

Report for Graduate Council, February 13, 2025

1. Call to Order at 3:00pm

Members present: Whitley Stone, Jessi Thomsen, Jeremy Logsdon, Dan Strunk & (proxy: Phillip Gunter), Tonya Bragg-Underwood, Mikhail Khennner, Leslee Tarbett, Patricia Desrosiers (proxy: Erin Warfel), Lance Hahn, Kirk Atkinson & (proxy: Ray Blankenship), Angela Jerome (proxy: Jieyoung Kong), Jonathan Ross, Catherine Wilson, Birhanu Gessese, Elnad Jasarevic, Madalynn Alt

Guests: Jennifer Hammonds, Scott Gordon, Cathleen Webb, Alex Lebedinsky, Beth Laves, Provost Bud Fisher

1. Consideration of January 16, 2025 Minutes

- Motion to consider 1st/2nd Hahn/Wilson. Approved unanimously.

2. Reports from standing committees

- Graduate Council Executive Committee
 - Upcoming Elections & AY26 Grad Council
 - Ad Hoc Committee Discussion re: R2
 - R2 Ad Hoc Committee was appointed by Chair Jeremy Logsdon with a unanimous vote of support. Hahn (Ogden) was appointed chair, and other members are Jonathan Ross (GFCB), Jessi Thomsen (Potter), and representatives from CHHS and CEB TBD. The R2 Ad Hoc Committee is charged with formulating questions regarding R2 status at WKU and will dissolve at the end of 24-25 AY.
- Graduate Council Policy Committee
No report.
- Graduate Council Curriculum Committee
 - Motion to approve minutes – 1st/2nd Stone/Hahn. Approved unanimously.
- Graduate Council Research Committee (No report)
No report.

3. Reports from the Graduate School

- Hammonds- A call for Outstanding Graduate Student Awards and John D. Minton Graduate Student Award went out with deadline being March 7, 2025. Slate is implemented and all new students will be in the new system beginning Su25.
- Gordon – Enrollment for Sp25 tracking to be flat. Credit hours are down 1% from last year.

4. Announcements

- Next meeting on March 13, 2025 at 2:30pm will likely be Zoom due to Senate meeting time conflict.

5. Informational Items

- Provost/R2 Discussion
 - Provost Fisher provided update on bill moving forward for WKU R2 status. He noted it would likely be 2026-2028 before WKU would be R2 if approved. Data Science would be a potential program to offer PhD.

6. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn 1st/2nd Hahn/Wilson at 3:48pm.