

GRADUATE COUNCIL
Winthrop University
Friday, October 31, 2025
Virtual (Teams)

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Members present: Charles Randle, Tim Drueke, Philip Gibson, Jennifer Dixon-McKnight, Tracy Patterson, Sherry Hoyle, Melissa McCartney, Gina Jones, Justice Odjeawo, Melda Gain, Greg Oakes, Brantley Therrell, Alice McLaine, Kelly Richardson, Jessie Hoffman, Lisa Harris, & Gabby Jacobsen

- I. Call to Order *at 2.02pm*
- II. Approval of minutes September 16, 2025. See the link below for minutes:
[\[https://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/sgco/graduatestudies/governance-minutes/grad-council-minutes/graduate-council-minutes-9-16-2025.pdf\]](https://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/sgco/graduatestudies/governance-minutes/grad-council-minutes/graduate-council-minutes-9-16-2025.pdf)
Motion to approve: SH (Sherry Hoyle). Second: JH (Jessie Hoffman). Approved by acclimation.
- III. Report from the Graduate School Dean, Melissa McCartney
Looking at enrollment for the spring. Registration will start next week and so far admits are up significantly up from last year, so as long as those hold we'll be good. But it's a tense time from admit to enrolled when we do lose quite a few students.

Risepoint came to campus yesterday and met with each program and had good conversations, then presented their high-level marketing to a larger group.

One note about changes to programs, especially changes that affect the applications, is to communicate that to Graduate Studies early in the process. Most changes do process through Grad Council, but there have been items that have fallen through the cracks.
- IV. MS in Athletic Training: Seeking an increase in approved overlapping credit hours for the 3+2 pathway to ensure students' eligibility for federal financial aid and state scholarships. **Presented by Alice McClaine and Tim Drueke.**

Motion to approve: SH. Second: JH. Approved by acclimation.
- V. Curriculum Action

Program Changes GC votes GFA may or may not vote	
Program	Overview of Changes
MA In Arts Administration GC Votes GFA Votes	Reduction in total required credits from 36 to 31 to make the program fully online and professionally focused. This is achieved by: eliminating ARTA 680 and ARTA 686 (Practicum) and changing ARTA 696 (Capstone II) from 3 credits to a variable 1-3 credits (with 1 credit being required for new students). <i>Approved by acclimation.</i>
MAEd-Ed Studies GC Votes GFA Votes (Educational Studies 14→12) (Accelerated Path SPED)	Changes include adding READ 605 and READ 645 as options in the Educational Studies concentration and adding an accelerated pathway for the Multi-categorical Add on Licensure. The total semester hours for the program is 30. <i>Approved by acclimation.</i>

600-Level Course(s) GC Does not vote GFA Does not vote	
Course Changes	Overview of Changes
ARTA696	Changing the course from 3 credits to a variable 1-3 credit hours and restoring it as a program requirement.

500-Level Course(s) GC Votes GFA Does not vote	
Course Changes	Overview of Changes
WRIT501	Revision of language and realignment of prerequisites to CRTW for consistency.
WRIT502	Revision of language and realignment of prerequisites to CRTW for consistency.
WRIT510	Making prerequisites more consistent across courses to simplify advising and facilitate transfer registration.
WRIT511	Making prerequisites consistent across course levels to facilitate student enrollment and transfer registration.
WRIT511H	Reviewing and making prerequisites consistent to facilitate student enrollment and transfer registration.
WRIT566	Changes made to create consistency in prerequisite language, and revised to simplify the title.
	<i>Approved by acclimation.</i>

VI. Old Business

1. Replace Chris Ward an ex-officio member of this committee.
 - i. Alice McClaine was nominated at the 10/17/2025 GFA Meeting and is now the GFA rep to CUC
2. Proposed amendment to the GFA Bylaws

- i. Presented to GFA on 10/17/2025 and will be voted on at the 12/5/2025 GFA meeting

VII. New Business

- 1. Any new business?

