

## **Graduate Council Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, May 2, 2024 and Wednesday, May 8, 2024

**Present:** Nermin Bayazit, Denise Bertrand, Brady Chen, Becky Copper Glenz, Yang Liu, Amy McGlothlin, Kyle Moody, Nancy Murray, Denise Sargent, David Weiss.

**Visitors:** Michael Hanna, Mark LeBlanc, Lisa Moison, Phillip Saisa

Motion to open meeting: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Becky Copper-Glenz

### **Review of the Minutes from November 2, 2023**

Motion to Review Minutes: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Becky Copper-Glenz

Vote: Unanimous

Motion to Approve Minutes: Nancy Murray

Second: Brady Chen

Vote: Unanimous

### **Proposals:**

**SGOCE 23-24-03 and GCE 23-23-04 - On Hold not being reviewed today and will be removed from the list.**

### **SGOCE 23-24-09 – New Course Proposal - EDUC - Practicum and PAL Task II**

Motion to Review Proposal: Denise Sargent

Second: David Weiss

(Lisa Moison) Proposals 9-20 are all related to an extended camp partner with Except Collaborative. They are a SPED Collaborative that has a Department of Education and Secondary Education approved Licensure Program for Administrators. They take their DESE approved Administrator Licensure Program and embed it into our Masters of Education Licensure Program in Educational Leadership and Management Non-Licensure Program. They are the license provider and endorser but our degree and our advising. They provide a degree program in the Natick area to specific cohort administrators. We are at the point where we want to go through governance where all of the courses they offer are part of the program as well as the plan of study so that this partnership can get formally codified into our catalog.

All of the courses have already gone through the School of Education and Graduate Education Committee.

Barbara had a question about how we filled out the Graduate Council Form. These are Topics Courses that have run a few times. On the form I said it was a “replacement” but it’s actually not a replacement according to Barbara because it was never in the catalog to begin with. Is there something that needs to be changed on the form?

(Mark LeBlanc) Is there a spot to make a Friendly Ammendation notation saying we understand that this is not a replacement course this is a creation of a new course?

(Amy McGlothlin) Did they remove the check box to check off stating that this has been a Topics Course?

(Lisa Moison) I checked it off.

(Brady Chen) In the course description there are many acronyms used. Not all students will know what they mean.

(Lisa Moison) If there is an acronym used in the course description, we will be sure to spell it out.

(Nancy Murray) Under course enrollment it is not replacing EDLM 9029E, I would leave that blank because it is not replacing anything.

(Lisa Moison) I will remove that information.

(Nermin Bayazit) Regarding the course description, don’t we have a 50 word limit? I think the first couple of sentences can be removed.

(Phil Saisa) I agree, the first few sentences can be removed. They are not related to the course description.

(Lisa Moison) I can do that.

(Brady Chen) When will this course be offered?

(Lisa Moison) It will be offered in Spring of 2025.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Denise Sargent

Second: Nancy Murray

Vote: Unanimous

### **SGOCE 23-24-10 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - Principles and PAL Task 1**

Motion to Review Proposal: Becky Copper-Glenz

Second: Denise Sargent

(Lisa Moison) On all proposals 9-20 I will remove the checkmark for replacement of course, be

sure that the course descriptions are no longer than 50 words and remove any acronyms within the course descriptions.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Denise Sargent

Vote: Unanimous

### **SGOCE 23-24-11 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - Educational Leadership and the Law**

Motion to Review Proposal: Denise Sargent

Second: Nancy Murray

(Phil Saisa) The administrator leadership standards are associated with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education administrators rubric. The courses that are aligned with the state's standards are centered around those and educational law is one of those specific areas that need to be covered in those standards.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Denise Sargent

Second: Nancy Murray

Vote: Unanimous

### **SGOCE 23-24-12 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - Leader for Effective Change**

Motion to Review Proposal: Nancy Murray

Second: Denise Sargent

(Phil Saisa) If you look at each of these as they come up in the course objectives you can see the standard alignment to that rubric I mentioned. Those are the state standards for licensure so you can see where each of those standards are tied to.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Nancy Murray

Second: Becky Copper-Glenz

Vote: Unanimous

### **SGOCE 23-24-13 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - Personnel and Operational Management**

Motion to Review Proposal: Kyle Moody

Second: Denise Sargent

(Nermin Bayazit) These courses are all 8000 level courses, is that because they are licensure courses? Do we also have that for the extended campus licensure courses or is this something that is traditional?

(Lisa Moison) Yes, the extended campus courses tend to be at the 8000 level, some in the 7000's.

