



GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

February 23rd, 2026

The Graduate Council met in person on Monday, February 23rd, 2026, at 2:00pm. in Room #583, Close-Hipp Building.

Graduate Council members present: Dr. Bill Hauk, Chair; Drs. Rachel Bush, John Doering-White, Daniel Kilpatrick, Kevin Lu, Terrance McAdoo, Scott Parrott, Kirk Randazzo, Jill Stewart, Ari Streisfeld, Sanjib Sur, Sriram Venkataraman, Rachel Williams, Mike Wirth, Mark Yancey, and Arunav Das (GSA).

Graduate Council members absent: Drs. Sourav Banerjee, Lorie Donelle, Ashley Gess, Andrew Graciano, Carolyn Harmon, David Mott, Jill Stewart (excused), Ari Streisfeld, and Nick Watanabe.

Graduate School Representatives: Dr. Lara L. Anderson, Dr. Lingyu (Lucy) Yu (excused), Dr. Aaron Marterer (excused), Dr. Matt Klopfenstein, Dale Moore, Kamirah Williams, and Wanda Barr.

Provost Office Representatives: Trena Houp (excused) and Dr. LaTrice Ratcliff-Small.

Guests: Dr. Beth Barnes (COMD) and Harlan Smith (ISSS).

NOTE: These minutes will become final on March 23, 2026, if not challenged.

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda (Bill Hauk, Chair)

The meeting was called to order at 2:05pm, and the Agenda was approved.

2. Approval of the Minutes from January 26, 2026. Approved actions by Graduate Council become effective 30 days after posting. A copy is available on the Graduate School website at: <https://bit.ly/3SvPO0E>.

The minutes from January were unanimously approved.

3. Report of the Chair (Bill Hauk)

No report.

4. Report of the Interim Dean of the Graduate School (Lara Lomicka Anderson)

Interim Dean Anderson

- Graduate Student Athlete Updates:
 - o Number of student athletes has increased in graduate programs.
 - o This year there have been changes in the transfer portal dates.
 - o A Graduate Student Athletic Academic Checklist was circulated that addresses travel letters, progress reports, and injury illness notification.
- The graduate school encourages Colleges and Schools to identify a process for how they elect faculty members to serve on Graduate Council.

5. Report of the Graduate Student Association (Arunav Das)

Arunav Das

- GSA Updates:
 - o Spring Social – More than 50 graduate students attended on February 19th. Lunch, student engagement activities, and door prizes
 - o Attended the Center for Student Engagement Collaboration Event on February 17th.
 - o GSA has planned a Women’s Luncheon for March 6th to celebrate International Women’s Day before Spring Break. This event will include a Women's Student Photography competition on the theme of nature and women.
 - o Housing meeting with property management to discuss convenient housing opportunities, fee reductions, transfer fees, and security concerns.
- GSA Events Schedule for this Spring:
 - o Elections: Last week of March
 - o Spring Events (Tentative List)
 - o Affinity Group Student Luncheon (Tentative date: March 27/April 3)
 - o DC Advocacy Trip (1st week of March, Preparing topics, Funding, International student issues)
 - o Leadership Summit Proposal (March 28)
 - o Graduate Appreciation Week (March 30-April 3: Suggestions welcomed)
 - o Headshot Event (Tentative date: April 10, Time: 1.00 PM – 4.00 PM)
 - o Spring Town Hall (Tentative date: April 16, Time: 4.00 PM – 5.30 PM)
 - o GSA Awards (during EOY celebration, for 3 students, SEC awards for 3 students)
 - o End of semester celebration (April 24)

6. Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee (Kirk Randazzo)

Kirk Randazzo

- Update on academic standards policy:
 - o Committee will meet with Dr. Aaron Marterer, Interim Associate Vice Provost for Graduate Education, to discuss an updated academic standards policy proposal language.
 - o Automation process needed for when a student moves from being in good academic standing to academic probation to academic suspension if they fall below a 3.00 Cumulative GPA.
 - o Automation process would allow the bulk of these cases to be handled by the Registrar’s Office instead of by one individual in the Graduate School.

7. Report of the 500/600 Level Courses (Bill Hauk for Trena Houp)

This report is presented to Council for informational purposes only; no action is necessary.

