Graduate Council Chair: Dr. Helen Binkley

1. **Call to order - 1:06 by Helen Binkley**

Members Present – Helen Binkley, Brandon Grubbs, Dan Morrell, Dong Ye, Emily Baran, Brian Roberson, Jeremy Winters, Judith Van Hein, Jwa Kim, Kyle Butler, Lisa Sheehan-Smith, Michael Roach, Michael Fleming, Mischa Renfroe, Pam Morris, Saleh Sbenaty, Samantha Stolze, Steven Morris

Members Absent – Allie Sultan, Kierstin Sims, Luciana Prestes

Visitors Present – Sonya Sanderson, Mary Hoffschwelle, Vickie Harden, Chandra Story, Charles Chusuei, John Maynor, Jennifer Kaplan

1. **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting** - Approved
2. **College of Graduate Studies Update** – Dr. Dawn McCormack

* Dawn spoke later in the meeting regarding the Pass/Fail Opt-in proposal.

1. **Committee Reports**

* Curriculum Changes – Curriculum Sub-Committee – Dr. Pam Morris - Approved
* Consent Calendar - Graduate Faculty Status Sub-Committee – Dr. Jwa Kim - Approved
* ABM Proposal – ABM Sub-Committee – Dr. Judith Van Hein
  1. Discussed how the Council should proceed with the assignment.

1. **Pass/Fail Grades for Spring Semester**

* After extensive discussion between the Graduate Council, Dawn McCormack, and Mary Hoffschwelle the Council voted to Approve this proposal for the Spring 2020 semester.

1. **New Business - None**
2. **Motion to Adjourn** – 2:11

Graduate Council Curriculum Sub-Committee Meeting

Minutes – Meeting by Zoom

Friday, March 27, 2020

9:00 AM

I. Call to Order – 9:06 am by Pam Morris

Members Present – Pam Morris, Helen Binkley, Mischa Renfroe, Dong Ye

Members Absent – Saleh Sbenaty

Visitors Present – Mike Boyle, Jim Rost

II. New Proposals

A. College of Basic and Applied Sciences

* FERM – 6600 – Probiotics, Prebiotics, and Bioprocessing – Course Change – Effective Summer 2021- Tabled as the dual listing has been removed
* Professional Science, Actuarial Science Concentration, MS – Program Change - Effective Summer 2021 –Approved

B. College of Behavioral and Health Science

* NFS – 6300 – Entrepreneurial Skills for Nutrition Professionals – New Course – Effective Summer 2020 -- Approved

C. College of Business

* ECON-6420 – Public Choice – New Course – Effective Summer 2020 – Approved
* ECON 7420 – Public Choice – New Course – Effective Summer 2020 – Approved
* Economics, MA – Program Change – Effective Summer 2021 – Approved
* Economics, Ph.D – Program Change – Effective 2021 – Approved

D. College of Liberal Arts

* History, MA – Program Change – Effective Summer 2020 (I think we decided this could be Summer 2020 because it’s an admission change.) -- Approved
* WGST – 6030 – Global Perspective on Gender and Sexualities – New Course – Effective Summer 2020 – Approved

E. College of Media and Entertainment

* Media and Communication, MS – Program Change: Change to Curriculum – Effective Summer 2021 – Tabled
* Media and Communication, MS – Program Change: Change to Hours – Effective Summer 2021 – Tabled
* MC – 5350 – Children and Media – New Course – Effective Summer 2020 – Rejected for Corrections

III. Motion to Adjourn – 9:23

Graduate Council Faculty Status Sub-committee Meeting

Minutes - Meeting by Zoom

Friday, March 27, 2020

1:00 PM

I. Call to Order – 1:04 PM by Jwa Kim

Members Present – Jwa Kim, Helen Binkley, Kyle Butler, Luciana Prestes

Members Absent – Brandon Grubbs

II. Graduate Faculty Status

A. Adjunct Applications

1. Paul Dawkins - Approved

2. Sandra Jones – Incomplete Packet; Rejected

3. Rebecca Shrum – Approved

B. Full Applications

1. Jessica Arbour - Approved

2. Mark Frame - Approved

3. Ann McCullough - Approved

4. Ennio Piano – Approved

5. Shelley Thomas - Approved

C. Teaching Applications

1. Amy Macy – Incomplete Packet, Rejected

III. Motion to Adjourn – 1:20 PM

**MTSU Policy on Optional Pass – Fail Grading System in Spring 2020**

Because of the unprecedented global health pandemic and the associated disruption to student learning associated with the emergency transition to online instruction, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) has issued the following guidance to its member schools.

*During the spring 2020 term and in addition to letter grades, institutions are encouraged to offer “pass/non-pass or pass/fail” options to students for courses that transitioned from face-to-fact to on-line instruction as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.*

The Office of the University Provost and the Division of Academic Affairs propose the following policy on the creation of an optional Pass – Fail grade system for the spring 2020 semester.

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The University will offer students enrolled during the spring 2020 semester the choice to “opt-in” to a Pass-Fail grade scale for all courses with the following exceptions.

* Courses that were completed in the first part of term (prior to spring break),
* Courses that are already using the S/U grading scale, and
* Courses for which a letter grade is required by specialized accreditation, certification, or licensure.

As with the current MTSU grade policy, a grade of “P” does not calculate into the student’s GPA but does fulfill prerequisite requirements and counts toward degree requirements.\* A grade of “F” will calculate into the student’s GPA and does not meet prerequisite or degree requirements.

MTSU instructors will assign grades using the established A – F grade scale as designated on their Spring 2020 course syllabi. Students will inform the University Registrar if they wish to change to the optional Pass-Fall grading scale for spring 2020 prior to the last day of classes. Undergraduate students opting into the P-F grading scale and earning a grade of D- or above will receive a grade of “P.” Graduate students earning a grade of C- or above will receive a grade of “P.” Students in the optional P-F grading scale who earn an F will receive a grade of F.

Notation of the unique circumstances of the spring 2020 semester and the use of this optional grading system will be added to the official transcript of all students.

\*Students choosing the P-F grading scale who receive an A grade in the course will have the A grade reflected on their transcript and it will be calculated in their GPA.