

ECE Graduate Committee – Minutes

February 2, 2023

CP 303 / Zoom

Attendance

Voting Faculty: Debasis Dawn, Max Laddomada, Mike McCourt, Mohammed Jasim, Jenny Sheng, Thillainathan Logenthiran, Nafiul Siddique, Orlando Baiocchi, Vahid Dargahi*

***=absent for first vote**

Non-voting Faculty and Staff: Zaide Chavez, Raj Katti, Victoria Olive, Rachel Crook

Absent: Matt Tolentino

Items

1) Approve minutes from 1/5/23 meeting

Moved: M.Laddomada

Seconded: J. Sheng

Eligible to vote: 10 (1 voting member absent for vote, 1 voting member absent from meeting)

8 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain

2) SET 10-year review

The Chair shared the drafted template with the committee, which includes different measures to review our program, including student learning goals and outcomes, instructional effectiveness, teaching and mentoring outside the classroom, scholarly impact, etc. This has been saved in the share drive, and the committee was encouraged to review this document and provide comments.

3) MSECE Course Assessment

This document is also saved in the share drive (in the MSECE_CourseAssessment folder). This folder includes the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for MSECE, as well as the drafted 5-year assessment plan. The committee was encouraged to review this document and share comments with the Chair. The

assessment rubric was also shared, which will be used to assess the SLOs in different courses within the MSECE curriculum. The rubric is on a 0 – 3 point scale: 0=novice, 1=apprentice, 2=proficient, 3=expert. The committee discussed the SLOs and felt that they could be expanded to be broader and more all-encompassing.

4) Course credit limit per quarter

Our current graduate handbook states “a student will not be allowed to enroll in more than 13 credits per quarter for 500-700 level courses.” Students have approached the graduate advisor asking to enroll in more than 13 credits (sometimes asking to register for 17 or 18 credits). The UW Grad School allows students to take up to 18 credits, and the 13 limit is one that we created – the Grad School let the Chair know that it entirely our call to decide whether to allow students to register for more than 13 credits. The committee discussed different options to address this issue, and decided to edit the language in the graduate handbook from “will not be allowed” to “a student is recommended to enroll in no more than 13 credits per quarter for 500-700 level courses.”

Motion: To approve the changes to the MSECE Graduate Handbook as discussed

Moved: M. McCourt

Seconded: M. Laddomada

Eligible to vote: 10 (1 voting faculty member absent from meeting)

9 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain

5) Recent Application Changes

The Graduate Advisor shared the changes to the MSECE application, which includes a new question about students’ intended areas of interest/optional areas of study. Another question added is about students’ degree completion choice: thesis or coursework/capstone option. This question also includes the option for students to share their intended research topic, and are encouraged to “be as specific, focused, and narrow as possible.” The committee recommended asking students to broadly describe instead of being specific, since many students may not know what they want to research before entering the program.

The Graduate Advisor also shared that there have been some students without an ECE background applying. The committee discussed potentially offering a pathway to MSECE (similar to the GCSDE program in MSCSS) in the future.

6) AUT 2023 Application Review Updates

There are quite a few applications for fall and 2 for spring 2023. The committee was encouraged to continue checking MyGrad to make sure that there are no pending applications waiting to be reviewed. For fall, there are 41 applications.

7) Current Student Count and SPR New Students

For spring 2023, we should have around 19 students. Currently, we have 14 students (2 students have deferred to 2023 autumn).

8) AUT 2023 Funding and Scholarship Awards

The Graduate Advisor asked the committee if they have any ideas/leads for funding for students. Specifically, the advisor suggested that Faculty look for grants that may be able to fund students to work as GradRAs, TAs, or even graders. A large number of our students are international and are desperate for funding, this could be a great pull for students if we could provide something. The advisor will look for potential grants that may be relevant and will share them with the committee as they are found.

9) Information Sessions, Workshops, and Panels

The Advisor is planning to schedule more information sessions, but would like to plan a panel with faculty, one of the Chairs, and a current student. Similar to a Q and A panel, this would be a great event for prospective students. We could do it in-person or via Zoom so that it's accessible to everyone. We are also planning on hosting an orientation for newly admitted students at the start of fall quarter.