

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES  
December 3, 2025  
Meadowlark Room

In Attendance:

Alex Binder, Robin Blair, Susan Bon, Jamie Brooksher, Julie Dainty, Mark Diacopoulos, Derrel Fincher, Tim Flood, Carissa Gober, Jennifer Harris, Jon Jones, Kay Kim, Lori Matin, Greg Murray, Jody Neef, Hermann Nonnenmacher, Tristan Ragland, Katherine Tackett, Kyle Thompson

Absent:

Paige Boydston, Tatiana Goris, Scott Gorman, Krissy Lewis, Trent Lindbloom, Matthew Montague, Brian Sims, Kristi Stuck

Ken Ward filled in for Alicia Mason

New Business:

Approval of 2025 Winter/Fall Graduates

**Dr. Winters moved for approval, Dr. Neef seconded and the motion carried.**

**Dr. Flood moved to adjourn the Graduate Faculty meeting, Dr. Nonnenmacher seconded and the motion carried.**

The minutes of the November 12, 2025, meeting were approved with no corrections.

**Mr. Murray moved for approval, Dr. Lindbloom seconded, and the motion carried.**

The following were submitted for Graduate Faculty Recommendations:

Ashley Shaw	Teaching and Leadership
	Discipline/sub-field: Special Education-Adaptive
	Special Education

Dr. Flood mentioned that the request form indicates that Dr. Shaw has one year of teaching experience, but on the CV the experience listed ends in 2019. He asked what she has been doing since. Dr. Diacopoulos shared that Dr. Shaw has been an Associate Professor at PSU.

**Dr. Flood moved for approval, Dr. Nonnenmacher seconded and the motion carried.**

The following were submitted for Graduate Service Recommendations:

Chelsey Decker	Kelce Graduate School of Business
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	26/SP Discipline/Sub-field: Leadership Management
Susan Dellasega	Kelce Graduate School of Business 26/SP Discipline/Sub-field: Instructional Technology and Lesson Development
Rachael Crofford	Psychology and Counseling 26/SP Discipline/Sub-field: School Counseling

**Dr. Flood moved to approve the Graduate Service recommendations as a group, Dr. Dainty seconded and the motion carried.**

The following curricular matters were submitted:

College of Education  
Psychology and Counseling

Request for Revision of Curriculum for Ed.S. School Psychology program

Dr. Blair shared that the changes to the Ed.S. would make official what they have been doing through substitutions.

Request for New Emphasis  
MS Psychology (School Psychology)

Dr. Blair shared that this emphasis will be tailored to School Psychology students who currently are taking the General emphasis, making the path they are completing more transparent.

Lisa Allen mentioned that the request forms show that these programs will be session-based programs and asked if that was accurate. Dr. Blair clarified that these programs will not be session-based programs.

**Dr. Blair moved to amend both Psychology and Counseling requests, indicating that they will not be session-based programs. Dr. Dainty seconded and the motion carried.**

**Dr. Boydston moved to approve the Psychology and Counseling requests, Dr. Neef seconded and the motion carried.**

College of Arts and Sciences  
History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences

Request for New Course  
GEOG 701 Urban Planning and Development Issues  
Request for New Course  
POLS 751 State and Local Government

College of Business  
Kelce Graduate School of Business

Request for New Course  
ECON 811 Micropolitan Studies

Request for New Emphasis  
Master of Business Administration (Public Administration)

Dr. Binder shared that the new courses from History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences and the Kelce Graduate School would be courses for the new Public Administration emphasis in the MBA program.

**Dr. Blair moved to approve the request from History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences and from the Kelce Graduate School, Dr. Neef seconded and the motion carried.**

College of Technology  
Technology and Workforce Learning

Notification: MS Technology  
Admission Requirement: Students can request to change their emphasis by reapplying or by requesting a change in writing to their MST Advisor.

Old Business

College of Education  
Teaching and Leadership/Family and Consumer Sciences

Request for New Course  
FCS 801 History, Philosophy, and the Body of Knowledge of FCS

Dr. Binder shared that the request for new course, FCS 801, was previously approved by Graduate Council, but that the approval was null due to procedures not being followed. A required signature was missing from the form. The signature has now been obtained.

**Mr. Murray moved to approve the new course, FCS 801, Dr. Dainty seconded and the motion carried.**

## New Business Continued

### Faculty Withdrawal of Students from Courses Policy

Dr. Neef asked if there was a definition for excused and unexcused absences. Dr. Binder reviewed the syllabus supplement and shared that it can be determined by the faculty.

Dr. Blair asked about the policy being subjective. Dr. Bon mentioned that it will depend on the course and the faculty to determine the parameters.

Dr. Dainty asked if online courses had been discussed since it can be difficult to determine attendance for these courses. Dr. Bon shared that it could be determined at the discretion of the faculty.

For the good of the order

Dr. Bon provided a brief KBOR update.

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

**The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 11, 2026, in the Meadowlark Room**