

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
GRADUATE FACULTY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
October 18, 2019**

Immediately following Faculty Assembly

Kinard 018

- I. Approval of Minutes** from August 30, 2019 ..... Dave Pretty  
i. See [Appendix 1](#)

Dr. Dave Pretty called the meeting to order. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the August 30, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded, and minutes were approved as presented.

- II. Report from CAS Committees**  
**a. Curriculum Committee** ..... Dave Pretty

- i. Modify course: BIOL 530, Current Methods in Microscopy  
Changed number of lab hours from 6 to 3 as students' schedules rarely permit them to be in the lab for 6 hours.
- ii. New course: WMST 509, Masculinities  
1. Offered regularly as a special topics course. Regularization as a permanent course is requested.
- iii. New course: WMST 555, Queer Theory  
1. New course to meet student demand. A recent hire will teach the course.
- iv. New course: PLSC 513, Campaign Management and Political Communication  
1. Department piloted the course and due to positive feedback would like to make the course a regular offering. Course aims to teach practical skills.
- v. Modify course: PLSC 518, Politics of the American South  
1. Added goals and methods of evaluation and removed prerequisites as needed information will be reviewed in the course.
- vi. New course: PLSC 530, Identity, Ethnicity, & Nationalism  
1. New course to meet student demand. A recent hire will teach the course.
- vii. New course: PLSC 550, Social Science Data Analysis  
1. This course aims to increase the number of quantitative course offerings. This course was piloted, and the faculty would like to make it a permanent offering.
- viii. New course: PLSC 555, Queer Theory  
1. New course to meet student demand. A recent hire will teach the course.
- ix. New course: RELG 650, Special Topics in Religious Studies  
1. Increases number of 600-level course available to graduate students.

All course changes were approved with no discussion. All new courses were approved with no discussion.

- III. Graduate Director's Remarks** ..... M. Gregory Oakes

The graduate school is working on a self-study to develop a strategic plan for the next few years. Surveys will be sent out next month. Faculty members were requested to complete surveys thus providing information to the graduate school. Many of the graduate faculty works in the College of Arts and Science making the voice of CAS faculty important.

Resources are being developed using social media to aid with recruitment and retention. There is a workshop that will be present to provide ideas on how to keep social media active for current and former students. Another workshop will provide Department Chairs with information on making websites.

SLAT is a new software tool that can create and send out individual emails that respond to inquiries. It will take a little time to set up but the software should positively decrease the manual labor needed to respond to emails. Another workshop will be set up to provide more information to interested programs.

Any thoughts or ideas to help contact, recruit, and communicate with students can be sent to Dr. Greg Oaks.

Faculty is interested on Dr. Mahoney's thoughts and actions on graduate education. It was proposed that we invite Dr. Mahoney's to a Graduate Faculty Assembly meeting. The importance of graduate education was noted.

**IV. Adjournment -** Adjournment – a motion was made to adjourn, seconded, and approved.

**Note:** Quorum (35% of graduate faculty) is 23 faculty members. The minimum attendance to do business (20% of graduate faculty) is 13 faculty members.