# Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2017, GBB 202, 12:00 – 1:00 PM

*Members Present:* B. Baker L. Broberg, F. Brown, C. Dumke, J. Farnsworth, G. Morrel, M. Murphy, C. Nelson, S. Ross, D. Schuldberg, R. Smith, S. Stan, N. White   
*Members Absent/Excused:* C. Fitspatrick, K. Harris, C. Palmer, K. Volk   
Ex-Officio Present: A. Kinch, N. Lindsay, V.P. Whittenburg  
Guest; Interim Provost Edmond

Call to Order

* The minutes from 10/18/17 were approved after the discussion with the Provost.

## Communication

* Interim Provost Edmond addressed the concern regarding the proposed library collection reduction. The purpose of communication from the library was to get feedback on the use of various journals. Unfortunately, the tone and potential cuts wording caused quite a panic. The feedback regarding the potential journal cancellations was to determine whether this was a viable option to meet the budget cut. Addressing the budget cuts should not impede the academic enterprise by eliminating essential resources needed for teaching or research.   
    
  The feedback results identified $187,000 in low-use journals that can be discontinued with minimal impact. The Provost’s staff and Interim Vice President Keller worked to identify other sources, including foundation accounts to help address the cut to the budget. The use of foundation money must comply with the donor’s intentions. (Units have been in the practice of using foundation accounts as savings.) The Library has over $1 million in non-general funds. Provost Edmond met with Dean Zhang who agreed to the proposal, which includes a combination of restructuring, foundation money, and designated funds. The Dean requested that the list of journals to be cut be shared with the University Library Faculty before being distributed to campus for another round of feedback.  
    
  Units within Academic Affairs need to be transparent with the administration in terms of available resources. Foundation account balances are not available to the public, but should be included as a resource for unit leaders to manage the operation as long as the account funds are used in accordance with the specific requirements of the donation.

The University Library Committee’s next meeting is on November 13th. The proposal addresses the situation for fiscal year 18. Going forward the library will need to make base budget reductions looking at national models for staffing, best practices, and shared services.   
  
The annual inflationary increase cost will continue to create problems in our current budget situation. Researchers in Germany are starting to object (article sent by Chair Ross). According to Interim Provost Edmond there have been discussions at the system level. Other university systems have the same problem. The Montana University System could investigate whether a Northwest consortium could obtain more favorable prices. The library collection could be funded at the system level.  
  
Graduate student enrollment is up. Staffing should be preserved where the institution is successful. Library services for graduate students is somewhat different from undergraduate students. Grants are increasingly interdisciplinary, so graduate students need help to search in unfamiliar databases. EVST graduate students have received excellent assistance from the library.   
  
The administration is working on implementing a new budget allocation model. The current model is not based on best practices and is inefficient. The money should follow the students. This way when the enrollment grows the funding will grow in the areas corresponding with the students.

## Business Items

* The curriculum items below reviewed by the Science Subcommittee were approved.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Mathematical Sciences** | | |
| [M 567 G](https://winapps.umt.edu/winapps/adminfin/eCurr/CourseForm/Index/1801) | Advanced Data Science Proj. | Change description, title |
| [M 561 G](https://winapps.umt.edu/winapps/adminfin/eCurr/CourseForm/Index/1806) | Advanced Analytics | Change description, title |
| [M 570 G](https://winapps.umt.edu/winapps/adminfin/eCurr/CourseForm/Index/1883) | Calculus for Teachers | Change description, title |
| [M 572 G](https://winapps.umt.edu/winapps/adminfin/eCurr/CourseForm/Index/1885) | Algebra for Teachers | Change description, title |
| [M 573 G](https://winapps.umt.edu/winapps/adminfin/eCurr/CourseForm/Index/1886) | Geometry For Teachers | Change description, title |
| [M 574 G](https://winapps.umt.edu/winapps/adminfin/eCurr/CourseForm/Index/1887) | Prob & Stat for Teachers | Change description, title |
| Level I | Retitle MA in Teaching Middle School Mathematics | To: MA in Teaching School Mathematics |

* The Curriculum Items below reviewed by Social Science Subcommittee were approved.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Environmental Studies** | | |
| [ENST 480 UG](https://winapps.umt.edu/winapps/adminfin/eCurr/CourseForm/Index/1863) | Food Justice & Sustainability | Change title |

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| **Political Science** | | |
| [PSCI 547 G](https://winapps.umt.edu/winapps/adminfin/eCurr/CourseForm/Index/1680) | Legislation | Change title |
| [PSCI 449 UG](https://winapps.umt.edu/winapps/adminfin/eCurr/CourseForm/Index/1713) | Environmental Health Policy | Delete course |

* Cara Nelson agreed to serve as Chair for the IIP Oversight Committee.
* Professor Nelson and Baker agreed to join the IIP Admissions Committee.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.