainey  
Omar Abdelsalam

**Other Attendees**

Karen Warren  
Lucinda Morabito  
Stephanie Flores  
Shelia Kendrick  
Amanda Carroll  
Dr. Ashley Akenson  
Dr. Chris Wilson  
Dr. Indranil Bhattacharya  
Dr. Syed Hasan  
Dr. Linda Null

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1. Approval of the agenda.

**Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments: none**

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

2. Approval of the minutes from the March 4, 2025, meeting.

**Motion to approve the minutes: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments: none**

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

3. Proposal by the College of Arts and Sciences, Department of History to add two courses, Effective Fall 2025:

- a. HIST 5380 Black Women in U.S. History Pg 9
- b. HIST 5770 History of India and South Asia Pg 20

**Motion to approve the proposal: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments:** Dr. Allan Mills presented the proposal to add to graduate 5000-levels to current 4000-level courses. HIST 5390 was a previous course that was thought to have already been approved but no record could be found. HIST 5770 is completely new.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

4. Proposal by the College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Chemistry to update requisites for the following courses, Effective Fall 2025: Pg 27

- a. CHEM5210 Chemistry of Polymers
- b. CHEM5310 Nuclear Chemistry and Radiochemistry
- c. CHEM5410 Forensic Chemistry
- d. CHEM5610 General Biochemistry I
- e. CHEM5520 Instrumental Analysis
- f. CHEM5620 General Biochemistry II

**Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments:** Amanda Carroll presented the proposal to update the list of cross-listed courses. Chem 5210, 5310, and 5610 have been updated by a new professor. Chem 5410 general prerequisite is redundant; either/or course will be sufficient. Chem 5520 will provide another option since many students take survey instead of lab.

Dr. Mattingly suggested clarifying that only one course has a grade requirement by restructuring the sentence (5610): CHEM 3010 with grad of B or higher or CHEM 3020.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

5. Proposal by the College of Business, Department of Business to modify the Agribusiness Certificate coursework to align with the 12-credit hour certificate, Effective Fall 2025.

**Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments:** Dr. Pharr stated that this is the last business certificate to reduce credit hours.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

6. Proposal by the College of Education and Human Sciences, Department of Curriculum and Instruction to add a course, CUED7200 Food System Programs/FEW Nexus; and to edit the following courses, Effective Fall 2025: Pg 32
  - a. CUED6800 Field Experience
  - b. EDUL7200 Equity Literacy
  - c. EDUL7400 Literacies of Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Populations

**Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments:** Dr. Wendt proposed updates to the courses to make them more current.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

7. Proposal by the College of Engineering, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering to reduce the credit hours in the master's program thesis option from 31 credit hours to 30 credit hours and the non-thesis option from 34 credit hours to 30 credit hours, effective Fall 2025: \*AC Pg 43

**Motion to approve the proposal: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments:** Dr. Bhattacharya stated that after looking at other universities, they found that a 30-credit hour thesis and non-thesis degree is very common. To be more competitive, the department proposes reducing the credit hours for both the master's programs. The change will primarily be in the number of research hours.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

8. Proposal by the College of Interdisciplinary Studies, School of Environmental Studies to add a new course, ESS5800 Field Based Learning, Effective Fall 2025. Pg 47

**Motion to approve the proposal: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments:** Dr. Mattingly stated that as a topics class, it was very popular so they decided to make it permanent. Depending on the site location, the course will be 1-6 credits. The faculty work to make the costs affordable to students.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

9. Proposal by the College of Engineering, Department of General & Industrial Engineering to add new courses, ENGR6310 Graduate Engineering Analysis I and ENGR6320 Graduate Engineering II, Effective Fall 2025. Pg 53

**Motion to approve the proposal: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments:** Dr. Wilson proposed new courses which have been designed to support graduate students.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

10. Proposal by the College of Arts and Sciences, Department of English to clarify the admission criteria regarding QPA evaluation if the student is seeking an assistantship in the Creative Writing Master's program, Effective Fall 2025. Pg 60

**Motion to approve the proposal: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments:** Dr. Null proposed a change in the admission requirement for creative writing to evaluate the overall QPA instead of the QPA in English only, unless they are an English department graduate assistant.

**Dr. Burdick** asked if any major could then apply? To which Dr. Null commented, essentially yes.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

11. Proposal by the College of Engineering, Department of General & Industrial Engineering to add a new master's program in Industrial and Systems Engineering. The new degree will be 31 credit hours and offer a thesis and project option. The following proposed new courses will support the new degree, which will be effective Fall 2026. Friendly amendment, the project option is available online and an English language proficiency test has been added to the catalog information from what was submitted in the program documentation. \*AC Pg 61

- a. ISE5410 Systems Simulation Pg 140
- b. ISE/ENGR5500 Reliability and Quality Engineering Pg 143
- c. ISE5710 Economic Evaluation of Engineering Projects Pg 146
- d. ISE6460 Optimization Methods Pg 149
- e. ISE6500 Human Factors in Systems Design Pg 152
- f. ISE6800 Systems Engineering and Life-Cycle Economics Pg 155
- g. ISE6920 ISE Professionalism Pg 6920
- h. ISE6950 Professional Project Pg 161
- i. ISE6970 Special Topics in ISE Pg164

j. ISE6990 Research and Thesis (existing course, updated) Pg 167

**Motion to approve the proposal: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments:** D. Wilson stated that the department would like to bring back the master's degree program, which is being proposed along with courses to support the degree. Once they get faculty established, they may try to also establish a doctoral degree.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

## 12. Informational Items

- a. The information regarding the option to repeat a Directed Studies, Selected Topics, or Special Topics course was missing from the catalog and has been updated for the following courses: CEE6970, PSY6940, PSY6941, and PSY5913

## 13. Other Matters

**Comments/Amendments:** None

## 14. Adjourn

**Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Lisa Zagumny**

**Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith**

**Comments/Amendments:** none

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by **All** Opposed by None

Minutes prepared by S. Flores, Reviewed by Dr. A. Camuti, and Approved by the GSE Committee.