



Graduate Council Meeting
Friday, February 13, 2026
1:00 p.m.
Atkinson 202

Call to Order

Members: Mandy Jarriel (Grad School), Doyin Cokerkolo (CoEd), Kristina Dandy (CoAS), Tanya Goette (CoBT), Josie Doss (CoHS), Mike Martino (CoHS), Krystal Canady (CoHS), Scott Cox (CoBT), Tina Holmes-Davis (CoAS), Al Mead (Chair, CoAS), Shanda Brand* (Grad Admissions), Solomon Ashu* (student rep.).

*non-voting

Additional: Cara Smith*, Kay Anderson*, Eleni Bonner*, Lyndall Muschell*

Regrets: Al Mead

Guests: None

Absent: Janet Turner (CoEd),

Approval of Agenda:

Motion: KD

Second: TG

Vote: unanimous

Approval of Minutes – Jan 16, 2026

Motion: KD

Second: TG

Vote: unanimous

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

Topics Covered by Dr. Jarriel:

Graduate Academic Task Force

- The Graduate Academic Task Force held its first meeting on 2/13. Please help if anyone reaches out requesting data, background information, or supporting documents. This information will help shape and guide the initial focus areas for the new Vice President of Graduate & Research once they begin.

VP of Graduate & Research Position

- The Vice President of Graduate & Research position is open
- Target start date is July 1.

Graduate Student Needs

- Graduate students are seeking more professional development opportunities.

- Plan to collaborate with Angela to expand offers related to School of Continuing and Professional Studies.
- Grad Connect will continue to serve as a platform or initiative to support these efforts.

Graduate Student Travel Grants

- Spring typically sees higher volume, but applications are currently lower than expected.
- Students should be encouraged to apply.
- Application deadline is Sunday. (hopefully some late applications are coming in this weekend).

MS in Applied AI Proposal Update

- Another meeting was held with **USG** regarding the proposed Master of Science in Applied AI.
- USG has implemented a **new review process** for academic program proposals:
 - Review team must justify the proposal to the **USG Cabinet**.
 - If approved, it then goes to the **Board of Regents**.
- Concerns raised at the USG level include:
 - The program's strong **AI/technology focus**.
 - How GCSU's **liberal arts mission** supports and aligns with this expertise.
- **Dr. Roberts** met with USG yesterday and provided evidence demonstrating how the proposal aligns with and supports GCSU's liberal arts mission.
- More information will be shared at future meetings, and updates will be given as developments occur.

Old Business: maximum allowable credit overlap between graduate programs

There are no new major updates from KD at this time. She is continuing conversations with others regarding the integrity of the programs and whether there is still a need for the dual degree structure. This may or may not move forward. The main decision ahead is determining whether the dual degree option should continue. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

New Business:

- **Action Items:**

College of Arts & Sciences

- None:

College of Business & Technology

- None:

College of Education:

- Professional Learning & Innovation:

- Change of program name: Library Media to School Librarianship; The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) assembled a task force (2024) to review and revise the rule and standards for Library Media EPPs. The resulting revised rule and standards (see attached) also included a change of program name from Library Media to School Librarian. This program name change is proposed to align with the GaPSC update.

Dr. Doykin from College of Education reported that the program name is being changed as required by the State. A few course titles may also need updates, and a proposal will be submitted for those changes in the future. Otherwise, the revisions are primarily compliance-driven.

The motion was made by JD and seconded by TG. Vote was unanimous.

The proposal will move forward to the next required steps, including review by USG and other appropriate bodies.

College of Health Sciences

- None:

- **Information Items:**

- SON, DNP:

RE: DNP Course Modifications:

This memorandum summarizes proposed DNP program catalog revisions, which include the removal of courses that are no longer utilized and updates to course descriptions and pre/co-requisites to ensure appropriate curriculum sequencing and full alignment with the current programs of study. These revisions do not alter the existing program of study, course alignments, or degree requirements.

Modified Courses (see attached course change form): NRS 8300, 8410, 9300, 9310, 9320, 9400

Deleted Courses (see attached course change form): NRS 8520, 8530, 8540, 9100

Updated Course Descriptions: Emphasize progression and integration across sequenced courses, particularly in Evidence-Based Practice (NRS 8300, 9300, 9400) and Translational and Clinical Research (NRS 9310, 9320).

These revisions are proposed for implementation in Summer 2026 and support program integrity, accreditation compliance, and optimal student outcomes.

Information/Overview was provided by JD.

Update from Each College:

- College of Arts & Sciences

Some proposals are expected to come forward, including a pilot for 8-week session models to evaluate how the format performs and whether it may increase competitiveness.

- Kay A. noted that this change would have broader implications, including considerations around Double Bobcats, financial aid, and other operational areas.

- Program length changes are also part of the discussion, with more conversations to come as details develop.

More information will be shared as the proposals move forward.

- **College of Business & Technology**

COBT faculty are proposing modifications to the Double Bobcat pathway for MMIS, including expanding course options and increasing flexibility in the choices available to students.

- Another item under discussion is the development of a dual MAC and MMIS program.
 - Further conversation is needed because the two programs differ in delivery format—some courses are fully online while others are offered on campus.
 - This may result in students beginning with face-to-face coursework and transitioning to online courses as they complete the program.
- The proposed dual program would total 45 credit hours across both degrees.
- More details and discussion will follow as the proposal develops.

- **College of Education**

Efforts are underway to grow graduate programs, including collaboration with the recruitment team to explore strategies for increasing student enrollment.

This includes evaluating opportunities for new programs, innovative ideas, and different instructional modalities to broaden appeal and access.

- A meeting with the Montori School is scheduled, where additional possibilities for program development and recruitment partnerships will be discussed.
 - More updates will be shared as these conversations progress.
- **College of Health Sciences-** Overall updates from the College of Health Sciences were provided by Dr. Doss and Dr. Martino from SHHP.

Announcements/Discussion:

Dr. Lyndall Muschell and Dr. Mandy Jarriel will be attending an upcoming USG meeting to review potential graduate leadership programs (core). The proposed structure includes **three different tracks**. The program will still need to proceed through the full governance process and all required approval steps. The anticipated launch date is Fall 2027.

More information will be shared as the proposal advances.

Next Meeting:

Graduate Council: March 6, 2026 (1:00 PM) – Atkinson 202

Adjournment

Motion: MM

Second: TG

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