MINUTES
Graduate Council
April 20, 2017

Present: Ex officio: M. Gallo (Chair)
Guests: E. Fox, E. Kalajian, D. Micus, R. Sippel

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

1) CALL TO ORDER – Dr. Michael Gallo

Dr. Gallo welcomed everyone and announced he would be working from a restructured agenda provided at all place settings. He welcomed Dr. Martinez-Vogt (Extended Studies representative) who was present in person and introduced Dr. Reichard who was present in a nonvoting capacity for Dr. Bostater (Ocean Engineering and Sciences).

2) MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2017 GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING

Unanimously Approved

The minutes of the March 23, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved, including one abstention, on a motion by Dr. Hamed and a second by Dr. Perlman.

3) INFORMATION ITEMS REDUX – Final Program Examination Procedures and Graduate Policy 4.3 Graduate Student Credit Loads

Dr. Gallo asked if anyone had further questions or comments related to the two information items presented at last month’s graduate council meeting – Final Program Examination procedures and Graduate Policy 4.3 Graduate Student Credit Loads.

A question was raised about the rationale for the revision to Graduate Policy 4.3. Dr. Layne responded that language about awarding GSAs to international students was deleted because it was causing a lot of confusion. She advised that Graduate Policy 4.3 defines credit loads for all students while Human Resources Policy 10.2 is the Graduate Student Assistant Employment Policy. Questions were asked about full-load courses, possible impacts on grants, and internship courses. Dr. Layne replied that nothing has changed regarding full-load courses and
that the Full-Load Course list is maintained on the Graduate Programs website. She said full-load courses are generally thesis and dissertation courses, internships, and sometimes research. Courses to be designated full-load are vetted by the associate academic deans. Dr. Layne cited Dr. Baloga as the point person to address questions regarding Graduate Policy 4.3.

4) GRADUATE FACULTY APPOINTMENT – BARRETT, Bradford S.

Unanimously Approved

Request is made by Department of Ocean Engineering and Sciences to appoint Dr. Bradford S. Barrett to the Master’s level of Graduate Faculty.

On a motion by Dr. Hamed and a second by Dr. Jennings, the request made by Department of Ocean Engineering and Sciences to appoint Dr. Bradford S. Barrett to the master’s level of Graduate Faculty was unanimously approved.

5) GRADUATE FACULTY APPOINTMENT – MEYER, John

Unanimously Approved

Request is made by Department of Education and Interdisciplinary Studies to appoint Dr. John Meyer to the Master’s level of Graduate Faculty.

On a motion by Dr. Hamed and a second by Dr. Carroll, the request made by Department of Education and Interdisciplinary Studies to appoint Dr. John Meyer to the master’s level of Graduate Faculty was unanimously approved.


Unanimously Approved

Request is made by Department of Mathematical Sciences to change prerequisites for eleven courses listed above.

Dr. Gallo said this request was to change the undergraduate prerequisites for the 11 5000-level courses listed on the agenda to reflect “Background knowledge equivalent to …”

On a motion by Dr. Martinez-Diaz and a second by Dr. Dshalalow, the request made by Department of Mathematical Sciences to change prerequisites for eleven courses: MTH 5009 Introduction to Probabalistic Models, MTH 5051 Applied Discrete Mathematics, MTH 5101 Introductory Analysis, MTH 5125 Applied Complex Variables, MTH 5130 Theory of Complex

7) **CHANGING GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – MS Degree Program in Chemical Engineering**

*Unanimously Approved*

Request is made by Department of Chemical Engineering to change graduation requirements for the MS Chemical Engineering program.

Dr. Gallo stated the requested changes were deleting the 3-credit-hour CHE 5120 Process Control as a required course and increasing the number of elective credit hours from 12 to 15, which includes 3 or more credit hours of Chemical Engineering electives.

On a motion by Dr. Hamed and a second by Dr. Bashur, the request made by Department of Chemical Engineering to change graduation requirements for the MS Chemical Engineering program was unanimously approved.

8) **CHANGING GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – MBA Degree Program in Project Management**

*Unanimously Approved*

Request is made by College of Business to change graduation requirements for the MBA degree program in Project Management.

Dr. Gallo said the requested change was to remove BUS 5601 Essentials of Business I and BUS 5602 Essentials of Business II as core courses and make them program prerequisites. This will provide College of Business with flexibility to waive these courses for students with a business background and allow them to take two elective courses.

Dr. Gallo stated this request initially was presented to and approved by Council at the January 2017 meeting and involved 13 MBA programs. This program was inadvertently omitted and the request was to rectify this omission.

Dr. Gallo reminded Council that, as recorded in the minutes of the January meeting, these courses are not deficiency courses but were designed for students who did not have an undergraduate degree in a business-related field. For students entering any of the MBA programs with an undergraduate business background, though, they do not need take these courses. So by removing them as core requirements provides the College of Business with flexibility to waive these courses for these students and allow them to take two elective courses.

On a motion by Dr. Perez and a second by Dr. Jennings, the request made College of Business to change graduation requirements for the MBA degree program in Project Management was unanimously approved.

9) **REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR**
Dr. Gallo extended a personal thank you and acknowledgement to Dr. Kalajian who has been an integral part of Graduate Council for many years, including a past Chair. He thanked Dr. Kalajian for serving as a role model for and mentor to him, particularly these past six years.

Dr. Kalajian thanked Dr. Gallo for his kind words and congratulated Dr. Gallo for his re-election to Graduate Council Chair for another two-year term. Dr. Kalajian thanked the faculty and staff and said this was a very warm moment during his 46 years of service at FL Tech. He advised faculty and staff to keep their wisdom, to think about the students, and what’s important to them. He said this is the core of FL Tech values and why we are here.

Dr. Layne reminded everyone that for Spring 2017 graduation Monday, April 24 is the last day to successfully defend (or pass the Final Program Exam) and Monday, May 1, is the thesis and dissertation turn-in deadline.

10) ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Gallo announced that the next Graduate Council meeting is September 21, 2017, and the submission deadline for materials is September 7, 2017. He wished everyone a safe, peaceful, restful, and healthy summer break.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Rosemary G. Layne, Ed.D.
Director of Graduate Programs