

**MINUTES OF THE 329<sup>TH</sup> GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING  
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME  
OCTOBER 2, 2012**

**Members present:** Christine Maziar, Acting Dean of the Graduate School, Vice President and Senior Associate Provost (Council chair); David Bennett, Cindy Bergeman, Robert Bernhard, Sunny Boyd, Laura Carlson, Mark Cummings, Dennis Doordan, Jeremy Fein, Rick Garnett (representing Dean Nell Newton, Law School), Roger Huang, Mark McCready (representing Dean Peter Kilpatrick, Engineering), John McGreevy, Gerald McKenny, Margaret Meserve, Mark Schurr, Rich Taylor (representing Dean Gregory Crawford, Science), Alain Toumayan, Diane Parr Walker, Katherine Rueff (Graduate Student Union)

**Members excused:** Panos Antsaklis, Phillip Bess, Tom Corke, Margaret Doody, Umesh Garg, Marvin Miller, Doug Rice

**Graduate School representatives present:** Brian Baker, Brian Flaherty, Nyrée McDonald

**Guests present:** Prof. Steven Buechler (Chair, Department of Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics); Prof. Susan Blum (Chair, Department of Anthropology); Prof. Edward Conlon and Prof. Mary Goss (Mendoza College of Business); Prof. Peter Holland, Associate Dean for the Arts, College of Arts and Letters; Profs. Margot Fassler, Peter Jeffery, and Carmen-Hellena Tellez (Departments of Music and Theology)

**Reporter:** Mary Hendriksen

Dr. Christine Maziar, Acting Dean of the Graduate School, and Vice President and Senior Associate Provost, welcomed Graduate Council members to the first meeting of the 2012-2013 academic year. She took up the agenda items as follows:

- 1. Minutes of the meeting of March 12, 2012:** The minutes of the Graduate Council meeting of March 12, 2012, were approved as presented. [They are now posted on the Graduate Council website, as are minutes from previous meetings: <https://graduateschool.nd.edu/about-the-graduate-school/graduate-council/>]
- 2. Election of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council:** The executive committee functions as an advisory group to the Dean of the Graduate School and convenes before each Graduate Council meeting to establish the agenda. In addition to the Dean, it consists of the associate deans, a liaison from the Academic Council (this year, Prof. Laura Carlson), and three faculty members and one student elected from and by the Graduate Council. Members elected at today's meeting by acclamation were Prof. Cindy Bergeman (Psychology), Prof. Sunny Boyd (Biology), Prof. John McGreevy (History, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters) and Ms. Kate Rueff (graduate student in Physics).
- 3. Family Accommodation Policy Amendment:** The Graduate School's Childbirth and Adoption Accommodation Policy for students who are new parents is posted at: [https://graduateschool.nd.edu/assets/40607/family\\_accommodation\\_policy.pdf](https://graduateschool.nd.edu/assets/40607/family_accommodation_policy.pdf) Under the policy, which

is an alternative to either the six-week medical separation policy or a full-fledged leave, students maintain their standing as students and are eligible for financial support.

As currently written, the policy specifies that students must seek the family accommodation in either the fall or spring semester. The Council considered an amendment to allow students on a 12-month funding program to begin that accommodation in the summer. Any accommodation in the summer would still result in a 16-week period with an end point during the fall semester. Further, once the 16-week accommodation has been completed, the student will be expected to finish out the fall semester at a 100% workload; yet all official academic exam deadlines will be treated as if the student had been granted the accommodation in the fall semester.

The Council approved the amendment by a unanimous vote.

**4. Transfer of the Master of Science in Applied Mathematics (MSAM) degree to the Department of Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics and updating the title and requirements:**

Dean Maziar introduced Dr. Steven Buechler, chair of the Department of Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics (ACMS), to introduce the proposal.

