

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2026 – 3:30 pm

K-State Union, Room 227

Present: A. Ahlers, T. Amtoft, M. Arthaud-Day, L. Olsen, C. Craft, M. Elcioglu, T. Felderhoff, E. Geisbrecht, J. Gordon, A. Heseltine, T. Jenkins, S. Joseph, S. Kavimandan, L. Larson, J. Li, T. Linnemann, M. Miller, T.G. Nagaraja, M. Pakaste, P. Payne, C. Pickens, D. Rolles, B. Schultz, V. Trinetta, M. Veeman, D. Walker, A. Wefald, L. Yang, S. Yelich-Biniecki, A. Hernandez.

Absent: C. Alexis, H. Dogan, A. Jha, J. Nikkel, S. Rishi, S. Schlender, A. Sheshukov, J. Ulmer, M. Wei, U. Yucel.

1. Opening Remarks.

P. Payne called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for being present.

2. Approval of Minutes. February 3, 2026

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 Unanimously*

3. Graduate School Updates.

M. Miller shared an update on the 3MT Competition. The final round was held on Wednesday, the 25th. The preliminary round had the largest participation since the first competition in 2016, with 82 students competing and 13 advancing to the final round. First- and second-place awards were presented for the People's Choice category. Vidya Nadar, doctoral candidate in Chemistry, won first place, and MaRyka Smith won second place. Vidya will represent the university at the MAGS 3MT Competition during the annual meeting in Kansas City at the end of March.

P. Payne shared that one K-State graduate student will be awarded the Graduate Teaching Award at the MAGS annual meeting. He also announced that 10 graduate students will travel to Topeka to present in the Rotunda of the Capitol on Tuesday the 24th.

Save the date: Graduate School Town Hall meeting on April 29th.

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
Ashley R. Hartman	Instructor	Animal Sciences and Industry	Membership	8
Chad Mire	Research Leader	Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology	Associate Serve	11
Lloyd Metzger	Adjunct Faculty	Animal Sciences and Industry	Associate Serve	15
Mohamed Moustafa	Assistant Professor	Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology	Certification	18
Hakimi Hassan	Assistant Professor	Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology	Certification	21
Ellen Welti	Assistant Professor	Biology	Certification	24
Gabe Converse	Associate Professor	Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering	Certification	27
Prasad Parchuri	Assistant Professor	Biology	Certification	31
Lonnie Hobbs	Assistant Professor	Agricultural Economics	Certification	34
Micah Cameron-Harp	Assistant Professor	Agricultural Economics	Certification	37

*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): 24-0-0

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): 24-0-0

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): 24-0-0

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:3114/form		
College	Course Number	Title
Interdisciplinary Studies (Olathe Campus)	AAI 841	Strategies in Preclinical and Clinical Research for Regulatory Affairs in Animal Health
Interdisciplinary Studies (Olathe Campus)	AAI 843	Regulatory Development of Animal Pharmaceuticals - FDA
Interdisciplinary Studies (Olathe Campus)	AAI 844	Regulatory Development of Animal Pesticides – EPA
Interdisciplinary Studies (Olathe Campus)	AAI 845	Regulatory Development of Animal Biologicals and Diagnostics – USDA
Agriculture	AGEC 632	Agribusiness Logistics
Agriculture	AGEC 805	Agricultural Marketing
Agriculture	AGEC 810	Price, Income and Trade Policies in Agriculture
Agriculture	AGEC 815	International Agriculture Development
Agriculture	AGEC 823	Production Economics II
Agriculture	AGEC 825	Natural Resource Policy
Agriculture	AGEC 840	International Markets and Agricultural Trade
Agriculture	AGEC 880	Agribusiness Industry Structures
Agriculture	AGEC 905	Agricultural Demand and Commodity Marketing
Agriculture	AGEC 923	Economics of Agricultural Production
Agriculture	AGEC 925	Advanced Resource and Environmental Economics
Arts and Sciences	BIOL 860	Modern Molecular Approaches
School of Consumer Sciences	FASH 855	Readings in Fashion Studies
Arts and Sciences	MUSIC 709	History and Literature of School Choral Music

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): 25-0-0

New Courses - https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:3115/form		
College	Course Number	Title
Staley School of Leadership	LEAD 745	Advanced Coaching
Staley School of Leadership	LEAD 770	Applied Coaching Practicum
Arts and Sciences	MUSIC 812	Pedagogy of Jaques-Dalcroze
Arts and Sciences	MUSIC 999	Doctoral Research in Curriculum and Instruction for the Music Cognate
Arts and Sciences	PHYS 721	Astrodynamics I
Arts and Sciences	PHYS 722	Astrodynamics II