VIII. Announcements

TD (Tim Drueke): reminder – May commencement will not have a separate ceremony for masters programs – they merge with their UG compatriots during the Saturday ceremonies.

CR (Charles Randle): due to Tillman renovations, future in-person meetings will be in Thurmond 212.

IX. Graduate Petitions (None) – Voting Members Only

X. Adjournment

Motion: JH. Second: SH. Approved by acclimation

2025-2026 Meeting Dates

~~September 16, Tuesday, 11:00 am: Tillman 308~~

October 31, Friday, 2:00 pm: Zoom (**Teams**)

December 9, Tuesday, 11:00 am: ~~Tillman 308~~ **Thurmond 212**

January 23, Friday, 2:00 pm: Zoom (**Teams**)

March 10, Tuesday, 11:00 am: ~~Tillman 308~~ **Thurmond 212**

April 14, Tuesday, 11:00 am: ~~Tillman 308~~ **Thurmond 212**

Graduate Faculty Assembly and Graduate Council Website:

<https://www.winthrop.edu/graduateschool/graduate-faculty-governance.aspx>

CourseDog

<https://app.coursedog.com/#/login>

2025-2026 Committee

Voting Members <i>*The voting members of the Graduate Council also serve as the Graduate Petitions Committee.</i>			Term Expires
Charles Randle, CBT, Chair	randlee@winthrop.edu	Appointed (VPAA)	2026
Jessie Hoffman, CAS, Vice Chair	hoffmanjb@winthrop.edu	Appointed (VPAA)	2026
Kelly Richardson, CAS	richardsonk@winthrop.edu	Elected (CAS)	2028
Alice Burmeister, CVPA	burmeistera@winthrop.edu	Elected (CVPA)	2028
Malayka Klimchak, CBT	klimchakm@winthrop.edu	Elected (CBT)	2027
Anna Boddicker, COE	boddickera@winthrop.edu	Appointed (VPAA)	2027
Sherry Hoyle, COE	hoyles@winthrop.edu	Elected (COE)	2027
Ex Officio, non-voting, and other invitees			
Cody Walters	waltersw@winthrop.edu	Elected, Library Faculty, Non-voting	2027
Alice McClaine	mclainea@winthrop.edu	Elected, GFA (from CUC), Ex Officio	2026
Melissa McCartney	mccartneym@winthrop.edu	Dean of Graduate Studies, Online Learning, and Extended Education	
Gabby Jacobsen	jacobseng@winthrop.edu	Grad School, Appointed Ex Officio	
Melda Gain	gainm2@mailbox.winthrop.edu	Student, CAS Appt. Ex Officio	
Justice Odjeawo	odjeawoj2@mailbox.winthrop.edu	Student, CBT Appt. Ex Officio	
O. Jennifer Dixon-McKnight	dmcknightoj@winthrop.edu	GFA Chair	
Tim Druke	druket@winthrop.edu	Assistant Provost for Curriculum and Program Support	
Gina Jones	jonesgg@winthrop.edu	Registrar	
Maria D'Agostino	dagostinom@winthrop.edu	Associate Registrar	
Tracy Patterson	patterson@winthrop.edu	Graduate Director, CVPA	
Greg Oakes	oakesm@winthrop.edu	Graduate Director, CAS	
Lisa Harris	harris@winthrop.edu	Graduate Director, COE	
Philip Gibson	gibsonp@winthrop.edu	Graduate Director, CBA	
Brantley Therrell	therrellb@winthrop.edu	Graduate Petitions Coordinator	
Adam Glover	glovera@winthrop.edu	Faculty Conference Chair	

Graduate Faculty Assembly Meeting Dates

October 17, Friday, 2:00 pm: ~~Whitton Auditorium, Carroll Hall~~
 December 5, Friday, 2:00 pm: Whitton Auditorium, Carroll Hall
 February 27, Friday, 2:00 pm: Whitton Auditorium, Carroll Hall
 April 24, Friday, 2:00 pm: Whitton Auditorium, Carroll Hall