

Graduate Council Minutes

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

January 30, 2026

1:00 pm

Graduate Council Chair: Dr. Frank Lambert

Members Present: Alyson Lischka, Barbara Lancaster, Carol Nies, Dan Morrell, Deborah Wagon, Frank Lambert, Helen Binkley, Jaishree Ranganathan, Kate Pantelides, Kim Ward, Abigail Nkuah, Patrick Richey, Hongbo Zhang, Joan Boulware, Sanjay Asthana, Rachael Oke

Members Absent: Sally Ann Cruikshank, Kim Evert, Don Roy, Stephen Salter

Visitors Present: Christine Crisp, Racha El Kadiri

Call to order: Dr. Frank Lambert 1:00pm

1. Approval of Graduate Council Minutes from December 5, 2025

Motion was made to approve the Dec 2025 Graduate Council Minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.

2. Old Business - Appeal Process Restructure – Dr. Racha El Kadiri

The committee reviewed and approved changes to the Graduate Appeal process, with Dr. El Kadiri presenting the final version and highlighting key modifications. The main changes included adding the academic dean as an intermediate step, clarifying accreditation requirements exception for certain programs, defining specific grounds for appeal, and streamlining the process with clear documentation requirements. The committee also addressed concerns about unprofessional/unethical conduct by explicitly referencing relevant MTSU policies and excluded GPA-based academic standing actions from the appeal process. The motion to accept the new policy was seconded and approved.

3. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum Changes – Dr. Alyson Lischka

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

Graduate Council Minutes

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January 30, 2026

1:00 pm

B. Graduate Faculty Status – Dr. Kate Pantelides

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

C. Scholarship/Program Review – Dr. Helen Binkley

There was no report from the Subcommittee, as it did not meet this month.

4. New Business

A. Elect 2026-2027 Vice Chair

An attempt was made to elect a Vice Chair; however, no volunteers were identified. The matter will be carried over for discussion at the next meeting. Dr. Lambert will follow up with the Council via email to solicit volunteers, recognizing that attendance was impacted by weather conditions.

5. Motion to Adjourn: Dr. Frank Lambert 1:25pm

MINUTES
2025-2026 Graduate Council Subcommittee
January 23, 2026
ZOOM - <https://mtsu.zoom.us/j/87504291199>
9:00 a.m.

Call to Order: Alyson Lischka - 9:00am
Present: Alyson Lischka, Dan Morrell, Barbara Lancaster, Joan Boulware, Carol Nies, Deborah Wagnon

Absent: n/a

Visitors Present: Christine Crisp, Tim Greer, Zhijiang Dong, Kevin Krahenbuhl, Racha El Kadiri, Amy Aldridge, Vickie Harden, Dan Morrell, Emily Butch, Medha Sarkar, John Wallin, Rachel Leander, Tongia Key, Nita Brooks, Kari Neely, Mitzi Brandon, Paula Calahan, Rebecca Oldham, Kim Ward, Samuel Haruna, Tyler Henson, Hanna Terletska, Alecia Pence

Previously Tabled Proposals n/a

New Business n/a

Proposals

Proposal	Effective Date	Proposed Action	Detailed Explanation	Reference #
College of Basic and Applied Sciences				
Computational and Data Science				
Computational and Data Science, Ph.D.	Summer 2026	Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy	Previously required students to submit a one-page personal statement for admission consideration. We are changing this to having students submit a supplemental admissions form. The new form will ask specific questions to help the admissions committee assess students' alignment with and preparation for the program.	7

Discussion: Program representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Computer Science

CSCI - 6200 - Human Computer Interaction and User Centered Design	Summer 2026	New Course	Prerequisite: CSCI 3110 with a grade of C or better. Explores the design, development, and evaluation of interactive systems with focus on user interface design and broader human-centered computing. Emphasizes user-centered design principles, prototyping methods, and usability evaluation techniques. Topics include cognitive aspects of interaction, interface design strategies, accessibility, and ethical considerations in technology use.	4
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Discussion: Department representatives were available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

CSCI - 6500 - Selected Topics in Cybersecurity Systems	Summer 2026	New Course	Prerequisites: CSCI 3110 with a grade of C or better. Topics vary by semester and may include cryptographic mechanisms, secure architectures, risk management, and regulatory frameworks.	5
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Discussion: Department representatives were available to answer questions. Information Systems and Analytics Chair Tim Greer was present and raised questions about ISA not being consulted.

Committee Action: After much discussion, a motion was made to approve the course. Motion was seconded. Committee failed to approve the proposal, and the course will be returned to the department.

Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence Concentration, M.S.	Summer 2026	New Program	To better meet local industry needs — particularly in AI and cybersecurity — we aim to align our graduate program with our undergraduate concentrations.	8
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Discussion: Department representatives were available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Computer Science, Cybersecurity Systems Concentration, M.S.	Summer 2026	New Program	To better meet local industry needs — particularly in AI and cybersecurity — we aim to align our graduate program with our undergraduate concentrations.	9
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Discussion: Department representatives were available to answer questions. Information Systems and Analytics Chair Tim Greer was present and raised questions about ISA not being consulted.

Committee Action: A motion was made to move the proposal to February meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

Computer Science, Software Development Concentration, M.S.	Summer 2026	New Program	To better meet local industry needs — particularly in AI and cybersecurity — we aim to align our graduate program with our undergraduate concentrations.	10
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Discussion: Department representatives were available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mathematical Sciences

Mathematics, Actuarial and Financial Mathematics Concentration, M.S.	Summer 2026	Change to curriculum of existing major	Replace MATH 6604 with ACSI 6604; remove ACSI 5640 from the elective concentration course list for the Examination, Internship, and Thesis options of the M.S. in Mathematics with a concentration in Financial and Actuarial Mathematics.	25
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mathematics, M.S. (Mathematics Education and Actuarial and Financial Mathematics Concentrations)	Summer 2026	Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy	The GRE is currently required for admission to all concentrations. The Mathematics Education and Actuarial and Financial Mathematics concentrations would like to remove the GRE requirement for admission.	26
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Physics and Astronomy

PHYS - 6420 - Introduction to Quantum Computing	Summer 2026	New Course	Prerequisite: Linear Algebra, Python, or instructor consent. Introduces the fundamental principles of quantum computation, covering qubits, quantum states, linear algebra foundations, quantum gates, multi-qubit systems, measurement theory, density matrices, and entanglement.	28
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

PHYS - 6430 - Quantum Computing II: Algorithms and Applications	Summer 2026	New Course	Prerequisites: PHYS 6420 or instructor consent; linear algebra; proficiency in Python. Study of quantum algorithms and applications in physics, chemistry, optimization, and machine learning. Topics include quantum Fourier transform, phase estimation, Grover's search, variational quantum algorithms, quantum error mitigation, QKD, and NISQ-era applications.	29
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

College of Behavioral and Health Sciences

Human Sciences

Fashion Studies (program change from Textiles, Merchandising, and Design to Fashion Studies) - Graduate Version	Summer 2026	Program name change Course Prefix Change	This is a request to change the program name and corresponding course prefixes from Textiles, Merchandising, and Design (TXMD) to Fashion Studies (FASH).	19
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Human Development and Family Science (Graduate for move to COE)	Summer 2026	Course Prefix Change	CDFS 5140, 5390, 5391, 6310 course prefix change to HDFS 5140, 5390, 5391, 6310 https://mtsu.curriculog.com/proposal:9609/form	19b
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Psychology

PSY - 6543 - Professional and Ethical Conduct in Behavior Analysis	Summer 2026	New Course	Legal constraints and ethical guidelines as pertinent to behavioral research and practice. Critical thinking and problem solving related to ethical, legal, and professional conduct in behavior analysis.	30
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Psychology, Applied Research and Methodology Concentration, M.A.	Summer 2026	Change to curriculum of existing major	The Applied Research and Methodology concentration of the Psychology master's program currently includes a 36 credit hr general track and a 37 credit hour Behavior Analysis specialization. We are proposing to increase the number of hours required for Psychology, Applied Research and Methodology concentration to 37 (from 36), which makes the ARM concentration and the Behavior Analysis specialization within the ARM concentration consistent in number of hours required.	31
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Psychology, Clinical Concentration, M.A.	Summer 2026	Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy	Remove the GRE requirement. Require the submission of a Personal Statement/Letter of Intent. Require a virtual interview for applicants selected as candidates for admissions.	32
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Psychology, M.A. (all concentrations)	Summer 2026	Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy	Change the application due date for fall admissions to the MA Psychology program (all concentrations) to Feb 15th (from the current March 1st due date). This change will apply to all concentrations (although the I-O concentration already has Feb. 15th as the due date for fall admissions applications).	33
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Psychology, Pre-Specialist in Education: School Psychology Concentration, M.A.	Summer 2026	Program Change	Proposed change to format of Degree Requirements in the catalog. No changes to actual program requirement, just to the format and organization in the catalog. Removing category heads so just one list of courses will be displayed.	34
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions. NOTE: Document showing changes was not attached to proposal. It has now been added.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Psychology, Quantitative Concentration, M.A.	Summer 2026	Program termination	Proposing to eliminate the Quantitative concentration of our Psychology master's program	35
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Social Work

