

**MINUTES OF THE MAY 2026
MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL**

The Graduate Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 via ZOOM. Dean Johannes Strobel called the meeting to order at 3:32.

Members Present: Drs. Amidon, Aurentz, Benedict-Chambers, Besara, Chang, Deal, Dong, Ennis, Friske, Gordon, Hwang, Jackson, Kageyama, Koch, Lazic, Liu, Maher, Mirza, Morgan, Newman, Panzer, Penkalski, Prakash, Reger, Roberts, Schick, Shah, Strobel, G. Tapis and Tsai; Ms. Jones, Pippa, Powell, Pratt, Seo and Stout

Members Absent: Drs. Backes, Chesman, Davis, Ford, Hoelscher, Kaatz, McKay, K. Tapis; Ms. Chavez and Oetting

Guests Present: Dr. Hausback and Pickett

Election of 26/27 Chair

Dean Strobel called for nominations for Chair for the 26/27 year. Ms. Jones nominated Dr. Hillary Roberts. Hearing no other nominations, Dean Strobel called for a vote. Dr. Roberts was unanimously approved.

New Chair, Dr. Roberts thanked everyone and continued the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The April minutes were approved.

Announcements

Graduate Council Chair. No report.

Graduate College Dean. Dean Strobel announced that Carrisa Hoelscher has resigned for June 30, 2026 as Associate Dean and Director of GIP and will return to faculty. Reesha Adamson has been named as the Interim Dean and Director of GIP for a one-year term starting July 1, 2026. The position will be posted in the fall semester with the full-time hire expected to start July 1, 2027.

Graduate Student Senate. No report.

Committee Reports

Report of the Graduate Faculty Membership Committee – Lauren Jones

The following faculty were approved for full graduate faculty status:

Jonathan Mikhail	SHP	Professional
Kendall Moles	BIO	Research
Rebecca Oh	ART	Research
Daniel Robert	DSS	Research
Hillary Roberts	SHS	Research
Amanda Schweissguth	MTH	Professional

Mackinsey Shahan	SHS	Research
Madison Turntine	SHP	Professional
Stephanie Urich	SHS	Professional

Report of the Graduate Grievance Committee – Hilary Roberts

No report.

Report of the Graduate Scholarship Committee – John Turner

The Scholarship committee reviewed 159 applications. The following students were awarded scholarships totally \$11,500:

Ford Scholarship. Six awards of \$750 each: Isabella Kashubin (Secondary Education, English), Rileigh Sinning (Speech-Language Pathology), Emma Hartman (Elementary Education), Robert-Thomas Gumersell (MBA), Kyla Burdick (MBA) and Lauren Coroleuski (Public Health).

Boritzki Scholarship. Two awards of \$3000 each: Larua Black (Special Education) and Marianne Partin (English).

Masterson Family Research Scholarship. Two awards of \$500 each: Hannah Ndiba (Geography & Geology) and Angelique Doran (Geography & Geology)

Report of the Graduate Screening Committee – Melissa Penkalski

All proposals included in the *Graduate Council 25/26 May 6, 2026* agenda were approved.

Unfinished Business

The ad hoc committee for PhD graduate faculty status has not had many volunteers. Dr. Schick and Dr. Strobel will reach out and ask people to serve.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m. The next meeting of the Graduate Council will be on September 2, 2026.



Hillary Roberts, Chairperson