(Nancy Murray) A lot of them are at the 8000 level but the practicum are at the 9000 level which would be appropriate.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Denise Sargent

Vote: Unanimous

**SGOCE 23-24-14 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - Teacher Supervision and Evaluation for Professional Growth**

Motion to Review Proposal: Amy McGlothlin

Second: David Weiss

(Nermin Bayazit) It doesn't say how many times it is being offered.

(Lisa Moison) I will fix that.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Nancy Murray

Second: Amy McGlothlin

Vote: Unanimous

**SGOCE 23-24-15 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - Collaboration in Special Education**

Motion to Review Proposal: Nancy Murray

Second: Becky Copper-Glenz

No question or comments. Lisa will make the necessary changes as in the other proposals.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Nancy Murray

Second: Amy McGlothlin

Vote: Unanimous

**SGOCE 23-24-16 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - Effective Leadership Principles and Practices**

Motion to Review Proposal: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Denise Sargent

No question or comments. Lisa will make the necessary changes as in the other proposals.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Kyle Moody

Second: Amy McGlothlin

Vote: Unanimous

**SGOCE 23-24-17 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - The Principal as Instructional Leader and Curriculum Evaluator**

Motion to Review Proposal: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Kyle Moody

(Nancy Murray) The textbooks for this course are 2015 and 2019. Are there more recent editions?

(Lisa Moison) I will ask if there is a more updated version.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Becky Copper-Glenz

Second: Denise Sargent

Vote: Unanimous

**SGOCE 23-24-18 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - Using Data to Address the Opportunity/Achievement Gap Through Effective School Improvement Planning**

Motion to Review Proposal: Nancy Murray

Second: Kyle Moody

(Nermin Bayazit) The last line in the course description is confusing, is this a prerequisite?

(Lisa Moison) That sentence is really just for the students, I will remove it.

Motion to Approve Proposal with a friendly amendment to remove last line in description: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Denise Sargent

Vote: 7

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1

**SGOCE 23-24-19 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - Parental Engagement for Student Learning**

Motion to Review Proposal: Nancy Murray

Second: Becky Copper-Glenz

Lisa will remove the last sentence as in proposal 18.

Motion to Approve Proposal with a friendly amendment to remove last line in description: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Denise Sargent

Vote: 7

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1

**SGOCE 23-24-20 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - M.Ed. in EDLM Non-Licensure  
Principal Concentration Degree**

Motion to Review Proposal: Nancy Murray

Second: Becky Copper-Glenz

(Lisa Moison) This proposal is the summation of all of the courses in the plan of study.

(Mark LeBlanc) Why is it starting in Spring 2025 instead of Fall?

(Lisa Moison) They start a new cohort every Spring.

(Nermin Bayazit) Why would you put the year not just the semester?

(Nancy Murray) In the catalog you do not want it to represent a specific year and is this course ever offered in the Fall?

(Lisa Moison) No, it is not offered in the Fall so I will remove that statement.

Motion to Approve Proposal with a friendly amendment to remove last line in description: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Denise Sargent

Vote: 7

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1

**SGOCE 23-24-05 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - Effective Instructional Methods**

Motion to Review Proposal: David Weiss

Second: Nancy Murray

(Denise Sargent) This is the course in the Graduate Curriculum Committee that we approved with conditions. Some of the textbooks are outdated and I thought you were going to update them Michael.

(Michael Hanna) It didn't happen but I will rework the required recommended textbooks.

(Mark LeBlanc) This is listed as a required course but not noted where. Is there a program change coming through?

(Michael Hanna) Yes, there is a program change coming through.

(Nancy Murray) Dustin Halterman was looking at this too and sending it through the Graduate Curriculum Committee.

(Becky Copper-Glenz) Dustin Halterman, the Chair of the Graduate Curriculum Committee, said it was approved with conditions to update materials for high quality research, and review the timeline for assignments to make it more manageable.

(Brady Chen) Is this part of the online accelerated program and when is this being offered? Spring A or Spring B?

(Becky Copper-Glenz) It will be offered first in Spring 2025. The rotations change depending on how many students we have.

(Nancy Murray) A lot of the work on these courses is because when the OAP courses were first designed for the non-licensure program many of the courses were similar to the licensure courses so the shift in some of these courses was to pull away the focus to be licensure as opposed to providing the people the necessary information around Educational Leadership in a Non-Licensure Program. This is a non-licensure program providing individuals with information and content around leadership.

(Michael Hanna) That includes candidates and applicants who are currently not working in an educational setting and are seeking this degree for other reasons.

(Denise Sargent) Did you make edits and send them to Dustin?

(Michael Hanna) Yes.

(Becky Copper-Glenz) Dustin did confirm that it was ok to go to the Graduate Council and approved it with the conditional updates.