SW - 5010 - At Risk Youth: Policies, Programs, and Interventions	Summer 2026	New Course	This class will consider, examine and analyze factors that inform approaches, practices, and policies to intervene with at risk and justice involved youth.	41
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

SW - 5720 - Crisis Intervention	Summer 2026	New Course	Examines theories and practices of crisis intervention across individual, family, and community settings, with emphasis on ethical decision-making, cultural humility, and trauma-informed approaches.	42
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

SW - 6110 - People, Power, and Perspectives in Society	Summer 2026	Title Change	The new title, People, Power, and Perspectives in Society, more accurately reflects the course’s broad analysis of how people encounter and respond to systems of power across social contexts, rather than implying a focus limited to specific populations. Prerequisite: SW 6010	43
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Military and Veterans Social Work Graduate Certificate	Summer 2026	New Program	The Military and Veterans Social Work Certificate will offer coursework designed to develop knowledge and skills for work in settings serving military, veterans and their families.	27
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Sport Social Work Certificate	Summer 2026	New Program	The certificate in sport social work offers coursework to develop knowledge and skills for work in a variety of settings affiliated with sports.	45
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Jones College of Business

Accounting

Accounting, M.Acc.	Summer 2026	Change to curriculum of existing major	Add ACTG 6870 as an elective.	1
Discussion: n/a				

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Information System and Analytics

BIA - 5100 - Location Analytics	Summer 2026	New Course	Prerequisite: BIA 2610. Explores how business can make strategic and operational decisions based on geospatial data. Students work through several practical cases to solve common geospatial problems encountered in the corporate environment.	3
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

CYBM - 5840 - Study Abroad	Summer 2026	New Course	A cybersecurity management education experience designed to expose the student to the economic, political, cultural, and technological environments of another country through travel. Department Permission Required.	6
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved with one correction.

MBAI - 6855 - Information Systems	Summer 2026	Course Discontinuation	Course is no longer part of the MBA curriculum and hasn't been offered in over 5 years. We have no plan to offer this course again in the future.	23
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Management

Supply Chain Management, M.S.	Summer 2026	Change to curriculum of existing major	Add MGMT 6875 Supply Chain Operations as an alternative to MBAM 6875 Supply Chain Operations.	46
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

College of Education

Assessment, Learning, and Student Success: Higher Education Concentration, Ed.D.	Summer 2026	Change to curriculum of existing major	Use ALSI 7500 as an alternative to the three one credit seminars (ALSI 7050, 7250, and 7450) for our fully online students for a more seamless experience	2
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Elementary and Special Education

Special Education, M.Ed.	Summer 2026	Program Change	Change hours. Students wanting to attain a master's degree in special education at MTSU, also have the option of student teaching one additional semester for 9 credit hours, to obtain an initial license in Special Education K-8 or 6-12 Intervention, or K-12 Comprehensive.	44
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

College of Liberal Arts

World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

FL - 5500 - Introduction to Teaching World Languages	Summer 2026	Course Change	The WLLC department is changing references in all its programs/courses from "foreign" to "world." The change aligns with the department's name.	11
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

FL - 6010 - Second Language Acquisition: Theory and Practice	Summer 2026	Course Change	The WLLC department is changing references in all its programs/courses from "foreign" to "world." For FL 6100, the word "foreign" will be changed to "second" because "Second Language Acquisition" is a known field of study	12
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

FL - 6020 - Reading, Writing, and Learning Methods for ESL	Summer 2026	Course Discontinuation	The College of Education now houses ESL programming. The Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures has not offered this course in at least 10 years.	13
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Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

