Graduate Council Meeting
Friday, October 10, 2025
1:00 p.m.
Atkinson 202

Call to Order

Members: Mandy Jarriel (Grad School), Kristina Dandy (CoAS), Josie Doss (CoHS), Janet Turner (CoEd), Mike Martino (CoHS), Krystal Canady (CoHS), Al Mead (Chair, CoAS), Shanda Brand* (Grad Admissions), Solomon Ashu* (student rep.).
*non-voting
Additional: Cara Smith*, Kay Anderson*, Eleni Bonner*, Lyndall Muschell*
Regrets: Tanya Goette, Scott Cox
Absent: Doyin Cokerkolo, Tina Holmes-Davis
Guests: Jeannie Pridmore, Andrea Christoff

Approval of Agenda:

- *Motion JD*
- *Second KD*
- *Vote: unanimous*

Approval of Minutes – August 29, 2025.

- *Motion JD*
- *Second MM*
- *Vote: unanimous*

Welcome and Graduate School Updates: Mandy Jarriel, Interim Associate Provost, Director of the Graduate School

Overall updates by Dr. Jarriel.

- Paris is making targeted outreach calls related to applications & ("grad calls") to answer student questions; the volume of these calls continues to increase.
- **New Graduate Coordinators:** Training is needed when individuals are new or transitioning into the role to ensure there are no gaps in student support.
- **Student Applications:** Students must verify that their admission/application information is accurate—especially those in Nursing or Education.
  - When students graduate, they must still apply separately if they enter a different program.
- **New Initiatives on the way:** Keep an eye out for more "Double Bobcat" options.

Old Business: none

New Business:
- **Action Items**:
  -

  College of Arts & Sciences

- None:
  -

College of Business & Technology
- Information Systems & Computer Science
  - Master of Applied Artificial Intelligence (MAAI)

Proposal Updates provided – Jeannie P.

Provided an overview and answered group questions regarding the new program (as referenced above).
There are minimal to no comparable programs currently offered at the state or national level.
Support letters have been received from key stakeholders.
Targeted program launch date: Fall 2026.
Job market research has been conducted for positions relevant to this degree.
The university budget was discussed in relation to program needs.
Two new faculty lines are required for program sustainability; funding has been requested.
The Applied AI program differs from traditional fields, and other disciplines may have the opportunity to integrate or cross-list some courses.
The MMIS program may share some overlap; a potential combined degree could be developed in the future with additional planning.
Admission requirement: Any undergraduate degree (program currently offered fully online).
A certificate option will also be available to support students or professionals who seek AI application training without pursuing a full degree ("AI Ready" type option).

- *Motion JD*
- *Second KD*
- *Vote: Unanimous*

College of Education:
- Middle Grades Education:
  - Middle Grades M.Ed. Program Deactivation

Middle Grades M.Ed. Program Deactivation – Andrea
Andrea provided an update on the planned deactivation of the Middle Grades M.Ed. program due to consistently low student enrollment.
The program's highest enrollment reached around eight students, but it has recently struggled to maintain even two active students.
The department has been asked to proceed with deactivation of the program.
One remaining student will complete the program under a Teach-Out Plan, and no new students have been admitted within the past 12 months.

- *Vote: unanimous*

College of Health Sciences
- None

- **Information Items**:
  - MMIS 6299, Modified prereqs - MMIS 6296, MMIS 6298, and MMIS 6245
  - LOGS 6670, Change grade type to "Pass/Fail"

Update from Each College:

- College of Arts & Sciences

Updates – KD

The Music Center ribbon cutting is scheduled for today at 2:30 p.m.

Continued efforts are underway to grow and expand academic program

- College of Education

None

- College of Health Sciences

  2 informational items coming for next meeting.

Announcements/Discussion:

The Smartsheet is still not reaching all committee members; this may be related to the Curriculog system transition, which is currently in progress. The committee chair shares the necessary information directly in the meantime.

Registration begins on October 27 – committee members are encouraged to remind students to apply early for their own benefit.

The Travel Grant Award deadline is October 15.

Next Meeting:
Graduate Council: November 7, 2025 (1:00 PM) – Atkinson 202

Adjournment

- *Motion MM*
- *Second JD*
- *Vote: unanimous*

Graduate Council Meetings for 2024-2025
August 29, 2025 – Atkinson 202
September 12, 2025 – Atkinson 202—did not meet, no agenda items
October 10, 2025 – Atkinson 202
November 7, 2025 – Atkinson 202
January 16, 2026 – Atkinson 202
February 13, 2026 – Atkinson 202
March 6, 2026 – Atkinson 202
April 3, 2026 – Atkinson 202