

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2026 – 3:30 pm

K-State Union, Room 227

Present: A. Ahlers, C. Alexis, T. Amtoft, L. Olsen, C. Craft, H. Dogan, M. Elcioglu, U. Emery-McClure, T. Felderhoff, E. Geisbrecht, J. Gordon, A. Heseltine, S. Joseph, S. Kavimandan, L. Larson, J. Li, T. Linnemann, M. Miller, T.G. Nagaraja, J. Nikkle, M. Pakaste, P. Payne, V. Trinetta, J. Ulmer, M. Veeman, D. Walker, A. Wefald, L. Yang, S. Yelich-Biniecki, U. Yucel, A. Hernandez, S. Cummings (Guest). P. Reyes (Guest), M. Pritchard (Guest), D. Cheatham (Guest).

Absent: M. Arthaud-Day, T. Felderhoff, T. Jenkins, A. Jha, C. Pickens, S. Rishi, D. Rolles, S. Schlender, B. Schultz, A. Seshukov, M. Wei.

1. Opening Remarks.

- C. Craft called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes. December 2, 2025

The body can approve the minutes by general (Unanimous) consent without a second. If corrections are offered, they can also be approved through general consent without a separate motion. However, if someone objects to an approval by general consent, then a second is required along with a vote.

- *The minutes were approved by Unanimous Consent*

3. Graduate School Updates.

- **Probation dashboards:** Ongoing tracking of students admitted on probation and those placed on probation during the academic year.
- **Accelerated programs:** Oversight to ensure compliance with the maximum course load of three courses (9 credit hours).
- M. Miller shared a reminder about the Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition scheduled for February 11th. Over 90 students have registered for the event, with 50 students signed up for practice sessions; it was noted that students who participate in practice sessions tend to perform at a higher level than those who do not. She also noted that additional volunteer judges are needed by next Wednesday.
- S. Yelich-Biniecki welcomed Dallas Cheatham, a graduate of the Adult Learning and Leadership and Doctoral Program. He currently serves as an Assistant Professor at the Command and General Staff School (CGSS) in Leavenworth, Kansas. He will be joining the committee as a Hero's Fellow, attending meetings through mid-March, and contributing to the university.

4. Academic Affairs Committee - Hulya Dogan, Chair

- Report.
- Action Items.

Graduate Faculty Nominations. ← [Click the link to access nominations](#)

See Chapter 5 “The Graduate Faculty” of the Graduate Handbook for eligibility and nomination requirements. <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/student-success/graduate-handbook/chapter5.html>

Name	Position	Department/Program	Type	Page
Friday James	Teaching Assistant Professor	Computer Science	Membership	9
Huynh Lam	Assistant Research Professor	Physics	Membership	12
Luis Feitoza	Adjunct	Clinical Sciences	Associate Serve	15
Isabel Schmedemann	Instructor	School of Human Sciences	Associate Teach	19
Colin T. Tobin	Assistant Professor	Agronomy	Certification	21

*Associate member re-nomination



Motion: The Academic Affairs committee moves to approve all member nominations as presented. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.
Vote (YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 22-0-0

Motion: The Academic Affairs committee moves to approve all associate member nominations as presented. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.
Vote (YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 22-0-0

Motion: The Academic Affairs committee moves to approve all certification requests as presented. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.
Vote (YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 22-0-0

5. Course and Curriculum items.

Follow these steps to view the proposals in Curriculog:

- Login to Curriculog using your K-State eID and password: <https://kstate.curriculog.com>.
- Click the Curriculog agenda link in the table below.
- From the list of proposals, hover over the proposal and click the  *View Proposal* icon.
- In “User Tracking” (upper right corner), change "Show current" to "Show current with markup."
- View the proposal. To view attachments, click the  *Files* icon in the menu on the right side of the screen.
- Use the browser back button to return to the agenda and select next proposal.

