

# Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

<https://mtsu.zoom.us/j/82406790478>

September 26, 2025

1:00 pm

Graduate Council Chair: Dr. Frank Lambert

Members Present: Alyson Lischka, Barbara Lancaster, Carol Nies, Dan Morrell, Deborah Wagnon, Don Roy, Frank Lambert, Helen Binkley, Hongbo Zhang, Jaishree Ranganathan, Joan Boulware, Kate Pantelides, Kim Evert, Sally Ann Cruikshank, Stephen Salter, Sanjay Asthana, Abigail Nkuah, Rachael Oke

Members Absent: Kim Ward, Patrick Richey

Visitors Present: Christine Crisp, Racha El Kadiri

I. Call to order: Dr. Frank Lambert 1:01pm

II. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum Changes – Dr. Alyson Lischka

Motion was made to approve the proposals. The motion was seconded and approved.

B. Graduate Faculty Status – Dr. Kate Pantelides

Motion was made to approve the applications. The motion was seconded and approved.

III. New Business

A. Grad Faculty- Program Directors – Dr. Racha El Kadiri

Dr. Racha El Kadiri introduced the topic of whether program directors should be required to hold Graduate Faculty Status.

Dr. Helen Binkley expressed support, noting that this is the purpose of the various categories of Graduate Faculty Status, with Teaching Status being the appropriate option for program directors.

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Dr. Salter opposed, stating that program directors should be required to hold Full Graduate Faculty Status, arguing that the current requirements are already minimal compared to other universities.

Dr. Carol Nies suggested that program directors should hold Graduate Faculty Status, but not necessarily at the Full level, as it may depend on the program.

Dr. Alyson Lischka added that consideration should be given to the nature of each program when determining requirements.

Dr. Kate Pantelides stated that program directors should hold Graduate Faculty Status, while recognizing that different skills may be required depending on the role.

Dr. El Kadiri emphasized that some programs are more professional in nature rather than research-based, and that the different levels of Graduate Faculty Status allow for needed flexibility.

Dr. Morrell clarified that Graduate Faculty Status for program directors should be limited to Teaching or Full, not Adjunct.

Following discussion, Dr. Helen Binkley moved that all program directors be required to hold Graduate Faculty Status, either Teaching or Full. The motion carried with 15 votes in favor and 3 votes opposed.

Dr. El Kadiri inquired when this requirement would take effect. It was established that the requirement will go into effect beginning Fall 2026.

## IV. Announcements:

Dr. Lambert noted that he has a scheduled meeting with Dr. El Kadiri to discuss the Appeal process. This item will be brought forward for discussion at the October meeting.

## V. Motion to Adjourn: Dr. Frank Lambert 1:32pm

**MINUTES**  
**2025-2026 Graduate Council Subcommittee**  
**September 19, 2025**  
**ZOOM - <https://mtsu.zoom.us/j/87504291199>**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Call to Order:** Alyson Lischka 9:00am  
**Present:** Alyson Lischka, Carol Nies, Dan Morrell, Deborah Wagnon, Joan Boulware  
**Absent:** Barbara Lancaster  
**Visitors Present:** Mitzi Brandon, Tongia Key, Paula Calahan, Racha El Kadiri, Henrique Momm, Tyler Henson, Lyndsey Bennett  
**Previously Tabled Proposals** N/A  
**New Business**

- Dr. El Kadiri, Mitzi, Paula, and Tyler provided an overview of expectations for future meetings.
- Brief introductions were made by attendees.
- It was announced that Dr. Lischka will be unable to attend the October meeting due to a conference commitment. Dr. Morrell volunteered to chair the October meeting in her absence.