Motion to Approve Proposal with a friendly amendment to correct the 2 amendments Dustin shared with Becky: Kyle Moody

Second: Denise Sargent

Vote: 7

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1

### **SGOCE 23-24-22 - New Course Proposal - EDUC - Reflective Seminar**

Motion to Review Proposal: Becky Copper-Glenz

Second: Nancy Murray

(Becky Copper-Glenz) With reflective seminar, Dustin did confirm he received Michael's updates and the syllabus and it has been approved by the Graduate Curriculum Committee.

(Nancy Murray) Was there any discussion around the fact that the textbooks are 2011?

(Michael Hanna) No, that wasn't a concern. But we have time to research that.

(Denise Sargent) Do we have a policy that the textbooks need to be within 10 years?

(Becky Copper-Glenz) I am not aware of that but something to think about.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Denise Sargent

Vote: 7

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1

### **SGOCE 23-24-23 - Program Change Proposal - EDUC - Educational Leadership and Management OAP**

Motion to Review Proposal: Denise Sargent

Second: David Weiss

(Michael Hanna) This process began with the vision of the program adjusting to some change realities in schools and changing parameters of the program at the university level. We started to see candidates that were not necessarily in Massachusetts, not necessarily pursuing practitioner status in their states. We sought to create a M.Ed. that was online in an accelerated format. We thought it was important to have the Educational Leadership and Management and Curriculum and Teaching to have the application base from around the country and in multiple settings.

(Mark LeBlanc) Just for clarity, can we have a list of courses being removed from the programs.

(Michael Hanna) Yes.

Motion to Approve Proposal: David Weiss

Second: Denise Sargent

Vote: 7

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1

### **SGOCE 23-24-24 - Program Change Proposal - EDUC - Curriculum and Teaching OAP**

Motion to Review Proposal: Becky Copper-Glenz

Second: David Weiss

(Michael Hanna) We are no longer requiring students in this program to be embedded in educational settings. This is going to be an appealing degree for those who are career changers and not being tied to any Massachusetts standards or any standards for licensure. This program change will give Fitchburg State students another option for their completely online studies.

Motion to Approve Proposal: Becky Copper-Glenz

Second: Nancy Murray



Vote: 7

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 1

## **SGOCE 23-24-21 - Grade Appeal Policy Change**

Motion to Review Proposal: Nancy Murray

Second: Denise Sargent

(Becky Copper-Glenz) This is a proposal to change the grade appeal process that we have in the catalog. The policy in the catalog does not match the actual process that we use to process grade appeals. We want to be sure that what we have posted in the catalog is a reflection of what we do as a university to process grade appeals.

(Yang Liu) These kinds of changes need to be agreed upon by the Union. The faculty has a right to our academic freedom. The Union has a right to know about these kinds of changes. If I give a C to a student my Chair cannot make me change that C to an A. Becky cannot make these decisions it needs to be negotiated with the Union.

(Becky Copper-Glenz) I agree with the academic freedom and I included a sentence that the academic judgment used to determine the merits of the grade shall not be reviewable. The process is if a student is claiming bias or some other reason why they are appealing the grade, we cannot deny the student the ability to appeal the grade we have to look at the student complaint. We are not there to judge the faculty member. That is not part of our appeal process.

(Yang Liu) My Dean ordered me to change my grade.

(Becky Copper-Glenz) I cannot speak to an individual case This proposal is to better outline the process we currently use to process grade appeals. Students do have a right to file a grievance if they do not agree with a decision on a grade appeal.

(David Weiss) Let's wrap up approving this proposal then reconvene on May 8th.

(Brady Chen) I think the students should have a right to challenge whatever grade they receive. It should be dealt with case by case. We should also protect academic freedom.

(Nancy Murray) I believe the submission of this policy is not designed to say that faculty do not have academic freedom. The policy is about the process and the students do have a right to appeal a grade. We have to provide a platform in order for them to question something.

(Amy McGlothlin) Nowhere in the contract does it say that academic freedom excludes us from any type of oversight. It looks to me that this policy would prevent what happened to Yang. I think it is a solution to the problem.

(Denise Sargent) As faculty we have a responsibility for grading and we already have a grade appeal policy in place. This is just tweaking what we already have in place. It's not a new policy.

Motion to vote on proposal: David Weiss

Second: Denise Sargent

Vote: 7

Opposed: 1

Abstain: 1

Motion to Approve Proposal: Becky Copper-Glenz

Second: Nancy Murray

Vote: 7

Opposed: 1

Abstain: 1

**Motion to Adjourn:** David Weiss

**Second:** Kyle Moody

**Vote:** Unanimous

We have 3 more proposals to review on May 8th.

