

**GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**May 14, 2015**  
**York Room**

**Attendees:** Ed Petkus (Acting Dean), Brian Chinni (Chairman), Eric Daffron, Michele Dunn, Julie Good, Tim Landers (Secretary), Emma Rainforth, Steve Rice, Chris Romano, Sam Rosenberg, Rich Russo, Eddie Saiff, and Ashwani Vasissth.

Chairman Chinni opened the meeting at 10:02 a.m. with the following agenda:

- Review and approval of May meeting minutes (T. Landers)
- New Graduate Student Orientation Guide (M. Dunn)
- Proposed Residency Requirement (Michele Dunn/Chris Romano)
- Other Business: New MSW Director, Council elections

**1.** After a review of the May minutes, E. Saiff moved that they be approved with edits to the graduate teaching loads and transfer credit discussions. The motion was seconded by E. Daffron and unanimously approved.

**2.** M. Dunn introduced the graduate orientation handbook and discussed the need for a formal document since most graduate programs don't hold their own orientation. The handbook will be available on the website with printed copies available at the discretion of the program Directors. T. Landers noted that the readmissions requirement penalizes MBA students on a single term leave since many first-year courses are prerequisites and are only offered once per year, potentially turning a single term leave into a twelve month absence. E. Saiff suggested that nursing program might have additional requirements that are dictated by licensing agencies. Landers & Dunn agreed to draft new language to addresses sequential cohort programs. C. Romano noted that only a handful of graduate students request a leave each year.

The Council suggested a number of additional edits and thanked Dunn for her efforts.

**3.** The graduate residency discussion follows the formalization of the graduate credit transfer policy. M. Dunn and C. Romano reviewed their extensive graduate school survey results, which revealed many differences across graduate programs and schools regarding transfer credits and residency requirements and offered no consensus view.

The proposed residency policy states that at least 75% of the graduate program credits must be completed at Ramapo, exclusive of transfer or GLEX credits. Looking at the UG policy, Romano noted that 80 credits from a four-year college and 65 from a two-year college might be eligible for transfer to Ramapo with at least the last 32 being completed here. The Council agreed that a graduate residency policy should be significantly higher than the minimum UG percentage (37.5%). S. Rosenberg moved to approve the residency language and send it to the Provost's Council for further discussion. The motion was seconded by C. Romano and unanimously approved.

4. Other Business: S. Rosenberg announced that Anne Marie Moreno has replaced Janet Furness as Director of the MSW program. Chairman Chinni asked for nominations for Graduate Council Chair and Secretary. Since only two nominations were presented, R. Russo moved that Chinni and Landers be elected for a one-year term as Graduate Council Chair and Secretary respectively. The motion was seconded by Julie Good and unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Minutes submitted by Tim Landers