**YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Graduate Council Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting date: January 22, 2025 @ 4:15 pm**

**TEAMS**

Attending: Kendra Fowler, Chair, Joseph Carucci, J. Paul Louth, Jake Protivnak, Constantin Virgil Solomon, Nina Stourman, Wendy Thomas, Angie Urmson Jeffries, Sev Van slambrouck, Andrea Richard-Graduate Student Advisory Council Representative

Excused: Patrick J. Bateman, Weiqing Ge, Lauren Cummins

Kendra Fowler called the Graduate Council meeting to order at 4:15 PM

1. Committee Chair reports
2. Admission and Appeals Committee Chair: J. Paul Louth

The Admission and Appeals Committee reviewed and approved suspension appeals from seven students. These appeals were approved with program support.

Report submitted by J. Paul Louth 1/22/2025

1. Exceptions Chair: Severine Van slambrouck

The Exceptions Committee reviewed the request to transfer a course with grade C. The members of the committee did not approve this request.

Report submitted by Severine Van slambrouck 1/22/2025

1. Graduate Curriculum Chair: Virgil Solomon reported that items will be sent soon for review.
2. Grievance Chair: Lauren Cummins Nothing to report
3. GSAC-Andrea Richard. GSAC plans to meet on Monday.
4. Proposed changes to Academic Suspension Appeals-J. Paul Louth

Paul reported a large number of appeals of academic suspension after fall term. The timing of this was difficult as the faculty committee members are not on contract. Paul said that the appeals committee has always decided in favor of the student when the program supported the student’s return. He suggested that given the short time frame, that if the program supports the return of the student, then the Appeals Committee Chair can approve without formal voting of the Appeals committee. Jake Protivnak made a motion to allow the Appeals Committee Chair to approve academic suspension appeals if support of the program is given. Virgil Solomon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

1. Review of internal student Grievance Policy-Sev Van Slambrouck

Council was asked to review an inactive Graduate Studies specific Grievance policy. The group agreed to do this and discussion included updating the name of the Office of Equal Opportunity and ensuring a mechanism to bypass the Graduate Program Director if directly involved in the grievance. It was also shared that not all matters are able to be grieved, however there is a complaint process that is available. It was agreed that the document would be put in TEAMS for review and that the GSAC would be included in feedback.

*After further discussions this task is on hold. Sev and Angie are exploring documenting a procedure that encompasses grievances and appeals. More information to come.*

1. Sev’s Comments: Sev shared that Sal left her well prepared. She is excited to listen and will help and provide guidance. Kendra asked about the status of the Graduate College. Sev reported that the Graduate College will now be named the Office of Research Services and Graduate Studies. She explained that a campus announcement would go out in the next few weeks. The group discussed the change and the impact to Graduate Faculty status.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 pm.