

UNL Graduate Council Minutes  
February 1, 2024  
Via Zoom  
2:30 p.m.

Attending: Chris Bilder, Jennifer Clarke, Venn Jemkur, Tom Kubick, Xu Li, Maria Marron, Katie Mowat, and Brenda Wristen. Dean Hope presiding. Eva Bachman from Graduate Studies in attendance

1. Approval of minutes for November 2, 2023: Motion was made to approve minutes as presented. Motion passed.
2. Program deletion – A proposal to delete the MScT in Department of Mathematics due to lack of admissions and students preferring the online MS degree was discussed. No students are currently in the degree. Motion made to approve, seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Program deletion – A proposal to delete the MA in Department of Mathematics due to lack of students seeking the degree in the past 5 years was discussed. Math maintains an MS degree. No students are currently in the MA degree. Motion made to approve. Motion passed.
4. Student appeal – Discussion on the appeal of termination of program by a student in Earth and Atmospheric Science. UNL Graduate Council subcommittee had previously granted the appeal. This action was an appeal from the program. Following discussion, the UNL Graduate Council affirmed the student's appeal. Motion was made to deny the program's appeal, seconded. Motion passed 6 votes to 2.
5. Proposal to clarify procedures for comprehensive exam retakes - The Dean proposed a clarification of the policy on comprehensive exams explicitly requiring at least one retake following a failure to pass. After discussion, the motion was tabled to allow Graduate Council members to discuss with the faculty they represent.
6. Proposal to clarify policy on graduate course syllabi requirements - Dr. Eva Bachman presented common issues encountered when UNL Graduate Council members are reviewing new courses or modification of courses. Council members routinely request items not explicitly listed in the current policy. Dr. Niehaus noted that the Faculty Senate guidelines do include statements that address the concerns. Motion was tabled to allow for identification of the link to the Faculty Senate information and further clarification/enhanced wording in the catalog of the requirements for 400/800 differentiation.
7. Graduate Assembly Report: President Katie Mowat gave a report of issues that are being discussed, committees involved and activities of the GSA for the spring.

Meeting adjourned: 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eva Bachman, Ph.D.