

# UMGSB GRADUATE COUNCIL

Thursday, September 5, 2024

Meeting Hosted by  
UMB

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

## MINUTES

In Attendance: Jeff Halverson, Erin Golembewski, Jamila Savage, Katherin Schlegel, Niya Werts, Sebastian Deffner, Patrick Wintrode, Abraham Schneider, Brian Reed, Lisa Dickson, Dena Smith, Kelly Westlake, Eun-Shin Nahm, Irina Golubeva, Jessica Mong, Adam Bargteil, John Basile, Jane Lincove, Aman Shrestha, Jessica Burstrem, Patricia Ordonez-Franco, Rachel Brewster

1. [Welcome by Kenneth Wong](#)
2. [Introductions](#)
3. [Announcements/plans/issues UMB:](#)
  - Erin Golembewski:
    - UMB changed their name from the Graduate School to The School of Graduate Studies.
    - A retreat was held for all senior leadership to reflect on the year and new developments.
  - Kenneth Wong
    - Enrollment was discussed, there was significant interest in new programs and degrees. The focus was on how to set these new degrees up for success, particularly in terms of securing clinical placements and collaborating with hospital systems. These are critical issues that require careful consideration moving forward.
4. [Announcements/plans/issues UMBC:](#)
  - Jeff Halverson:
    - On July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, Manfred H. M. van Dulmen was welcomed as UMBC's new Provost and Senior Vice President.
    - Dean Janet Rutledge retired, effective June 30, 2024. Jeffrey Halverson has been welcomed as the new Interim Dean of the Graduate School at UMBC.
5. [Approval of Minutes from Council Meeting held on May 2, 2024:](#) minutes were approved as written.
6. [GSA Reports](#)
  - [UMB](#)  
Aman Shrestha:
    - GSA is updating its website to fix the broken links and to update all necessary information on GSA.
    - The GSA is considering revising the application (simplifying the form and getting it to broader eligible participants) for GSA's awards.
    - During orientation week, GSA organized the Crab Feast Celebration in which around 135 students participated. This event was held on August 20, 2024.
    - The annual GSA Research Conference was held on April 12, 2024
    - Effective from September 1, 2024, UMB Graduate Assistant will receive a stipend increase.
  - [UMBC](#)  
Jessica Burstrem:
    - The Graduate Student Association's (GSA) long-term efforts to improve the inclusion and visibility of graduate students at the university are coming to fruition. As an

example, recent Welcome Week events showcased more inclusivity and recognition of the contributions made by graduate students.

7. [Introduction to Grad Council committee assignments and organization structure by Erin Golembewski](#)
  - Program Review
  - Long Range Planning and New Programs
  - New Courses
  - Graduate Faculty
  
8. [Old Business](#)
  - Policy on Modified Dissertation Language: There was a consensus that further discussion is needed regarding the proposed modifications to dissertation language policies. The next steps involve checking with those who are advocating for these changes to determine if they have a formal proposal ready. Once prepared, this proposal should be presented to the Graduate Council for a thorough review. The recording of the May 2, 2024, Grad Council meeting, along with supporting documentation related to the proposed policy change, was forwarded to the Grad Council members for further review.
  
9. [New Business](#)
  - N/A
  
10. [Meeting Adjourned](#)
  - The meeting was adjourned to allow for individual committee training.

***Next Meeting:***  
*October 3, 2024*  
*Hosted by UMBC*  
*Zoom*