For more information on viewing proposals, see: <http://www.k-state.edu/curriculog/training/view/index.html>

Course Changes - <https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:3051/form>

College	Course Number	Title
Agriculture	AGED 635	Inquiry and Literacy in Agricultural STEM and Biotechnology
Engineering	BAE 626	Bioseparations
Engineering	CE 775	Traffic Engineering
Health and Human Sciences	CFT 824	Parent-Child Interaction: Theory and Research
Health and Human Sciences	CFT 865	Human Sexuality
Engineering	CHE 601	Honors Research in Chemical Engineering
Engineering	CHE 626	Bioseparations
Engineering	CHE 721	Advanced Chemical Engineering Thermodynamics
Engineering	CHE 735	Chemical Engineering Analysis
Engineering	CHE 822	Advanced Chemical Reaction Engineering
Health and Human Science	CRNES 751	Interpersonal Conflict Skills and Strategies
Health and Human Sciences	CNRES 758	Applied Alternative Dispute Resolution
Health and Human Sciences	CNRES 799	Practicum in Conflict Resolution
Integrated Studies	CYBR 795	Artificial Intelligence for Modeling and Simulation
Engineering	ECE 694	Optoelectronics
Engineering	ECE 773	Bioinstrumentation Design Laboratory
Engineering	ECE 841	Network Theory
Health and Human Sciences	ECED 728	Assessment of Young Children
Health and Human Sciences	ECED 797	Home Visiting Programs for Young Children and Families
Arts and Sciences	ECON 608	Python and Artificial Intelligence Tools for Economics
Arts and Sciences	ECON 686	Economics Forecasting and Artificial Intelligence
Education	EDAGE 817	Reflective Practice in Community and Social Justice Education
Health and Human Sciences	FNDH 645	Professional Practice and Leadership in Dietetics
Health and Human Sciences	FNDH 653	Pharmacology
Arts and Sciences	GEOL 605	Introduction to Aqueous Geochemistry
Arts and Sciences	GEOL 650	Geomicrobiology

Course Changes - <https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:3051/form>

College	Course Number	Title
Arts and Sciences	GEOL 680	Applied Field Geology
Arts and Sciences	GEOL 711	Water Resources Geochemistry
Health and Human Sciences	GERON 610	Healthcare Administration
Health and Human Sciences	GERON 615	Long-Term Care Administration Internship
Health and Human Sciences	HDFS 654	Death and the Family
Health and Human Sciences	HDFS 752	Families in Context
Health and Human Sciences	HDFS 770	Program Development and Implementation
Health and Human Sciences	HDFS 893	Evaluation of Prevention Science Programs
Health and Human Sciences	HLTSC 720	Global Health care Systems and Public Health
Agriculture	HORT 660	Plant Cell, Tissue and Organ Culture
Business Administration	MNGT 625	Business Law II
Arts and Sciences	MATH 812	Homological Algebra I
Arts and Sciences	MATH 814	Algebras and Representations I
Arts and Sciences	MATH 816	Algebraic Geometry I
Arts and Sciences	MATH 825	Complex Analysis I
Art and Sciences	MATH 925	Group Representations and Character Theory I
Integrated Studies (Salina)	MLAS 800	Integrated Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence
Health and Human Sciences	PUBH 618	Seminar Public Health Practice
Health and Human Sciences	PUBH 619	Public Health Practicum
Health and Human Sciences	PUBH 622	Capstone Project in Public Health
Arts and Sciences	SOCIO 850	Criminal Justice in Context

- **EDACE 817** was removed from the proposal as the department plans to incorporate additional guidance on curriculum requirements and make additional revisions to the **Community Adult Education Engagement (Graduate Certificate)**.

Motion: H. Dogan moves to remove EDACE 817 off the Course Changes list.

Second: S. Yelich-Biniecki

Vote (YES-NO-Abstain): 22-0-0

Motion: The Academic Affairs committee moves to approve all course changes as presented. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.