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): 25-0-0

Courses to Discontinue - https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:3116/form		
College	Course Number	Title
Interdisciplinary Studies (Olathe Campus)	AAI 842	Strategies in the Stewardship of Licensed Pharmaceuticals and Biologics in Animal Health
Interdisciplinary Studies (Olathe Campus)	AAI 846	Special Topics: Regulatory Affairs in Animal Health
School of Consumer Sciences	FASH 720	Professional Advancement in Merchandising
School of Consumer Sciences	FASH 725	Theory and Practice of Soft Goods Marketing and Distribution
School of Consumer Sciences	FASH 735	Promotional Strategies in Merchandising
School of Consumer Sciences	FASH 740	Merchandising Analytics
School of Consumer Sciences	FASH 805	Practice-Based Research
School of Consumer Sciences	FASH 810	International Merchandise Management
School of Consumer Sciences	FASH 815	Financial Merchandising Implications

Courses to Discontinue - https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:3116/form		
College	Course Number	Title
School of Consumer Sciences	FASH 845	Consumers in the Soft Goods Market
School of Consumer Sciences	FASH 850	Research Methods in Fashion Studies
School of Consumer Sciences	FASH 995	Grantsmanship and Publication

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): 24-0-0

Curricular Changes - https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:3117/form	
College	Title
Interdisciplinary Studies (Olathe Campus)	Regulatory Affairs in Animal Health Graduate Certificate
School of Health Sciences	Athletic Training (MS) (see link)
School of Health Sciences	MS in Food, Nutrition, and Health - Dietetics Internship (see link)

Motion: The Academic Affairs committee moves to approve all the curricular changes as presented. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.
Vote (YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 24-0-0

New Curricula - https://kstate.curriculog.com/agenda:3118/form	
College	Title
Arts and Sciences	Statistical and Mathematical Foundations for Artificial Intelligence and Data Science Graduate Certificate
Agriculture	Extension and Engagement Educator Graduate Certificate

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): 24-0-0

6. Student Affairs Committee - Lotta Larson, Chair

- Report: Benchmarking Process:

L. Larson reported on the findings from two benchmarking assignments: Minimum Required Research and Credit Hours for Master's, Ed.S., and Doctoral Degrees (Ph.D. and Ed.D.) and Responsibility of the Graduate Program vs. Graduate Student in Developing a Supervisory Committee.

Regarding minimum credit hours, the committee found that the 90-credit-hour requirement appears high in comparison to peer institutions. Members inquired whether the total includes research credit hours and requested a breakdown of how the 90 credits are allocated (e.g., research credits versus coursework).

Regarding responsibility for developing a supervisory committee, practices vary significantly among institutions. The committee noted that there is currently no clear path to degree completion status for students who are unable to secure a major professor or form an advisory committee.

L. Larson also shared preliminary recommendations the committee is developing, including a formal intervention policy that would: establish a defined resolution period (e.g., one semester); require structured involvement from relevant faculty and administrators; and clarify potential outcomes if a supervisory committee cannot be formed.

- Action Items. none

7. Committee on Planning – Jonathan Ulmer, Chair

- Report.
- Action Items:

B4. Graduate Pathway Program – *First Reading*

Kansas State University offers a Graduate Pathway Program for students who need to complete intensive English language courses for one or two semesters but are otherwise eligible to be admitted to a graduate program. Students with English scores below the criteria outlined below are directed to the Full-time Intensive English Program.

Specific requirements of the Pathway Program include the following:

Track 1:

- a. Provisional admission to a graduate degree program for fall or spring semester.
- b. English test scores that meet the criteria below:

	At least one Reading, Writing, or Listening part score of:	No Reading, Writing, or Listening part score below:
IBT TOEFL (test dates before 1/21/2026)	20	16
IBT TOEFL (test dates after 1/21/2026)	4.5	4.0
IELTS	6.5	6.0
PTE	58	46
WildCAT EPT	59	52

- c. Full-time enrollment for the Graduate Pathway Program: Track 1 is 9 credit hours even if a student has a graduate assistantship. Enrollment includes 1 or 2 English Language Program Advanced English courses () and 1 or 2 graduate classes, excluding research hours. The graduate course(s) must be scheduled around the English support courses. The graduate courses will be determined by the graduate program at the time of admission to the Pathway Program.
- d. Completion of the Pathway Program is based on completion of all classes, English and academic, with grades A or B. Students who do not demonstrate this may be permitted to continue in the Pathway for a second semester.