Dr. Buechler explained that many years ago, the Department of Mathematics created the Master of Science in Applied Mathematics (MSAM) degree. It has been awarded to doctoral students in other departments whose studies include a significant amount of work in applied mathematics.

Most of the courses taken by MSAM students, and their former advisers, transferred to the recently created Department of Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics.

The proposal is to transfer the master's in applied mathematics to the new ACMS department, while updating the title and requirements to reflect current standards. [An attachment specified the requirements for the proposed MS-ACMS degree. Council members also received a letter dated April 23, 2012, from Dr. Matthew Gursky, chair of the Department of Mathematics, supporting the proposed change.] The new master's degree, to be known as the Master of Science in Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics (MS-ACMS) can be earned either by ACMS doctoral students on the way to the Ph.D. or by doctoral students in other departments.

Dr. Buechler explained that students currently earning the MSAM degree can be grandfathered in to current requirements, maintaining their current advisers. He added that the Department of Mathematics plans to develop a mechanism under which doctoral students in departments other than mathematics can earn a master's degree in mathematics.

By a unanimous vote, Council members approved the transfer of the MSAM degree to the Department of Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics.

**5. Update the title of the doctoral and master's degrees in Civil & Environmental Engineering & Earth Sciences:** Dean Maziar explained that when the Academic Council approved a name change from the Department of Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences to the current name—the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering & Earth Sciences—the associated undergraduate degrees were adjusted accordingly, but not the graduate degrees. By voice vote, members approved discontinuing two degrees—the Ph.D. in Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences and the master's in Geological

Sciences—and replacing them with the Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences, and the master's in Earth Sciences.

**6. Proposal for a new doctoral program in Anthropology:** Prof. Brian Baker, the Graduate School's associate dean of academic programs, provided some background on the proposal for a new doctoral program in Anthropology and then introduced Prof. Susan Blum, chair of Anthropology and the chief proponent of the program, to take questions and comments.

Prof. Blum explained that the proposed doctoral program has a distinctive stamp as one that promotes “integrative anthropology”—meaning integration of anthropological perspectives, integration of theory and application, integration of teaching, research, and ethics, and integration of Anthropology with other departments, institutes, and centers. It would aim to have 25 doctoral students.

She said that Notre Dame's Department of Anthropology has been widely recognized as providing a superb undergraduate experience. Many faculty in the department are world-renowned scholars who publish significant books and articles, procure prestigious grants, speak throughout the world, and are generally regarded as top-notch scholars. Adding a doctoral component to this already-strong program would enhance simultaneously the department's intellectual footprint, international scholarly profile, and undergraduate educational experience. In addition, in the department's Fall 2012 external review, the reviewers delivered a strong recommendation for adding a doctoral program.

Prof. Boyd asked for more explanation of how graduate students' research will be supported.

Prof. Blum responded that all students will be guaranteed supported—whether by stipend, by a faculty member's external grants, or by their own external support—fellowships, grants for travel or dissertation work, etc. Anthropology uses a different model of support than does the sciences. While students may work in a lab, they are not necessarily supported by that lab/faculty member for their entire tenure as a student.

Prof. McGreevy, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, affirmed that the college has considered sources of support for students and believes that it can support the target number of 25 students, or, as Prof. Blum, has explained, the students can procure that support themselves from external sources.

Ms. Rueff asked if students will have enough space in house for offices, or whether they will they be assigned carrels.

Prof. Blum said that, according to their particular research field, students will use a variety of spaces—desks in laboratories, some spaces in Flanner, and some carrels. Typically, anthropology students work in the field for a year—so one fifth of students will be away in any given year.

Prof. McGreevy emphasized his support for the new program by saying that Notre Dame is the only institution of our stature that does not have a doctoral program in the discipline of anthropology. It is the appropriate time to institute one.

In response to a question from Prof. Boyd, there was some discussion about whether the chair of a student's dissertation committee must be tenured. Prof. Blum said that in light of information shared on different standards in other departments, the department may reconsider this requirement in the proposal.

