

GRADUATE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

DENA KNISS, CHAIR

MEETING AGENDA for

DATE/Time: – **JANUARY 12, 2022 at 2:00 PM via Zoom**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://westga-edu.zoom.us/j/82207858143?pwd=OFIYTXgxeEhJcXVqREFjYUI3NXgyZz09>

Meeting ID: 822 0785 8143

Passcode: 574242

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I) Call to Order

II) Charge to Committee per Faculty Senate President for 2021-22

- Work closely with the Graduate Advisory Council and consult regularly with the Graduate School Dean - review curriculum proposals, but also be proactive in policy development
- Recommend a policy on standardizing the credentials required for faculty to be designated as graduate faculty
- Ensure faculty initiative in the creation and/or termination of graduate programs
- Examine the relocation of GRAs from individual departments to the Graduate School

III) Program and Course Proposals

A) College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry

i) Department of Computing and Mathematics

(a) CS 6986 – Internship

REQUEST: Add course

Rationale: This is a new course in support of the face-to-face, Applied Computer

Science Master's Degree. By offering this Program face-to-face, we intend to attract

international students, who will benefit from work experience in the field. Students will

deepen their knowledge and sharpen their skills in one or more in-depth areas of specialization. Upon graduation, students will find employment in high-demand careers in related areas of Computer Science.

(b) Applied Computer Science, M.S.

REQUEST: Revise Program

Rationale: In an effort to attract more students, specifically international students, to the Applied Computer Science Master's Program, we are planning to offer the Program in a face-to-face modality, in addition to the existing online offering.

B) College of Education (COE)

i) Department of Early Childhood through Secondary Education

(a) Teacher Education, M.A.T., Concentrations in Secondary Education: Biology, Broad Field Science, Business Education, Chemistry, Economics, English, History, Mathematics, Physics, and Political Science

REQUEST: Revise Program

Rationale: To help address the teacher shortage in Georgia and to make our program more competitive, we are reducing the number of credit hours required to complete this program. Candidates in this program enter with an undergraduate degree in their content field, so removing one content/content pedagogy course will not negatively impact program rigor or teacher preparation. We are also adding one additional course option under Pedagogical Content Courses.

ii) Department of Leadership, Research, and School Improvement

(a) Educational Leadership Tier 1 Certification Program

REQUEST: Add Program

Rationale: Students who currently take these courses as non-degree seeking students are only recognized externally by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission.

Formalizing these courses as a UWG stand-alone certificate benefits the institution by being able to count these students as program completers. Students also have the benefit of having an official UWG certificate and become financial aid eligible.

(b) Educational Leadership Tier 2 Certification Program

REQUEST: Add Program

Rationale: Students who currently take these courses as non-degree seeking students are only recognized externally by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission.

Formalizing these courses as a UWG stand-alone certificate benefits the institution by

being able to count these students as program completers. Students also have the benefit of having an official UWG certificate and become financial aid eligible. Three residency courses (EDLE 8301, 8302, and 8303) meet on the Newnan campus three times a semester. The remainder of the courses are offered fully online.

(c) School Improvement, Ed.D.

REQUEST: Revise Program

Rationale: The GRE no longer serves as an important predictor in doctoral student success. Previous leadership experience is a stronger predictor for our students.

Therefore, the program would like to remove the GRE admissions requirement and focus on updating the writing sample and essay requirements that applicants submit, along with the interviews that are conducted with finalist applicants about their leadership experience and attributes. Removing the GRE also makes this doctoral program consistent with the other two doctoral programs in the College of Education that no longer require it for admission.

IV) New Business

- A) Graduate Faculty Policy Status Workgroup Update (see attached proposal)
- B) Graduate Catalog Change Requests – Dr. Ziglar (see attached document)
- C) Graduate Funding for Conferences – request from Dr. Patrick Erben

V) Old Business

- A) GA Guidelines for Assistantships within Academic Affairs - update
- B) Next Meeting: February 9th from 2 – 3:30 p.m. via Zoom