

## Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2024

**Guests and substitutes in attendance:** David Alexander, Beth Allison Barr, Jeff Brown, Christian Clark, Eddie Contreras, Alyssa Erchinger, James Howard, Derek Smith, Michael Trakselis.

**Graduate School deans and staff in attendance:** Larry Lyon, Sara Dolan, Sheila Dooley, Tosha Hendrickson, Bill Hockaday, Eric Hooley, Chris Rios, David Winkler.

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Graduate School Dean, Larry Lyon, greeted the group. The invocation was led by James Howard, 2024-25 Graduate Student Association President.

### Minutes Review and Approval

The minutes from October 5, 2023 were presented for review and approved without changes.

### Recognizing GPDs

Dean Lyon acknowledged and thanked outgoing GPDs and welcomed new GPDs.

### Social Media Panel

Lyon spoke on the importance of Social Media to increase our digital presence and further the goals of graduate education. Derek Smith led a discussion on Building Graduate Community with a panel of Baylor faculty and communication professionals from various campus departments: Beth Allison Barr (History), Jeff Brown (Digital Marketing), Christian Clark (College of Arts & Sciences), Alyssa Erchinger (Robbins College), Michael Trakselis (Chemistry & Biochemistry), David Winkler (Graduate School Social Media).

David Winkler shared how the Graduate School is using social media and highlighted a video series showcasing faculty and students.

### Office of General Counsel

Dr. Dolan called on David Alexander of OGC to present Legal Issues in Graduate Education. He touched on scenarios relevant to campus activities and provided insight on how to navigate the legal process in the event of being sued.

### 10 minute refreshment break.

Dean Lyon discussed the New R1 Formula, Baylor's classification and comparisons to other noted universities. Following, Eddie Contreras presented an overview on Global Rankings, its importance and direction at Baylor.

Dean Lyon discussed the significance of Baylor Presidents and their influence on PhD program growth.

Chris Rios presented statistics on Graduate Enrollment and its unprecedented growth.

Sara Dolan gave an overview of events during Graduate Student Appreciation Week, April 1-5. David Winkler showed videos as examples of how to showcase faculty and students on social media.

### Announcements

Dean Lyon recognized retiring GPDs for their years of service.

Meeting ended and Dean Lyon dismissed the group.