

REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE

FROM: Graduate Council

DATE: December 6, 2021

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Graduate Council met on 11/19/21 for discussion and **approval of the following:**

1. MS in Clinical Research (discussion convened by Co-Chair Kirsten Limesand as Chair Hammer is the proposed Director of this program; Chair Hammer was recused and absent for the vote) - <https://grad.arizona.edu/gradcouncil/agenda/2021-11>
2. Posthumous degree policy presented by Amanda Gluski, Registrar's Office - https://grad.arizona.edu/gradcouncil/sites/default/files/agenda/posthumous_degree_policy_proposal.docx

Chair Hammer provided an update from investigation of an issue reported in the Oct. 4 Faculty Senate meeting. Based on an Arizona Open Records Act (ORA) request, it was reported that the Koch Foundation contribute over \$400,000 to the Department of Political Economy & Moral Sciences (PEMS) in 2020, which might have influenced the development and approval of the MA in Philosophy, Politics and Economy (PPE). In fact, funds from the Koch Foundation in the amount of \$414,500 were received by the Freedom Center in 2018 and 2019 to support two PEMS faculty members. When the Freedom Center moved to RII, the funds were credited to PEMS (and displayed on the ORA response) in 2020. The original allocations to the Freedom Center were disbursed before Dept. Head Vlad Turko arrived at UArizona in August 2019. The proposal for the MA in Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE) was originally submitted at the end of April 2020, then revised and reviewed by Graduate Council in Nov. 2020 and approved in December 2020. The MA in PPE was considered by Faculty Senate on March 1, 2021 at which time Vlad Turko addressed questions from Senators. The degree was approved by Faculty Senate in its vote following the meeting. We conclude that neither Grad Council nor Faculty Senate were misled regarding the quality or support for the PPE degree.

Discussion item: Susan Miller-Cochran, Executive Director of General Education, reported on the potential impact of the new Gen Ed curriculum on graduate education. Grad Council members expressed support for opportunities for graduate students with appropriate experience and training to be instructor of record of Gen Ed courses.

GOALS:

Graduate Council meets again on December 17 to consider additional program proposals.