

Graduate Council
Agenda
February 16, 2021

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://berry.zoom.us/j/901940907>

Meeting ID: 901 940 907

I. New Business:

Approval of minutes from the 12-15-20 meeting

Campbell School of Business

- We are pausing the MBA Professional Accountancy track due to low enrollment and the inability to offer all of the track courses at this time.
- We surveyed the 2020 graduates regarding the commencement ceremony. Those who responded agreed to be included in the May 7th along with the 2021 graduates.

II. Old Business

Charter School of Education and Human Sciences:

M.A.T curriculum revision

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 3/16/21 at 11 a.m.

***Agenda items for the 3/16 meeting
will be due on Thursday, 3/11 at 5 p.m.***

Graduate Council
Minutes of December 15, 2020

Dr. Boyd called the Zoom meeting to order. In attendance were: Basil Englis, Paula Englis, Michelle Haney, Sherre Harrington, Joyce Heames, Alan Hughes, Nancy Mercer, Carolyn Stufft, Monica Willingham.

Minutes from November 17, 2020 were *approved by voice vote*.

Old Business

Charter School

Dr. Baines presented the following for second reading:

- Proposal: Change the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) degree.

Discussion: Dean Boyd asked for updates from the last meeting regarding questions that were raised. Dean Hughes checked on the SACSCOC concerns and reported a program that has been vacant for a period of five years or longer must submit a prospectus before enrolling students again. Also, a substantive change form must also be submitted for the reduction in degree hours for this proposal. Dr. Haney shared a concern regarding the cross-listing of the courses as UG and G given the UG sections are already near capacity. A motion was made to table this proposal as submitted with the suggestion that it be brought back when both elementary, middle school and secondary areas are combined into one document which will be submitted to SACSCOC and the GAPSC.

The proposal was *tabled with the suggestion that it be brought back when both elementary, middle school and secondary areas are combined into one document. Approved by voice vote.*

Campbell School

Dean Heames presented the following for second reading:

- Proposal: CHANGE BUS685 Strategies of World-Class Organizations. Remove FIN 601 as PR. Add CR FIN601.
- Proposal: CHANGE catalog language as submitted.

Both proposals were *approved by voice vote*.

Joint MBA/Graduate EDU proposals:

- Proposal: add a summer early-walking in policy for graduate-level graduation ceremonies.
 - Given discussions from the first reading, Ms Mercer withdrew the proposal of no early walking for graduate students. Students could appeal to the Deans' Council. Ms Willingham concurred with withdrawal of the proposal.
- Proposal: Parking fee change for graduate students.
 - Ms. Mercer and Ms. Willingham met with Brad Reeder and Kim Melton. Mr. Reeder stated there was no financial decision made to begin charging graduate students the \$110 undergraduate parking fee. Mr. Reeder indicated the issue lies with the report being pulled by Campus Police and will work with them and IT to resolve.

Next meeting scheduled for January 19th but with no anticipated new business, it is cancelled.

Chair: Mary Boyd

Secretary: Nancy Mercer and Monica Willingham

Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) Analysis

For questions, please contact Lawrence Baines, lbaines@berry.edu, 706-238-7805

Summary of recommendations:

1. Approve the M.A.T./Secondary Education now.
2. The M.A.T./Early Childhood Education and the M.A.T./Middle Grades Education may never be developed because of significant obstacles, which are discussed below.

The revised **M.A.T./Secondary Education** program is for students who wish to teach Biology, Chemistry, English, Government, History, Physics, Art, French, German, or Spanish in grades 6-12.

A student who enrolls in Berry's M.A.T./Secondary Education would already hold a bachelors' degree in a content area (Biology, Chemistry, English, Government, History, Physics, Art, French, German, or Spanish). Berry's revised M.A.T./Secondary Education offers the course work in education required by the state; it also provides practical experiences in schools. The M.A.T./Secondary Education (grades 6-12) has already been approved by the state and all the courses in the revised M.A.T./Secondary Education are existing courses. The recent recommended revision to the M.A.T./Secondary Education requires neither new courses nor additional faculty lines. If approved, this program could begin enrolling students in fall 2021.

Recommendation: Approve the M.A.T./Secondary Education now.

The challenge of **M.A.T./Early Childhood Education**

The difficulty of establishing an M.A.T./Early Childhood Education is that Early Childhood is treated as a subject area by the state, like English or Biology. Thus, prospective students would not be bringing "subject area preparation" with them, so they would have to take "subject area courses" in Early Childhood Education IN ADDITION TO the core courses of the M.A.T. Berry has few graduate courses in Early Childhood Education on the books. The table below depicts a list of Early Childhood Education undergraduate courses required by the state for which no graduate equivalent exists.

Current undergraduate courses that fulfill state requirements for Early Childhood Education

Course	Graduate equivalent?
MAT220 Math for P-8	No
EDU227 Preschool Curriculum and Methods	No
EDU320 Early Childhood Literacy	No
EDU321 Language Arts for Early Childhood	No
EDU322 Integrated Arts and Cultures (social studies) for Early Childhood	No
EDU323 Cultures and Communities in Early Childhood	No
EDU340 Science for Early Childhood	No
EDU370 Early Childhood Curriculum/Methods I	No
EDU371 Early Childhood Curriculum/Methods II	No

The M.A.T./Early Childhood Education would require the development of several new graduate courses. Not only would the development and approval of these new graduate courses take time, Berry would need additional faculty to teach these courses.

A second approach might be to have M.A.T./Early Childhood Education students take the existing sequence of required, state-approved courses at the undergraduate level as prerequisites. Then, students could shift to the graduate level for the final year of study. This would be a 3-year, 70-hour post-baccalaureate program (39-hours of undergraduate Early Childhood Education courses and 31-hours of graduate courses). Another problem with such a program is that students who already hold a bachelor's degree are prohibited from receiving financial aid to support enrollment in undergraduate courses.

The challenge of M.A.T./Middle Grades Education

Georgia requires subject-area concentrations in TWO of the following subject areas to qualify for certification in middle grades: Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, and Science. The difficulty is that most students would bring in only one concentration area and would have to take additional graduate hours in the content area to qualify for certification in middle grades. Because Berry does not offer graduate courses in language arts, social studies, mathematics, or science, the M.A.T./Middle grades is not currently feasible.