500/600 Courses for February 2026 Grad Council

(CCP = Course Change Proposal; NCP=New Course Proposal). Total: 7

CSCE 590 (3) Topics: Information Technology (CCP add online: Summer 2026)

ECHE 574 (3) Combustion inactivation (Inactivate: Fall 2027)

ECON 530 (3) The Economics of Education change (CCP: Fall 2027)
EDEX 523 (3) Intro to Special Education (CCP: Fall 2027)
ENCP 602 (3) Intro to Engineering Design for Teachers (Inactivate: Fall 2027)
MATH 523 (3) Math Modeling Nat. Phenomena (CCP: Fall 2027)
THEA 512 (3) EOS Family Console Programming (NCP: Spring 2026)

8. Associate Graduate Faculty Nominations Total: 2 (Bill Hauk for Lingyu Yu)

Name: **Damilla Odulowu, PhD**
 Program: School of Journalism and Mass Communications
 Term: Spring 2026 – Fall 2031

Name: **Elizabeth Barnes, PhD**
 Program: Communication Sciences and Disorders, School of Public Health
 Term: Spring 2026 – Fall 2031

These nominations were unanimously approved by Graduate Council.

9. Fellowships and Scholarships Committee (Daniel Kilpatrick)

Daniel Kilpatrick

- Presidential Fellows updates:
 - o They will select 10 nominees overall.
 - o They have made offers to 5 from Round 1 and are waiting for acceptance from these individuals.
 - o The deadline for Round 2 nominations is March 6th.
 - o They will review and make 5 additional offers.

10. Report of the Graduate Curriculum Committee (Beth Barnes)

Below is a list of proposals reviewed by the Committee. Total: 3

- **BMSC 704** (1) Experimental Design, Data Management, and Analysis for Biomedical Research (NCP: Summer 2026)
- **Journalism and Mass Communications, M.A., dual with master's in Global Communication and Innovation Technology at National Chengchi University in Taipei, Taiwan** (New dual degree: Fall 2026)
- **Journalism and Mass Communications, M.M.C. dual with master's in Global Communication and Innovation Technology at National Chengchi University in Taipei, Taiwan** (New dual degree: Fall 2026)

These proposals were unanimously approved by Graduate Council.

11. Report of the Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee (Sriram Venkataraman)

Mark Yancey

- Update on the framing of GAP Committee bylaws
 - o Committee has been tasked to streamline the process by which this committee has been operating for the past several years.
 - o They have been seeking guidance from three different references when cases are received: the specific regulations for appeals, the specific provision for exception

- petitions, and the Graduate Council Manual.
- They consolidated this information into the new Bylaws and included three additional areas: The Standard of Review, Confidentiality, and Conflicts of Interest. A copy is attached for your review. A vote will be taken later.

12. Other Committee Reports

None.

13. Old Business

Harlan Smith, Director, Division of ISSS

- Update on ISSS Education and Outreach
- PowerPoint Presentation attached.

14. New Business

None.

15. Good of the Order

Reminder Dates:

- February 25: Dean's Award for Doctoral and Masters Achievement nominations deadline.
- March 3: Webinar on **Navigating Your Mentoring Relationship with Your Graduate Advisor** at 12noon. <https://tinyurl.com/Navigating-Graduate-Mentorship> .
- March 6: Presidential Fellowship nomination process now open. [Presidential Fellowship website](#). The following nomination deadline is as follows:
Round 2: March 6
- March 6: Graduate Student Awards nominations deadline.
- March 16: Trustee Fellowships nominations deadline.
- March 23: Next Graduate Council meeting on Monday, March 23rd at 2:00pm, Close-Hipp, Room #583.
- March 27: First Generation Symposium 2026, 9:00am – 1:15pm, University Conference Center (8th floor, Close-Hipp)
- March 31: Southern Regional Education Board Doctoral Scholars Program (SREB) application deadline. [Doctoral Scholars Program](#) .
- April 14: Awards Day Ceremony.
- May 11-22: Dissertation Writing Academy - In Person.
- June 8-26: Dissertation Writing Academy - Online.

16. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:06p.m.

