

MCL Council Meeting – Minutes

April 15th, 2022

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Virtually via Zoom

Attendance

Voting Faculty: Yan Bai, Bryan Goda, Zoe Barsness, Sergio Davalos

Non-Voting Staff: Victoria Olive, Rachel Long

Items

1) Approve minutes from 3.18.22 meeting

Moved: S. Davalos

Seconded: Z. Barsness

Eligible to vote: 4

4 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained

2) MCL Orientation

We are currently planning to hold orientation June 16th from 6 – 8:30 p.m. This orientation is required for all members of the cohort to attend, and will inform students of expectations, workload, etc. This committee will need to work together to create an agenda for this orientation based on MCL/Milgard orientations in previous years. The orientation will most likely begin with an introduction to the program faculty and advisor, a discussion of the courses for each quarter, and will then lead into student introductions/smaller group exercises where students can introduce themselves to each other, discuss things they're excited about, and challenges they may face. It would be helpful to have a former MCL student there (virtually or in-person) to discuss their experiences and share advice for the new cohort. The Committee Chair will work on a draft agenda for this year's MCL orientation, and will share at our next meeting.

3) MCL Hooding

The Graduate Advisor sent out a survey to current students asking which date/time works best for them for the Hooding Ceremony. This event will be in-person, and ideally will take place in WPH. Some options for dates include: Saturday, June 11th from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. or 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. All MCL Faculty will be informed once a date/time is confirmed.

We will use the same procedures for the Hooding Ceremony as we did in years past, which includes a student voted speaker and invited guest speaker. Committee members were encouraged to provide recommendations for the invited guest speaker. Another piece for this event is the honor society for engineering and Beta Gamma Sigma for Milgard – typically students are inducted into these honor societies at the Hooding Ceremony. The Graduate Advisor and the Committee Chair will work together on securing the date/time and space for this important event.

4) MCL Overall Credit Load

In our last meeting, we added new courses for the capstone and voted to approve adding these credits to our program (2 individual courses over 2 quarters – 2 credits in winter and 3 credits in spring). However, increasing the credit load for MCL students might be difficult for students and faculty to take on, so the Committee Chair shared the option of changing our existing 5 credit courses to 4, to accommodate the change voted on in the last meeting. This will leave 2 extra credits for students to take a 2-credit seminar course to discuss emerging cybersecurity technologies. Moving from 5 credits to 4 credits will require MCL faculty to restructure their courses. Some committee members expressed concern about this change, and requested to create “mockups” of the new proposed course schedule and the impact this change will have on students and faculty. It was also suggested to have a meeting with all MCL faculty to discuss this proposed change.

Application update from Graduate Advisor: Applications submitted for the priority deadline have been reviewed, and it was a strong pool of candidates. More applications will be reviewed next week. It was suggested that the committee review marketing strategies as we move towards 2 cohorts, to make sure that we’re doing everything we can to increase applications. One proposal is to adapting a hybrid-in-residence model.