

Graduate Council Minutes April 18, 2024

Present: Brenda J. Anderson, Kimberly R. Bell, Agnieszka Bialkowska, Elizabeth Boon, Susan E. Brennan, Kara Mallory DeSanna, Michael Ferdman, David Green, Melissa L. Jordan, Celia J. Marshik, Colleen O'Toole, David A. Rubenstein, Marcia Simon, Kristen E. Shorette, Arleen Steckel,

Absent: Brooke Belise, Lily Blocker, Holly Colognato, Gianna M. Juliano-Hooper, Chris B. Kretz, Brian J. Nucci, Jose Alberto Moscoso Nunez, Daniel Waxman

1. Meeting called to order at 1:07PM
2. Kara DeSanna confirms that consistent with guidance from NYSED, the BA/MPH in Africana Studies/Public Health and the BS/MS in Biochemistry and Cell Biology do not require SUNY or NYSED approval.
3. Discussion of Dissertation Committees was tabled for the next meeting, although there was agreement that at least two faculty be present at any in-person site of the dissertation defense.
4. The request for a change to the title of MA in Contemporary Asian Studies to an MA in Contemporary Asian and Asian American Studies was briefly discussed. It was noted that the requested title is already commonly used. A motion to approve was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
5. The current requirements for the PhD in Geosciences degree were compared to the requirements listed in the last registration (5/2002). One change was noted. Namely the number of rotations with different faculty. Reduction in rigor was not noted. A motion was made to approve the program. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
6. David Rubenstein presented his current updates to the degree section of the bulletin. The reorganization and streamlining of major items (MS/PhD/Certificate/awarding of degrees...) met with appreciation and positive responses. There was also agreement to eliminate the first paragraph of the Preamble. A motion was made to approve the streamlining. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
7. Dean's Report:
 - a. The Graduate School will have a faculty fellow (Amy Lu) from June 1st to the end of the year.
 - b. Discussed issues related to students undergoing a mental health crisis
 - c. Program reviews will be initiated and conducted with self-studies.
 - d. Reminder: Distinguished Doctoral Colloquium (May 6, 11 AM) and Graduate Awards Ceremony (May 13, 11 AM)
8. Meeting adjourned at 2:20PM