Lara L. Anderson, Interim Dean

CC: Michael Amiridis, President
Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, Provost
Lara L. Anderson, Interim Dean of the Graduate School
Deans
Department Chairs
Graduate Directors
Aaron Marterer, Interim Associate Vice Provost for Graduate Education
Elaine Belesky, Office of the Registrar
Malia Kiehl, Office of the Registrar
Ed Short, Office of the Registrar

Graduate Council Curriculum Committee Proposals in Queue

As of 2/13/2026

Proposals detailed below are currently in the Graduate Council Curriculum Committee queue and up for review and approval this academic term. If you have any questions regarding the information shared or a particular proposal, please reach out to Trena Houpp at thoupp@sc.edu.

Courses

Course Title	Course Description
<u>ISCI 708: Advanced Reference Across the Disciplines</u>	Exploring reference principles when applied to various disciplines, populations, and contexts. Focus on topics related to information practices and behaviors of different populations, information seeking in various contexts, as well as sources of information that respond to specific subject matter, topics, or formats dictated by specific disciplinary fields.
<u>ISCI 713: Crisis Management and Communication in Libraries</u>	Exploring the role libraries play in mitigating crises, with an emphasis on crisis communication and response. Analyze real-world case studies involving libraries in contexts ranging from community-wide emergencies to individual trauma, and examine strategies organizations can use to develop effective crisis management plans. Resources and infrastructure libraries need for competent response, as well as the impact on staff, highlighting the importance of well-being in supporting communities.
<u>ISCI 714: Trauma Informed Librarianship</u>	Critical analysis of current library practices through a trauma-informed lens and develop skills to advocate for organizational change that centers patron wellbeing. Special attention is given to serving vulnerable populations including children, homeless individuals, survivors of domestic violence, refugees, and those experiencing mental health challenges.
<u>ISCI 723: Special Libraries</u>	Rotating topics that provide an overview of organizational characteristics, governance, services, and distinctive features of special library types including, but not limited to, government, law, business, presidential, music, and medical libraries. Simulation of information management problems in these organizations.
<u>ISCI 736: Project Management for Library Collections</u>	How to identify critical problems and propose initiatives related to library collections management, lead investigations into potential solutions, and develop project plans for implementation.
<u>ISCI 739: Teaching for Academic Libraries</u>	Explore current trends and methodologies in academic library instruction to design, implement, and evaluate effective library instruction sessions.

<u>ISCI 784: Health Informatics for Information Professionals</u>	Provides foundational knowledge and practical skills in the exploration and application of evidence-based health information systems within health information environments. Covers the principles and practices of managing health-related data, including data literacy, curation, organization, and ethical stewardship.
<u>ISCI 769: Copyright in the Digital Environment: Issues for Information Professionals and Institutions</u>	Copyright policy issues affecting information professionals and institutions in the digital environment. Copyright basics, limitations and exceptions (Section 108), fair use, The Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Act (MTIA), orphan works, digital rights management, controlled digital lending (CDL), the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA), licensing, and online learning.
<u>HPEB 723: Stigma and Public Health</u>	Drivers, manifestations, measurement, and impacts of stigma on various disease conditions among diverse populations. Includes application of knowledge and skills to critically review interventions aiming to reduce stigma or mitigate the negative impacts of stigma.
<u>SOWK 701: Professional Development Bridge</u>	Bridge course designed to prepare newly enrolled Advanced Standing MSW students for their Advanced Practice year of study for the MSW program.
<u>SOWK 752: Social Work Intervention in Substance Abuse</u>	Knowledge and skills for substance abuse treatment for clients from diverse backgrounds with a focus on empirically based methods from a social work practice.
<u>SOWK 708: Trauma-Informed Practice with Adults and Older Adults</u>	Integration of trauma into practice with adults and older adults to recognize its prevalence, realize its impact, and respond sensitively and competently.

Programs

Title	Status
<u>3GEC477AME: Aerospace Engineering, M.E.</u>	Edited – add online delivery
<u>3GEC477AMS: Aerospace Engineering, M.S.</u>	Edited – add online delivery
<u>3GAR177APBAC: Applied Statistics, Certificate</u>	Deleted
<u>3GAR177AMAS: Applied Statistics, M.A.S.</u>	Deleted
<u>3GEC454APHD: Mechanical Engineering, Ph.D.</u>	Edited – add online delivery
<u>3GSW571BCGS: Social and Behavioral Health with Military Members, Veterans, and Military Families, Certificate</u>	Edited – add online delivery
<u>3GSW116ACGS: Drug and Addiction Studies, Certificate</u>	Edited – add online delivery

