



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Faculty Senate
FROM: Dr. Brendan B. Kelly, President
RE: President's Response to Senate Actions
DATE: December 13, 2022

Following is my response to the actions of the Faculty Senate as represented in the minutes of the meeting on December 2, 2022, which were approved electronically on December 11, 2022. All program approvals are made contingent upon the department's commitment to staff the changes out of existing internal funds. Note that Section 3.6.2 of the Board of Regents Policy Manual states, inter alia: "The termination of educational programs, degrees, or majors shall be submitted to the Chancellor for review and recommendation for action by the Board of Regents." So, all program, degree, and major terminations (as well as additions) need to be approved by the Board. Our requests should include the rationale and the plan for addressing the needs of existing students.

Committee I: Undergraduate Programs Committee (Kim Green, Chair)

Action Items:

- A) College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry
 - 1) Department of English, Film, Languages, and Performing Arts
 - a) Nexus in Acting
Request: Add

This is one of the two-year programs. This Nexus will give students the opportunity to take courses in both basic acting and acting for the camera to provide a pipeline of talent to the film and television industry in Georgia and the live theatre industry in Atlanta. In addition to the acting courses, it includes the business of acting and how to market oneself as an actor. This Nexus in Acting will be the first of its kind in the USG, and the idea has received support from talent agents and live theater producers in the state. The program is built using existing courses; no additions are needed.

Item approved with 37 in favor, zero opposed, and 1 abstention.

I accept this motion.

- 2) Department of Natural Sciences
 - a) BIOL 2251 – Human Anatomy and Physiology I
Request: Revise

The grade requirements for the prerequisite courses are being changed from Minimum Grade B to Minimum Grade C. This course is primarily taken by Nursing and Community Health and Wellness students. The higher pre-req grades have been barriers to student progression but were found not to be contributing to students' performance and ability to handle the content of this BIOL 2251 course. In many cases, students were taking the pre-requisites at other schools and transferring them in. The prerequisites are choices of introductory science courses in biology (BIOL 1107/1107L, BIOL 1108/1108L), chemistry (CHEM 1211/1211L, CHEM 1212/1212L, or CHEM 1152/1152L), or physics (PHYS 1112/1112L).

Item approved unanimously.

I accept this motion.

B) University College

- 1) Department of Civic Engagement and Public Service
 - a) Criminology, B.S.
Request: Revise
 - b) Organizational Leadership, B.S.
Request: Revise
 - c) Political Science, B.S.
Request: Revise

These three proposals were voted on as a block because the rationale is the same for all three. The proposals are creating an Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's pathway leading to the Master's in Public Administration (MPA). There are four 6000-level POLS courses identified to count in place of their 4000-level POLS counterparts. This will allow the students to earn credit (up to 12 hours) toward both degrees simultaneously. This change will increase the competitiveness of the program by making it possible for students to complete both degrees in five years.

Items approved unanimously.

I accept this motion.

Committee II: Graduate Programs Committee (Patrick Hadley, Chair)

Action Items:

- A) College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry
 - 1) Department of English, Film, Languages, and Performing Arts
 - a) English, M.A.
Request: Revise

This revision aligns with the BoR 30 credit requirement for degree completion, eliminates the non-thesis track, and eliminates the oral exam to increase competitiveness, but keep rigor.

Item approved with 36 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention.

I accept this motion.

- b) Master of Music with a Concentration in Music Education, M.M.
Request: Revise

This revision modifies the admissions policy to one required statement of recommendation instead of three letters of recommendation.

Item approved with 36 in favor, 2 opposed, and zero abstentions.

I accept this motion.

- 2) Department of Natural Sciences
 - a) Biology, M.S.
Request: Revise

The first revision removes the GRE from requirements for admission. The exam may pose a financial barrier for some students and is not a predictor of success in this program. A further revision reduces total program credits from 36 to 30, aligning with BoR policy. These changes will assist with recruitment in the region.

Item approved with 36 in favor, zero opposed, and 2 abstentions.

I accept this motion.

- B) Graduate School
 - 1) GRAD 7000 – Prior Learning and Work Experience
Request: Add

The Graduate School needs a zero-credit hour course for students seeking prior learning credit or assessment. This course allows students to meet this need, with credit applied to their department.

Item approved with 36 in favor, zero opposed, and 2 abstentions.

I accept this motion.