Track 2:

- a. Provisional admission to a graduate degree program for fall or spring semester.
- b. English test scores that meet the criteria below:

	Minimum Total Score	No more than one part score below:	No part scores below:
IBT TOEFL (test dates before 1/21/2026)	56	14	11
IBT TOEFL (test dates after 1/21/2026)	3.5	3.5	3.0
IELTS	5.5	5.5	5.0
PTE	46	46	41
WildCAT EPT	195	50	45

- c. Semester 1: Enrollment in 12-18 credit hours of Intensive English courses offered by the English Language Program (ELP) at the High Intermediate English or Advanced English I level. Placement into classes will be made according to ELP placement criteria. Full-time enrollment is a minimum of 12 credit hours.
- d. Semester 2: Enrollment in 3-6 credit hours of ELP Advanced English classes and enrollment in 3-6 credit hours of graduate coursework for a total of 9 credit hours. Placement into classes will be made according to ELP placement criteria.
- e. Completion of the Pathway Program is based on completion of all classes, English and academic, with grades A or B (80% or above for Credit/No Credit classes). Students who do not demonstrate this may be permitted to continue in the Pathway for an additional semester.

Motion: The Committee on Planning moves to waive the second reading of Chapter 1, Section B4 – Graduate Pathway. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.
(YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 21-1-1

Motion: The Committee on Planning moves to approve the proposed revisions as presented of Chapter 1, Section B4 – Graduate Pathway. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.
(YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 23-0-1

Motion: The Committee on Planning moves to make the approved revisions of Chapter 1, Section B4 – Graduate Pathway effective immediately. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.
(YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 23-1-0

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

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

Students placed on probation for deficient grades must achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 at the completion of the subsequent 12 credit hours attempted for restoration ~~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 ~~and~~ ~~or~~ supervisory committee ~~notify~~ ~~notifies~~ the Graduate School that the student is making satisfactory progress.

Motion: The Committee on Planning moves to approve Chapter 2 F3 - Removal from Probation (Master's and Education Specialist degrees) – Reading Two. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.

(YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 25-0-0

Chapter 3 F.3 Removal from Probation (The Doctoral Degree) – Second Reading

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

Students placed on probation for deficient grades **must achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 at the completion of the subsequent 12 credit hours attempted for restoration 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 **only following the notification by when the major professor and supervisory committee that the students are making satisfactory progress notify notifies the Graduate School that the student is making satisfactory progress.**

Motion: The Committee on Planning moves to approve Chapter 3 F3 - Removal from Probation (The Doctoral Degree) – Reading Two. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second.

(YES-NO-ABSTAIN): 24-0-1

8. Assessment and Review Committee – Umut Yucel, Chair

- Report:

A. Ahlers reported on the approval of two programs: Agriculture and Arts and Sciences. The committee also completed benchmarking assignments for the Committee on Planning.

Regarding transfer limits (number of credit hours) for Master's and Ed.S. degrees applied toward doctoral degrees (Ph.D. and Ed.D.), there was insufficient data to develop formal recommendations. However, the benchmarking data will be shared with the Committee on Planning for consideration.

Regarding time limits for completion of M.S., Ed.S., and doctoral degrees (Ph.D. and Ed.D.), the committee did not identify any significant differences compared to peer and

aspirant institutions. The Committee on Planning will also receive this benchmarking data for review.

The committee is currently working on benchmarking related to three-year bachelor's degrees, including how peer and aspirant institutions evaluate applicants holding three-year bachelor's degrees and how the Graduate School's admissions process distinguishes between three-year and four-year bachelor's degrees, or whether credentials are simply recorded as a "bachelor's degree."

- Action Items. None.

9. Graduate Student Council - Aditya Jha, President

- Report:

A. Heseltine provided an update to the council, sharing that applications for the executive team have closed. An open forum will be held on Thursday the 5th, and elections will take place from the 6th through the 10th. The new executive team will be announced on March 13 and will begin their term on May 1.

Meetings are also being held to plan Graduate Student Appreciation Week in April.

- Action Items. None.

10. Informational Items.

a. Graduate Faculty membership approved by the Dean.

Name	Position	Department/Program	Date
Mohamed Moustafa	Assistant Professor	Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology	1/25/2026
Hakimi Hassan	Assistant Professor	Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology	1/25/2026
Ellen Welti	Assistant Professor	Biology	1/25/2026
Gabe Converse	Associate Professor	Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering	1/25/2026
Gavin Rice	Assistant Professor	Biology	1/25/2026
Parchuri Prasad	Assistant Professor	Biology	1/25/2026
Micah Cameron-Harp	Assistant Professor	Agricultural Economics	2/16/2026
Elizabeth Montoya	Assistant Professor	Agricultural Economics	2/16/2026
Terri Gaeddert	Professor	Integrated Studies	2/16/2026
Balaji Balasubramaniam	Assistant Professor	Integrated Studies	2/16/2026
Michael Oetken	Associate Professor	Integrated Studies	2/16/2026
Candice Ortbals-Wiser	Professor	Political Science	2/16/2026
Jie Wang	Assistant Professor	Political Science	2/16/2026

Jared Burgoon	Assistant Professor	Architectural Engineering and Construction Science	2/16/2026
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11. Adjournment. *The meeting adjourned at 4:11 PM.*