FL - 6030 - Trends in Teaching World Languages for Proficiency	Summer 2026	Course Change	FL 6030 is being proposed as a part of the Core in the M.A.T. World Languages and Cultures program. A change in title and course description is needed to reflect its inclusion in the Core.	14
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				
FL - 6035 - Multilingual Language Learning Practices I	Summer 2026	New Course	This course provides structured exposure to an additional language through guided classroom observation, linguistic analysis, and reflective practice.	15
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				
FL - 6045 - Multilingual Language Learning Practices II	Summer 2026	New Course	This course continues to provide structured exposure to the same language studied in FL 6035 through guided classroom observation, linguistic analysis, and reflective practice. Prerequisite- FL 6035. Students may not take FL 6035 and 6045 concurrently	16
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				
FL - 6800 - Instructional Technology in World Language Education	Summer 2026	Course Change	The WLLC department is changing references in all its programs/courses from "foreign" to "world." The change aligns the course with the department's name.	17
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				
FL - 6900 - Issues in Second Language Acquisition	Summer 2026	Course Change	Instead of "Issues in Foreign Language Acquisition," the change to "Issues in Second Language Acquisition" is a more accurate description.	18
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Foreign Languages, French Concentration, M.A.T. (termination)	Summer 2026	Program termination	MAT Concentrations in French, German, and Spanish will be terminated. A revised program in World Languages and Cultures is proposed with a concentration in Teacher Licensure	20
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				
Foreign Languages, German Concentration, M.A.T. (termination)	Summer 2026	Program termination	MAT Concentrations in French, German, and Spanish will be terminated. A revised program in World Languages and Cultures is proposed with a concentration in Teacher Licensure	21
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				
Foreign Languages, Spanish Concentration, M.A.T. (termination)	Summer 2026	Program termination	MAT Concentrations in French, German, and Spanish will be terminated. A revised program in World Languages and Cultures is proposed with a concentration in Teacher Licensure	22
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				
SPAN - 6900 - Directed Readings in Spanish Literature and Culture	Summer 2026	Course Change	Change the course number from 5900 to 6900. Change the course description.	36
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				
SPAN - 6910 - Directed Readings in Latin American Literature and Culture	Summer 2026	Course Change	Change the course number from 5910 to 6910. Change the course description.	37
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

SPAN - 6970 - Seminar in Spanish Literature	Summer 2026	Course Change	Course title and course description updated to focus solely on Spanish Peninsular literature.	38
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				
SPAN - 6980 - Seminar in Latin American Literature	Summer 2026	New Course	Provides an in-depth, research-based study of a specific author, genre, period, literary movement, or critical topic within Latin American literature.	39
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				
SPAN - 6990 - Study Abroad	Summer 2026	Course Change	Change the course number from 5990 to 6990. Change the course description.	40
Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				
World Languages and Cultures, M.A.T.	Summer 2026	Program Change	<p>Terminate the existing MAT Foreign Languages concentrations (French, German, and Spanish)</p> <p>Create a new MAT program titled "World Languages and Cultures"</p> <p>Create a concentration - World Languages and Cultures, 6-12 Teacher Licensure concentration</p> <p>Note: The non-licensure will be stand alone.</p> <p>Change the credit hours for the program to 30 credit hours</p> <p>Establish the credit hours for licensure concentration as 36 credit hours</p> <p>Eliminate the 3rd Language Proficiency/Elective Requirement</p> <p>Eliminate Thesis option</p> <p>Terminate the comprehensive exam requirement, replace it with common portfolio assignments in the Core Block</p>	47

Discussion: Department representative was available to answer questions.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

College of Media and Entertainment

Recording Industry

MRAT - 5575 - Sound Effects Design for Picture	Summer 2026	New Course	Through lecture, demonstration, and hands-on projects, exposes students to approaches, techniques, and considerations when creating sound effects for different visual platforms such as TV, film, game, and Web. Prerequisite: MRAT 6040 with a grade of C or higher.	24
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Discussion: n/a

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Adjournment:

Dan Morrell 10:03am

Graduate Council - Faculty Status Subcommittee
January Minutes – Zoom
<https://mtsu.zoom.us/j/82406790478>
January 23, 2026
1:00 PM

I. Call to Order: Kate Pantelides 1:01pm

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

Members Absent: Kim Ward, Sally Ann Cruikshank

Visitors Present: Christine Crisp

II. Graduate Faculty Status

Adjunct

1. Bonito, Gregory- approved
2. Durham, James- approved
3. Hirtzel, Raymond- approved
4. Joecken, Chris- approved for adjunct
5. Kelp, Nicole- approved
6. Kennady, Mark- approved
7. Korstange, Amy- approved
8. Marquez, Sherri- approved
9. Marrazzo, Ross- approved
10. Robinson, Mikaila- approved
11. Solomon, Jordan- approved for adjunct
12. Young, Julie- approved

Full

1. Clark, William- approved
2. Donnelly, Bridget- approved
3. Farwell, Tricia- approved
4. Gordon, Robert- approved
5. Jubenville, Colby- approved
6. Li, Cen- approved
7. McClain, Janna- approved
8. McRae Kleinlein, Joan- approved
9. Schoonover, Ciera- approved
10. Sultan, Alison- approved
11. Volkov, Anatoliy- approved

Teaching

1. Allen, Melissa- approved
2. Arndt, Michael- approved
3. Conkwright, Katherine- approved
4. Hollyfield, Jerod- approved
5. Roberts, Sherry- approved

III. Motion to Adjourn: Kate Pantelides 1:04