

UNL Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2024, 2:30 pm
Location: Zoom

Attending: Souparno Ghosh, Rochelle Dalla, Tom Kubick, Xu Li, Maria Marron, Elizabeth Niehaus, Brenda Wristen. Venn Jemkur. Dean Hope presiding. Eva Bachman and Jason Carmichael.

Absent: Dai Shizuka, Alejandra Vasquez

1. Approval of Minutes from meeting on September 12, 2024. Motion was made to approve minutes, seconded, and unanimously approved.
2. Proposal to consider modification of UNL Graduate Council structure in NU Graduate College Policy Handbook. Dean Hope reported that Interim Provost Jackson has indicated there will be a vote on modifications in Handbook in the spring and this is an opportunity to modify the UNL section. Dean Hope recommended that the Council consider changing the structure of the UNL Graduate Council, noting it differs significantly from the other three campuses and the current departmental groupings do not reflect how our campus is organized. The Council discussed options to provide better representation of units. Discussion included reorganization so that one representative is elected from each college. However, in this scenario, smaller colleges would have the same number of representatives as larger colleges so perhaps a more proportional allocation would be preferred. Council members tended to prefer one council member from each college as they believe the current size of the council works well. Dean Hope recommended adding a member to represent professional programs in order to help manage those programs and related courses. This proposal led to a recommendation to change the name of the Graduate Council to the Graduate and Professional Council. There was consensus to maintain two graduate student representatives. Graduate Council members will discuss with their constituencies and Dean Hope will gather input as well. This is also an opportunity to make other changes in the Handbook if needed.
3. No curriculum discussions needed.
4. Graduate Student Assembly Report: President Jemkur reported they continue to see steady participation at hosted events such as a recent meeting on using library resources and with Marc Pearce who spoke about Title IX.
5. Announcements:
 - a. Dean Hope provided an update on the implementation of the new graduate admission system.
 - b. Update on OGS staffing: OGS has approval to fill the Operations Manager position and will interview soon.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Carmichael