Vote (YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 22-0-0

New Courses - https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:3052/form		
College	Course Number	Title
Agriculture	AGRON 930	Quantitative Genetics
Agriculture	AGRON 960	Predictive Modeling for Plant Breeding
Veterinary Medicine	AP 785	Readings in Physiology
Engineering	BME 775	Applications of Advanced Microscopy in BME
Engineering	BME 830	Advanced Biomaterials
Engineering	BME 832	Advanced Tissue Engineering
Engineering	BME 840	Contemporary Molecular and Cellular Engineering
Engineering	BME 860	Advanced Computer Vision with Biomedical Applications
Engineering	BME 890	Topics in Biomedical Engineering
Engineering	BME 896	Graduate Seminar in Biomedical Engineering
Engineering	BME 898	Master's Report
Engineering	BME 899	Master's Thesis
Engineering	BME 999	Dissertation Research
Engineering	CE 862	Sustainable Resource Recovery Technologies
Engineering	CHE 634	Protein Engineering and Applications
Engineering	CHE 636	AI Applications in Chemical and Bioengineering
Engineering	CHE 834	Advanced Protein Engineering and Applications
Engineering	CHE 836	Advanced AI Applications in Chemical and Bioengineering
Engineering	CNS 739	Electrical Estimating
Arts and Sciences	CRIM 650	Criminal Justice in Context
Arts and Sciences	GEOL 780	Applied Field Geology
Arts and Sciences	GEOL 820	Groundwater Modeling
Agriculture	HORT 701	Introduction to Therapeutic Horticulture
Agriculture	HORT 702	Therapeutic Horticulture for Youth

New Courses - https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:3052/form		
College	Course Number	Title
Agriculture	HORT 703	Therapeutic Horticulture for Adults
Agriculture	HORT 704	Therapeutic Gardens and Gardening
Agriculture	HORT 740	Hydroponic Food Production
Agriculture	HORT 741	Hydroponic Food Production
Agriculture	HORT 765	Indoor Vertical Farming Systems
Agriculture	HORT 766	Indoor Vertical Farming Systems Lab
Arts and Sciences	MATH 749	Professional Development Seminar for Intelligence and Learning Practitioners
Arts and Sciences	MATH 751	Linear Algebra for Data Science
Arts and Sciences	MATH 795	Statistical and Mathematical Intelligence and Learning Capstone Experience
Arts and Sciences	NE 735	Advanced Nuclear Reactor Systems and Design
Arts and Sciences	SPAN 765	Bilingualism and Cognition
Arts and Sciences	STAT 795	Statistical and Mathematical Artificial Intelligence and Learning Capstone Experience

Motion: The Academic Affairs committee moves to approve all new courses as presented. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.

Vote (YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 23-0-0

Courses to Discontinue (See link)		
College	Course Number	Title
Health and Human Sciences	HDFS 890	Application of Research & Statistics in Human Development and Family Science

Motion: The Academic Affairs committee moves to approve the courses to discontinue as presented. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.

Vote (YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 23-0-0

Curricular Changes - https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:3054/form	
College	Title
Agriculture	Agronomy (MS)
Agriculture	Agronomy (PhD)
Integrated Studies (Salina)	Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence (MS) <i>Artificial Intelligence & Autonomous Systems (MS)</i>
School of Applied and Interdisciplinary Studies (Olathe Campus)	Applied Biosciences (MS)
Health and Human Sciences	Dual Degree: Master of Business Administration and MS in Hospitality Administration
Health and Human Sciences	Hospitality Administration (PhD)

Motion: The Academic Affairs committee moves to remove Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence (MS) from the list and amend the proposal's title striking the words *Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence (MS)* and inserting the words *Artificial Intelligence & Autonomous Systems (MS)*.

Second: J. Ulmer

Vote (YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 23-0-0

Motion: The Academic Affairs committee moves to approve all the curricular changes as amended. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.

Vote (YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 23-0-0

New Curricula - https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:3055/form	
College	Title
Engineering	Artificial Intelligence Systems and their Applications (MS)
Agriculture	Plant Pathology (Graduate Certificate)
Agriculture	Therapeutic Horticulture Graduate Certificate
Arts and Sciences	Professional Master's in Mineral Exploration for a Sustainable Future
Arts and Sciences	Statistical and Mathematical Artificial Intelligence and Learning (Masters)

Motion: The Academic Affairs committee moves to approve all new curricula as presented. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.