Members discussed the sufficiency of the library's current holdings in terms of sustaining a doctoral program. Some "backfill" will be helpful in holdings, and for this they are planning to apply for funding from the Office of Research. Ms. Walker, Director of the Libraries, expressed her concern about future journal subscriptions. Prof. Blum said that she and other faculty control funds that they are willing to transfer into a fund for purchases.

Prof. Maziar said that the discussion in the proposal of library resources was a "model" of straightforwardness and honesty. Ms. Walker added that questions about current holdings and future purchases were discussed with her in a timely manner.

There being no further questions, a motion to approve the program was made and seconded. The proposed doctoral program was approved unanimously by Graduate Council members.

**7. Proposal for a Master's of Science in Business program:** Prof. Maziar introduced Profs. Edward Conlon and Mary Goss of the Mendoza College of Business. They are the chief faculty sponsors of a proposal for a master's of science in business that will provide comprehensive, graduate-level training to students who previously studied in areas *other* than business and who have not yet entered the full-time work force.

Prof. Conlon first explained how the proposed program differs from the standard MBA program—which, typically, enrolls students with at least a few years of work experience. Primarily, he says, it is a response to the growing demand for what are called "pre-experience" business programs, such as Notre Dame's current master's of science in accountancy program. Twelve of *Bloomberg Businessweek's* top-30 schools, of which Notre Dame is one, have at least one pre-experience program. (There are 28 such programs in total.) The target population for the proposed program is students with no business degree—students who would come straight from an undergraduate experience focused on architecture, engineering, the humanities, science, or the social sciences, or from a year of service. This is a growing niche—as demonstrated by evidence that the average age of students taking the GMAT is decreasing every year. In 2007, 78% of GMAT scores were sent to MBA programs; now, that number is 66%.

Prof. Taylor asked if there might be an opportunity for shared classes with ESTEEM students. Prof. Conlon thought not. First, ESTEEM has a very particular focus on entrepreneurship; while the proposed master's of science in business is intended to be generalized. Also, there are no electives outside of the program.

Prof. Garnett asked if program proponents imagined that students who earn this degree will return eventually to Mendoza for an MBA. If so, would any courses "count" for MBA courses? Prof. Conlon said that this question is under consideration. One peer—Wake Forest University—currently has such an offering in place. The idea is that with one year of generalized instruction under their belts, after a few years of work experience, students might return and complete their MBA with a second year of specialized instruction in one of Mendoza's MBA fields. Prof. Huang added that it would be convenient for Notre Dame to offer such a one-year program in that it already has a one-year accelerated MBA program.

Prof. Maziar commented that if students saw this as a real opportunity to earn a business credential, it might very well eliminate some of the pressure on them to transfer out of a program in one of the other colleges, particularly Arts and Letters.

Saying that he was strongly in favor of the program, Prof. McGreevy, asked why virtually all of the proposed program's faculty are Special Professional Faculty, as opposed to Teaching-and-Research faculty. Prof. Huang said that the reason is that the courses are foundational courses. He added that the SPF faculty who are slated to teach in the program are among the college's most highly rated teachers.

In response to a question from Prof. Maziar, Prof.s Huang, Conlon, and Goss affirmed that the proposed program would come under the purview of their relevant accrediting body. With the next accreditation visit scheduled in 2014, there will be an opportunity to revise the curriculum rather quickly if asked to do so.

With Prof. Conlon asking members if the program could retain the right to revise the program name—a “master's of business in management” is one possibility—a motion to approve the program was made and seconded. It was approved unanimously by members.

**8. Proposal for a Doctor of Musical Arts program:** As explained in the proposal and then, at the meeting, by Prof. Margot Fassler, the Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) is the degree that students need to qualify for positions in academic music departments and in large churches and cathedrals—whether to perform music at the highest level, to teach performing musicians, or to manage performing ensembles and other programs. Thus, the three-year DMA degree is a degree in *performance*, as opposed to the Ph.D., which is the credential needed to teach academic courses in music history or theory.