**Proposals**

Proposal	Effective Date	Proposed Action	Detailed Explanation	Reference #
<b>College of Basic and Applied Sciences</b>				
<b>Geosciences</b>				
Geosciences, M.S.	Summer 2026	Change to admissions, retention, progression, or graduation policy	Remove GRE Requirement	1
<b>Discussion:</b> Dr. Henrique Momm attended the meeting and was available to address any questions.				
<b>Committee Action:</b> A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

**Adjournment:** 9:19am



Graduate Council - Faculty Status Subcommittee  
September Minutes – Zoom  
<https://mtsu.zoom.us/j/82406790478>  
September 19, 2025  
1:00 PM

I. Call to Order: Kate Pantelides 1:00pm

Members Present: Kate Pantelides, Sanjay Asthana, Kim Evert, Hongbo Zhang, Kimberly Ward

Members Absent: Sally Ann Cruikshank

Visitors Present: Christine Crisp

II. Graduate Faculty Status

**Adjunct**

1. Abbott, James- approved
2. Aldridge, Fredrick- approved
3. Andes, Heather- approved
4. Aylor, John- approved
5. Bayne, Robin- approved
6. Bickford, Kelsey- approved
7. Brasher, Casey- approved
8. Brown, Diana- approved
9. Chandler, William Bernard-- approved for adjunct
10. Christian, Gerald- approved
11. Colvin, Shannon- approved for adjunct
12. Creager, Ashley- approved
13. Crocker, Sarah- approved
14. Crowder, Ashley- approved
15. DeMaria, Matthew - approved
16. Dezhnabadi, Navid- approved
17. Duke, Bobby- approved
18. Erdman, Shelly Gray- approved
19. Ferrell, MaiTricia- approved
20. Glenn, Patricia- approved
21. Goodman Henn, Carolyn- approved
22. Harris, Sarah- approved for adjunct
23. Holton, James- approved for adjunct
24. Hollings, Marion- approved
25. Honey, Julie- approved
26. Johnson, James- approved

27. Johnson, Brelinda- approved
28. Koski, Timothy- approved
29. Langley, Jamie- approved
30. Leming, Heidi- approved
31. Licciardi, Bryanna- approved
32. Lodl, John- approved
33. McCann, John- approved
34. McIndoo, Sydney Lucille- approved
35. Micciche, Laura- approved
36. Moffett, Kimberly- approved
37. Mostafa, Amira- approved
38. Murfree, Sarah- approved
39. Oats, Christina- approved
40. Qazait, Fatin- approved
41. Short, Shelby- approved
42. Trail, Anne- approved
43. Tunstall, Temeka- approved
44. Vaughn, Reita- approved
45. White-Springer, Sarah- approved
46. Williams, Arthur Stephen- approved for adjunct
47. Willis, Carole- approved

## **Full**

1. Arroyo, Fred- approved
2. Bamwine, Patricia- approved
3. Binkley, Marcy- approved
4. Bjerke, Jillian- approved
5. Blackwell, Aleka- approved
6. Charles, Anto Pradeep Raja- approved
7. Dougherty, Daniel- approved
8. Dowell, Cyrana- approved
9. Dye, Meredith- approved
10. Fergurson, John- approved
11. Fleming, Michael- approved
12. Fowler, Robert- approved
13. Garven, Sarah- approved
14. Gatson, Torren- approved
15. Giannoni Guzman, Manuel Antonio- approved
16. Hinnenkamp, Jay- approved
17. Jean, Devin- approved
18. Jiang, Zhen - approved
19. Krahenbuhl, Kevin- approved
20. Lamin, Sylvester- approved

21. Maginn, Andrew- approved
22. Manathunga, Vajira- approved
23. Oldham, Cary- approved
24. Phelps, Amy- approved
25. Rimal, Ramchandra- approved
26. Rost, James- approved
27. Rowell, Ginger- approved
28. Schrodt, Katie - approved
29. Stayton-Alvarez, Rebecca Diane- approved
30. Smart, Rajah- approved
31. Strayer, Jeremy- approved
32. Wang, Ruifeng- approved
33. White, Laura- approved

### **Teaching**

1. Braue, Bryan T- approved
2. Harris, Amy- approved
3. Macy, Amy- approved
4. Neely, Kari- approved for Teaching
5. Ragland, Kevin- approved
6. Zhang, Ping- approved

### **III. Motion to Adjourn: Kate Pantelides 1:29pm**