

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes: April 8, 2026

The Graduate Council met on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at 3:30pm, 327 Brooks Hall.

Members present: Mary Ager, Matthew Bilskie, Melinda Brindley, Jennifer Brown, Ted Christensen, Jim Conklin, Luis Correa-Diaz, Kerstin Emerson, Jennifer Graff, Janette Hill, Jack Huang, Sheba Mohankumar, Jeff Mullen, Priya Narayanan, Craig Osenberg, Laura Rider, Amy Stich. Graduate School: Ron Walcott, Cheri Bliss, Robin Bingham, Chazz Jordan.

Members absent: Alex Anderson, Vivian Appler, Kelly Dyer, Andrew Grundstein, Alexa Lamm, Rebecca Matthew, Ginger Orton, Geoffrey Sheagley, Alison Smith, Bart Wojdyski. Graduate Student Association: Aina Aishat, Eben Boakye, Emerson Moon.

Dean Ron Walcott called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Committee Reports

- A. Appeals Committee
Craig Osenberg, Chair

No business to report.

- B. Program Committee
Aishat Aina, Acting Chair

Since the last meeting of the Graduate Council, the Program Committee has reviewed and approved 3 proposals via Teams. The Program Committee would like to bring the following action items to the Graduate Council for its approval.

Action Item 1: From the School of Environmental, Civil, Agricultural, and Mechanical Engineering (ECAM), a proposal to reorganize the school of ECAM into two (2) new schools, the School of Civil & Environmental Engineering (CEE) and the School of Mechanical & Agricultural Engineering (MAE). **Approved 17-0-0**

Action Item 2: From the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, a proposal to offer a new certificate in Gender-Informed Professional Practice through the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies. **Approved 13-3-1**

Action Item 3: From Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, a proposal to add a new graduate certificate for AI in forestry through the Institute for Artificial Intelligence. **Approved 15-0-1**

- C. Policy and Planning Committee
Bart Wojdyski, Chair

No business to report.

Information Items

- A. Curriculum Report: The Graduate School has approved 38 new courses, 21 course revisions, and 1 deletion.
- B. Next meeting: August TBD, 2026

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.