

**Graduate Academic Affairs Committee
Saint Louis University
Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday, May 14, 2021**

Present: Martha Allen, Tracy Chapman, Marissa Cope, Jami Curley, James Buerck, Felicia Echols, Jesus Garcia-Martinez, Elizabeth Gockel-Blessing, Jay Haugen, Riyadh Hindi, Donna Jahnke, Anne Sebert Kuhlmann, , Helen Lach, Stephen Magoc, Hisako Matsuo, Srikanth Mudigonda, J. Mark Pousson, Ann Scarlett, Abbey Schnell, Mitchell Stevens, Christopher Thomas, April Trees, Maria Weber, Robert Wood, and Gina Yosten

Excused: Anthony Breitbach, Angeles Encinar, Ben Looker, Christine Harper, David Cassens, Henrietta Ehrenreich, Irma Kuljanishvili, Jami Curley, Maureen Wikete Lee, Michael Elliott, Riyadh Hindi, Stacey Harrington, and Steven Sanchez

The Graduate Academic Affairs Committee (GAAC) meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was presented to the committee for approval. The motion passed. The committee adopted the agenda with no additions.

Associate Provost's Remarks

Announced that Graduate Education will have its annual Graduate Education Orientation on Wednesday, August 18, 2021, from 9 am – 3 pm.

Minutes

The April minutes passed with no corrections.

Correspondence

None

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE:

Dr. Tracy Chapman and Dr. John Buerck – School for Professional Studies: Blockchain, Cryptocurrency, and Financial Technology

The School for Professional Studies would offer a post-baccalaureate certificate in Blockchain, Cryptocurrency, and Financial Technology online. The online format will appeal to working adults seeking to advance to leadership roles within their current organizations, individuals seeking new opportunities in the growing Blockchain, Cryptocurrency, and Financial Technology markets, and students seeking a graduate certificate before entering the workforce. Graduates will be prepared to pursue a variety of in-demand positions.

Motion made by Jesus Garcia Martinez for concentration addition. Seconded by Chris Thomas. Motion passed with no corrections.

Dr. Michael Elliott – Graduate Student Credit Hour Limits and Overloads

A graduate student’s credit hour limits and overloads suggested policy revision was presented for information purposes only. Jay Haugen stated there are no institutional limits only within programs.

Jay Haugen – Independent Studies

A policy has been created by the University Registrar regarding clarity when offering independent and directed studies. Jay has requested that the proposed policy be shared with committee members for review and feedback for a vote at the next GAAC meeting.

New Business

None

Announcements/Issues

Martha Allen announced the Graduate Student Reading room in Pius Library would open in Fall 2021 with card access only for graduate students. GSA donated an 80-inch monitor for the area.

Jay Haugen announced an interdisciplinary tool that is unique to the University. The interdisciplinary tool could bundle certificate programs that are not enough for a full degree. This tool allows flexibility as certificate programs from various departments can be developed into degree programs.

The GAAC adjourned the meeting.

Felicia C. Echols, Ed.D.
Graduate Coordinator

Dr. Robert Wood
Associate Provost, Academic Affairs