## **Graduate Council Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

**Present:** Amy McGlothlin, Barbara Cormier, Becky Copper Glenz, David Weiss, Denise Bertrand, Denise Sargent, Kyle Moody, Lynn D'Agostino, Nermin Bayazit, Nirajan Mani, Xuzhou Chen, Yang Liu

### **SGOCE 23-24-25 - Program Change - EDUC - CAGS Program Name Change**

Motion to Review Proposal: Denise Sargent

Second: Nirajan Mani

(Becky Copper-Glenz) I worked in collaboration with the School of Education on this proposal. Currently we have a CAGS degree, Certificate of Advanced Studies. CAGS has a couple concentrations and an EDLM CAGS that has a couple concentrations. We've been working on trying to get financial aid for these students because it is more than a certificate, it is 36 credits. Because it's more credits than a certificate program we often have students who are seeking financial aid. But because it's called a certificate it's not federally recognized as a program that can receive financial aid. So essentially students in the program have to pay either out-of-pocket or find alternative sources of funding. An EDS degree is an Education Specialist Degree that's nationally recognized. In most of the parts of the country they have never heard of a CAGS they go by an EDS.

When we found out that you could get financial aid with the EDS Degree, we did some research to see what would happen if we were to change our CAGS programs to EDS programs. We contacted the different partners that we work and with different schools and in the state department of higher ed, and they all said that they would still recognize the EDS as a credential that could lead to advancement for students and most everyone was familiar with the EDS Degree. They did agree that the switch would make a difference for students and gain access to financial aid.

There will be no changes to the curriculum. It's just changing the name of the credential from a CAGS to an EDS credential.

Anyone who's in their program will be given an opportunity to choose the CAGS or choose the EDS Degree.

(Barbara Cormier) Is this a change for all of the CAGS or just the IDIS?

(Becky Copper-Glenz) This proposal is just for the CAGS.

Motion to Approve Proposal: David Weiss

Second: Denise Sargent

Vote: Unanimous

### **SGOCE 23-24-26 - Program Change - EDUC - CAGS IDIS Program Name Change**

Motion to Review Proposal: Denise Sargent

Second: Nirajan Mani

(Becky Copper-Glenz) This is the exact same proposal but for the CAGS IDIS Program.

(Barbara Cormier) Is it staying at IDIS?

(Becky Copper-Glenz) Yes, IDIS.

(Barbara Cormier) There are two Education Programs and a Counseling Program that's in the IDIS. Are the two Education Programs moving to Education and IDIS is staying where it is or are they all moving to Education?

(Becky Copper-Glenz) They've already moved to Education.

(Denise Sargent) We've already moved it and we actually put a proposal through already. We changed the name to CAGS and Education Studies. Instead of IDIS we could call it Educational Studies.

(Becky Copper-Glenz) It will be changed to Educational studies. The Idis will be changed to studies.

(Barbara Cormier) So I'm clear, the counseling and psychology will also be Educational Studies, but the concentration will be Counseling in Psychology.

(Denise Sargent) Right because that whole ID has come to the education department already. It's now Educational Studies, it was CAGS in Educational Studies. Now we'll change it to Educational Specialists in Educational Studies

Motion to Approve Proposal with a friendly amendment to change the name to EDS in Educational Studies. For clarification refer to proposal SGOCE 23-24-06 approved on November 2, 2024: Denise Sargent

Second: Amy McGlothlin

Vote: Unanimous

### **SGOCE 23-24-27 - Program Change - EDUC - Curriculum and Teaching - M.Ed. in Curriculum and Teaching**

Motion to Review Proposal: Denise Sargent

Second: Becky Copper-Glenz

(Lynn D'Agostino) We're proposing to change the name of the hybrid on campus version of the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Teaching to a M.Ed. in pedagogy and Learning. We have an online program that is called M.Ed. in Curriculum and Teaching and it is very different from our hybrid on campus M.Ed. in Curriculum and Teaching and we want to separate them because they are two very distinct programs.

One is not really on campus anymore. They are all online and so we can't promote it as online because we have another online Curriculum and Teaching Program. To keep the distinction and to be able to have Assessments in everything that matches each program, we are proposing a new name of M.Ed. in pedagogy and Learning.

Nothing is going to change in our program except the name. Now we'll be able to advertise it as an online program and hopefully they'll be less confusion.

Motion to Approve Proposal: David Weiss

Second: Amy D'Agostino

Vote: Unanimous

**Motion to Adjourn:** Becky Copper-Glenz

**Second:** Kyle Moody

**Vote:** Unanimous