Prof. Fassler said that with the faculty now assembled at Notre Dame, the proposed program would be recognized immediately throughout the world as a premier program—one that would be ranked a “worthy competitor” to leading programs at Yale, Indiana University, the Eastman School of Music, the University of Michigan, and Juilliard. Notre Dame's program would be distinctive both because of the University's Catholic character and resources in sacred music, but because of its commitment to creating a program that is multi-cultural and interdisciplinary in ways that no other program is—one that is open to collaboration with other humanities or social science departments and with the University's centers and institutes. Moreover, the program faculty will employ the latest in digital arts technology.

Prof. Fassler concluded by saying that placement in the field is extraordinarily strong. They are confident that their students will secure jobs—and good jobs.

Prof. McGreevy spoke to issues of funding. First, a seed money grant of around \$1.9 million over four years has been secured from the Lilly Endowment specifically to establish the DMA degree. In addition, the Mellon Foundation has given a grant of \$400,000 over four years. Both foundations have indicated their willingness to consider renewal of the grants for one further iteration. Thus, new costs to the college or the University will be minimal for at least four years. Moreover, Prof. McGreevy stated, the program should be an attractive component of the upcoming capital campaign.

Prof. Toumayan asked about connections with the Medieval Institute, with Prof. Fassler and Jeffreys saying that the connections would be numerous. Prof. Jeffery pointed out that he is the Michael P. Grace Chair in Medieval Studies.

Prof. Maziar asked: Given that the program will be relatively small, how will faculty be conscious of their interest in creating a broad footprint for sacred music when selecting students?

Prof. Tellez affirmed that they will be cultivating students with breadth—those who have an interest in the musical arts as a vital component of culture and who possess the requisite virtuosity and talent for leadership.

Prof. Fassler added that the four distinct program areas foster breadth. They are: Performance Specialization, Musicianship and Repertoires, Interdisciplinary Courses, and Advanced Topics.

There was some discussion with Ms. Walker about the adequacy of library resources—in terms of facilities and collections. Prof. Tellez said that Robert Simon, Hesburgh's music librarian, has been very collaborative with faculty. Also, while it is ideal to have studio space near library resources, not doing so would not harm the program in any way.

Prof. Maziar asked for a motion to approve the program, which was made and seconded. Members approved the proposed program unanimously.

[After approval by the Graduate Council, proposals are sent to the Advanced Studies Committee of the Academic Council for approval and routing to the full Academic Council, as well as to the Faculty Senate for its comment.]

**9. Update on the Ad Hoc Graduate School Committee, chaired by Prof. Mark Roche:** Prof. Maziar updated members briefly on the progress of the committee convened by the Provost last May to make recommendations to him on issues that flow from his decision to move the budgeting authority for at least standard graduate stipends from a centralized structure in the Graduate School to the colleges. In addition to the chair of the committee Prof. Mark Roche, former dean of the College of Arts and Letters, committee members are: Prof. Brian Baker (Chemistry and Biochemistry and Associate Dean of Academic Programs, the Graduate School), Prof. Bill Carbonaro (Sociology), Mr. Brian Flaherty (Associate Director, Budget and Operations, the Graduate School), Prof. Tom Fuja (Engineering), Prof. Maura Ryan (Theology and Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Letters), Ms. Kate Rueff (GSU vice president and graduate student in Physics). As acting dean of the Graduate School, Prof. Maziar is an *ex officio* member of the committee.

Prof. Maziar reported that the committee met once in June and then, beginning in mid-August, has met at least twice monthly. All faculty at the University have been encouraged to submit comments to committee members as they study the current structure of the Graduate School and the University's graduate departments and make recommendations on how to best further the strengthening of graduate education at Notre Dame.

There being no further agenda items or discussion, Prof. Maziar adjourned the meeting at 4:53 p.m.