

Graduate Academic Affairs Committee (GAAC) Minutes
Saint Louis University
April 10, 2026

Voting Members Present: Dana Baum, Srikanth Mudigonda, Chris Thomas, Melissa Berrien-Elliott, Danielle Hopkins (proxy for Rowan Hollinger), Zhenguo Lin, Marcia McCormick, Kristi Richter, Sarah Burt, Jen Popiel, Rabia Rahman, Katie Mascari, Lauren Arnold (proxy for Katie Stamatakis), Helen Lach, Brian Yothers (proxy for Toby Benis), Takako Nomi, Simona Rentea

Non-voting Members Present: April Trees, Janie Henderson, Nicole Mispagel, Jay Haugen

Absentees: Elizabeth Richard

I. **Approval of March Minutes** - Minutes approved.

II. **Academic Program Proposals**

B. Program Closures

24: Biology MA

Only one student currently enrolled, no teach-out plan required as courses are offered for MS.

GAAC unanimously approved the closure of the program.

177: Sociology MS

Two students. No teach-out plan required as they have completed coursework.

GAAC unanimously approved the closure of the program.

II. **Policies**

[Policy on Dually-Listed Courses](#)

Feedback from previous GAAC meeting, UAAC input, and department feedback lead to changes to the policy presented at the last GAAC. These changes include:

- 4.3, removal of language about the Dean overseeing the policy.
- 4.2, quantitative requirements changed to qualitative requirements/language. Focus on learning outcomes.
- At the request of SSE, removed “Majority” to remove focus on quantitative verbiage.

Graduate Academic Affairs Committee (GAAC) Minutes
Saint Louis University
April 10, 2026

- Removed “Reading” from the list of things that must be different. The readings could be the same, but students interact with them differently.
- 4.3 – modification of the section on the number of course credits and format, and course meeting times. These can vary by program depending on student course/credit needs.
- Feedback related to faculty workload was not addressed in the policy as this is focused specifically on curriculum and faculty workload is addressed in other policies and in conversation with the dean
- Course titles are no longer required to be different.

GAAC unanimously voted to approve the updated policy.

Graduation Requirements Policy

- Doctoral language from original policy was missing. Programs had issues with this policy language.
- Jay Haugen will redraft the policy by adding the doctoral policy and other changes. April Trees will share with GAAC before the next meeting. Dr. Trees asked GAAC to send feedback from departments.
- GAAC tabled this vote until the next meeting.

Microcredentials

- Undergraduate and graduate (or advanced) microcredentials will be specified, notating the separation of both credential levels.
- Undergraduate students taking graduate level courses towards their microcredential can have it count towards their graduate microcredential (if they are planning to complete one).

GAAC will take back to departments for discussion and feedback before voting.

IV. Announcements:

Next GAAC Meeting May 8, in Tegeler Hall, Room 207

Graduate Academic Affairs Committee (GAAC) Minutes
Saint Louis University
April 10, 2026

Adjourned at 9:45am