

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

April 8, 2026

Meadowlark Room

In Attendance:

Alex Binder, Robin Blair, Susan Bon, Paige Boydston, Jamie Brooksher, Derrel Fincher, Carissa Gober, Tatiana Goris, Scott Gorman, Jennifer Harris, Jon Jones, Kay Kim, Trent Lindbloom, Jody Neef, Hermann Nonnenmacher, Tristan Ragland, Kristi Stuck, Katherine Tackett, Kyle Thompson, Ken Ward

New Members Present:

Angelina Boyd, Marie Smith

Absent:

Tim Flood, Krissy Lewis, Lori Martin, Matthew Montague, Greg Murray, Brian Sims

New Business:

Nominations and Voting for New Officers for the 2026-2027 Graduate Council.

Dr. Binder nominated and moved for approval to elect Dr. Fincher as Chair, Dr. Gorman seconded and the motion carried.

Dr. Thompson nominated and moved for approval to elect Dr. Neef as Vice Chair, pending confirmation from the Chemistry department that he is their representative, Dr. Gober seconded and the motion carried.

The following were nominated or volunteered to serve on the Graduate Council Executive Committee:

College of Arts and Sciences: Jody Neef

College of Business: Alex Binder

College of Education: Kristi Stuck

College of Technology: Derrel Fincher

Dr. Binder moved to approve the nominees/volunteers, Dr. Gober seconded and the motion carried.

Approval of Lisa Allen as Graduate Council Secretary for 2026-2027.

Dr. Blair moved for approval, Dr. Gorman seconded and the motion carried.

The minutes of the March 11, 2026, meeting were approved with no corrections

There were no Graduate Faculty Recommendations.

The following were submitted for Graduate Service Recommendations.

Brian Becker	History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences 26/WF Discipline/Sub-field: History
Shelly Grimes	Health, Human Performance, and Recreation 26/SU Discipline/Sub-field: Educational Leadership and Curriculum Development
Heather Burris	Teaching and Leadership 26/SU Discipline/Sub-field: District Leadership
Diane Mora	Teaching and Leadership 26/SU Discipline/Sub-field: Culinary

Dr. Neef moved to approve the Graduate Service recommendations as a group, Dr. Fincher seconded and the motion carried.

The following curricular matters were submitted:

College of Business

Kelce Graduate School of Business

Notification: Master of Professional Accountancy (Online)-Changes to admission requirements.

There was no old business.

For the good of the order

There will be an all-Graduate Faculty meeting just prior to the May Graduate Council meeting on Wednesday, May 6th. to approve spring graduates. Dr. Bon will also provide updates and allow for an open forum.

Dr. Binder shared an update from the most recent tuition committee meeting.

Dr. Fincher moved to adjourn the meeting, Dr. Neef seconded and the motion carried.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 6, 2026