Vote (YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 23-0-0

Curricula To Discontinue (See links)	
College	Title
Agriculture	Horticulture Therapy Graduate Certificate
Agriculture	Master of Agribusiness (MAB)

Motion: The Academic Affairs committee moves to approve all Curricula to Discontinue as presented. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.

Vote (YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 23-0-0

6. Student Affairs Committee - Lotta Larson, Chair

- Report:
 - M. Veeman shared updates on the graduate scholarships, noting that they are difficult to review without access to students' financial background information. The committee also discussed the possibility of requiring more detailed descriptions of selection criteria.
 - Additionally, findings from the benchmarking assignments on research credit requirements for Master's, Ed.S., and Ph.D. programs were reviewed. Institutions vary in how these credits are categorized, and it was noted that KSU's Ph.D. requirement of 90 credits is higher than that of several peer institutions, which typically require around 75 credits.
- Action Items. (none)

7. Committee on Planning – Jonathan Ulmer, Chair

- Report:
 - J. Ulmer shared that Chapter 1, B4 had been forwarded to General Counsel for review, as the proposed revisions include changes related to legal documentation requirements. This step will help ensure a smooth review and approval process.
 - J. Ulmer shared feedback on the recommendations from Assessment and Review regarding Membership, Suspension, and Revocation, and raised a question regarding how membership could be reinstated if these policies are implemented.
- Action Items:

Red – approved in the December 2025 Graduate Council meeting

Green – new recommended additions and/or changes

Chapter 2 F.3 Removal from Probation (Master’s and Education Specialist degrees) - First Reading

Students placed on probation as a condition of admission will acquire good standing if they achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in the first 9 credit hours of graduate level course work.

Students placed on probation for deficient grades will be restored to good standing if they achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. This must be achieved within the completion of 2 semesters for full-time students and within 12 credit hours for part-time students.

Students placed on probation after recommendation by the major professor or supervisory committee may be restored to good standing when the major professor or supervisory committee notifies the Graduate School that the student is making satisfactory progress.

- A. Ahlers called attention to the need to add the phrase “at least” to the 3.0 GPA requirement to avoid overly literal interpretation.

Chapter 3 F.3 Removal from Probation (The Doctoral Degree) -First Reading

Students on probation as a condition of admission will acquire good standing if they achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in the first 9 credit hours of graduate level course work.

Students placed on probation for deficient grades will be restored to good standing if they achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. This must be achieved within the completion of 2 semesters for full-time students and within 12 credit hours for part-time students.

Students placed on probation after recommendation by the major professor or supervisory committee may be restored to good standing when the major professor or supervisory committee notifies the Graduate School that the student is making satisfactory progress.

- H. Dogan raised a concern applicable to both items regarding situations in which the major professor and the supervisory committee are not in agreement, how would it be resolved?

8. Assessment and Review Committee – Umut Yucel, Chair

- Report:
 - U. Yucel reported on the status of their benchmarking. Members will continue to collect information from assigned universities on credit transfer pathways from an MS to an Ed.S. and doctoral degrees.
 - The assessment plans for six new curricula were approved at the latest meeting.
- Action Items. (None)

9. Graduate Student Council - Aditya Jha, President

- Report from Alexa Heseltine:
 - The General Body will be meeting again after the winter break.
 - Events organized by GSC have been very successful in terms of turn out.
 - Applications to run for GSC will close on February 9th
 - Graduate Film Fest is coming up, and it will be open to students and their families.
- Action Items. (None)

10. Informational Items.

a. Graduate Faculty membership approved by the Dean.

Name	Position	Department/Program	Date
Colin T. Tobin	Assistant Professor	Agronomy	12/22/2025
Xuan Xu	Assistant professor	Statistics	1/9/2026

11. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 4:04 pm.