

Minutes of the Graduate Council
Date of Meeting: October 15, 2025

The October 15, 2025, meeting of the Graduate Council was called to order at 1:01 p.m. via Zoom by Dr. Ann Wheeler, Chair of the Graduate Council.

Members in Attendance: Alexandra (Ale) Babino, Amanda Arnold, Ann Wheeler, Brigitte Vittrup, Catalina Pislariu, Chanam Shin, Daniel Newmire, Daniela Ventura, Dayna Averitt, Della Molloy-Daugherty, Derek Crews, Faheemah Hannah, Helen Everts, He Ren, Hope McCarroll, Hyuk-Jin Lee, Jaesin Sa, Jennifer Quong, Kanchan Budhathoki, Kimberly Mory, Lamar Muro (Lilia), Mark Tengesdal, Mikyoung Lee, Paula Clutter, Pat Driscoll, Rachele Campbell, Sharon Wang-Price, Xiaofen Du, Zhen Li. **Substitutes:** Agatha Beins for Ana Louise Keating and Shann-Hwa Hwang for Nerissa Gillum

MINUTES APPROVED

- The minutes of the September 17, 2025, meeting were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT BY DR. CAROLYN KAPINUS, DEAN OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Graduate Council Announcement

Our announcement was delayed because of issues with the listservs which we hope can get sorted out soon.

Karen Bartel Retirement

With mixed emotions, I wanted to make sure you all knew that Karen Bartel, who certifies people for degree completion in the Graduate School, is retiring. We sent out an announcement about her party, but the listservs are having issues, so I wanted to make sure you knew about it. On Thursday, October 23 from 2:30 – 4:00, we are having a come and go event in the lobby (sometimes called the concourse) of ACT. Please join us for cake and to wish Karen well.

Graduate Faculty Credentials

Please keep in mind when people are asking you about applying for Graduate Faculty Status that the terminal degree is required for all levels of graduate faculty status, even teaching. This is a requirement by our accrediting body, SACSCOC. Our Graduate Faculty policy has a statement about exceptions to this may be made on a case-by-case basis. Unfortunately, this is not well defined and it's one of the issues that is being addressed in the Graduate Faculty policy revisions.

As a reminder, Teaching Graduate Faculty Status is approved by the Dean of the Graduate School and Full and Full with Dissertation Endorsement are recommended for approval by the membership committee and then the full Graduate Council.

I am aware that there are areas, particularly in the Health Sciences and Nursing, where there are not enough faculty with terminal degree credentials but who have valuable clinical experience.

Those faculty are needed to supervise graduate students in clinical experiences and these situations are approved by the accrediting body for the discipline.

What I have been doing with regard to exceptions for the terminal degree requirement is asking for justification from the ACA with approval from the college dean for these faculty to teach specific courses on a limited basis. These exceptions are for teaching status only, not for full or full with dissertation endorsement.

Full and Full with Dissertation classifications, because they also confer the privileges of supervising graduate student research, require the terminal degree, as well as a level of commitment to the university via tenure-track, clinical track or full time appointments. Dissertation endorsement requires a tenure-track appointment. This is due to the research requirements of this faculty appointment and the time commitment to the university to reduce disruption to the student.

Teaching, Dissertation Completion, and Parenting in Graduate School panels for graduate students, as well as a Zoom session on Communication and Recruitment for faculty and staff. Reach out to Danita if you are interested in watching these or your students can reach out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT BY DR. RUTH JOHNSON, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

- No report/ Not present

GUEST SPEAKERS

- Dr. Kristina Rodriguez, Director of TWU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

SUMMARY REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

Executive Committee – Chair: Dr. Ann Wheeler

- No report.

Executive Committee – Vice Chair: Dr. Dayna Averitt

- No report.

Research Committee – Dr. Catalina Pislariu

- No report.

Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Sharon Wang-Price

- No report.

Academic Programs Committee – Dr. Zhen Li

- The committee will be discussing two proposals today and will have representatives joining us.

Membership Committee – Chair Nominee: Dr. Helen Everts

- The committee has 19 reviews that we will be discussing today.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Membership Committee – Dr. Helen Everts
 - Recommendations for Graduate Faculty Status (listed on page 4)
- **Voted on and approved**
2. Academic Programs Committee – Dr. Zhen Li
 - **Request to Amend**-Doctor of Philosophy in Education, Leadership, and Organization - **Voted on and approved**
 - **Request to Amend**-Master of Science in Accountancy - **Voted on and approved**
3. Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Sharon Wang-Price
 - Revisions to the Graduate Certificate policy - **Discussion only.**
 - Revisions to the Graduate Faculty Status policy - **Discussion only.**

OLD BUSINESS

- None

ADJOURNMENT

- 1:55 p.m.

The next Graduate Council meeting will be Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

Membership Committee –

- Faculty Recommendations: 9 - Full / 10 - Full with Dissertation Chair Endorsement
Voted on and approved

Name	Component	Recommendation
Terrizzi Jr, John	SWPP	Full with Dissertation Chair
Palomares, Ronald	SWPP	Full with Dissertation Chair
Beecher, Schuyler	Special Ed	Full
Ting, Han	Chem/Biochem	Full
Fanning, Sara	Social Studies & Historical Studies	Full
Babineau, Addison	SWPP	Full
Lanier, Amy	Library & Info Sci	Full
Choi, Dowon	SWPP	Full with Dissertation Chair
Gulzari, Adeela	Accounting and Finance	Full
Griggs-Stapleton, Lisa	OT	Full with dissertation Chair
Yoonsun, Pyun	SWPP	Full
Clutter, Paula	Nursing	Full with Dissertation Chair
Gillum, Nerissa	Human Sci/Prof Ed	Full with Dissertation Chair
Brockway, Kaelee	PT	Full
Spencer, Juliet	Biology	Full with Dissertation Chair
Hintz, Lou Ann	OT	Full with dissertation chair
Knapp, Erika	Music	Full with Dissertation Chair
Thorton, Micah	Math	Full
Rubin, Linda	SWPP	Full with Dissertation Chair