

**MINUTES**  
**COALS GRADUATE PROGRAM COUNCIL**  
**March 21, 2018**  
**ALGS 501, 2 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Patricia Klein-Vice Chair, Mary Bryk, Morgan Farnell, Sandun Fernando, Del Gatlin, Wes Osburn, Tracy Rutherford, Victoria Salin, Michel Slotman, C. Wayne Smith, Stephen Talcott, Pete Teel, Dawn Kerstetter (minutes), David Reed (mostly absent)

**I. MINUTES**

- a. February 21, 2018-*APPROVED*

**II. NEW COURSE REQUESTS** <https://nextcatalog.tamu.edu/courseadmin/>

**III. CHANGE IN COURSE/INACTIVATION REQUESTS** View courses here (after login):  
<https://nextcatalog.tamu.edu/courseadmin/> Type the course name in the “Search” box.

- a. SCSC 660 : Experimental Designs in Agriculture-*APPROVED*  
b. SCSC 642 : Plant Breeding II-*APPROVED*  
c. WFSC 614 : Down River: Biology of Gulf Coastal Fishes (tabled form February meeting)- *APPROVED pending syllabus correction of calendar of activities. Needs table to reflect hours/activities for students. The instructor decided to see if the grads can just take the undergrad version of the course, since it was approved by the UPC, or the Corpus Christi version. Course not in CARS workflow.*  
d. ESSM 636 : Wildland Watershed Management- *APPROVED pending syllabus correction of calendar of activities. Need time breakdown of virtual/non-virtual hours.*  
e. ESSM 652 : Advanced Topics in Geographic Information Systems-*TABLED for syllabus correction to Course Description. Needs to clarify virtual lab. Need topics/hours/time in calendar of activity table.*

*Non-traditional course table needs time/date breakdown of activities. GPC will be sent syllabus template for this from Dr. Kim Dooley*

**IV. NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL** N/A

**V. CHANGE IN PROGRAM/CERTIFICATE**

- a. CERT-CG31 : International Agriculture and Resource Management – Certificate-(tabled form February meeting)  
*TABLED-ALEC 613 has a prerequisite, instructor was not ware of the changes to the certificate.*

*ALEC 681, when it had an international focus, was added to the IARM program some time before 2007 to help tie the coursework together for participating students as a kind of capstone experience. However, since the seminar doesn't have an international focus every semester, it has not always been possible for students participating in the IARM certificate program to take the seminar course in a timely matter. Starting in about 2011, it was approved by the IARM advisory committee to allow students to substitute attendance at 8 Borlaug Institute seminars for ALEC 681. In 2013, AGECE 689, International Agriculture Development Policy (now AGECE 613) was added as a capstone requirement for the certificate. Under the current online approval process for certificates, variable credit is no longer allowed, so we can no longer give the choice of ALEC 681 or the Borlaug Institute seminars (15-16 credit hours). That puts us back to the problem of an internationally focused ALEC 681 isn't always available. However, as AGECE 613 is now required as the certificate capstone course, it has actually replaced the need for ALEC 681.—  
Cathryn*

**VI. GRADUATE FACULTY NOMINATIONS**

- a. Policy  
*Dr. C. Wayne Smith will draft new Graduate Faculty Nomination guidelines for April GPC meeting. GPC is requesting an explanation of “independence” for title such as Research Scientist.*

- b. Ewen, John WFSC-*APPROVED*
- c. Gluesenkamp, Andrew WFSC-*APPROVED*
- d. Randklev, Charles WFSC-*APPROVED*
- e. Riera-Lizarazu, Oscar HORT-*APPROVED*

**VII. GRADUATE OPERATION COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- a. International Student Health Insurance Primer (handout)  
*GPC was informed by Dr. Smith that international students are not allowed to get reimbursement for their insurance payments before August 31.*

**VIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

*For fellowship/assistantship offers by college, the tuition /fees will cover only classroom courses. Departments should include in their letter that distance/web-based courses are not covered due to additional costs, or the department can cover the extra cost.*

**GPC Dates for 2017-2018 Academic Year (Every third Wednesday)**

All meetings will be in 501 AGLS at 1:30 PM unless otherwise noted:

April 18, 2018  
May 16, 2018

June 20, 2018  
July 18, 2018  
August 15, 2018