

Graduate Council



The Graduate School provides a framework for supporting excellence in graduate research, scholarship, teaching, and mentorship in accordance with Columbus State University's mission and consistent with the mission of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

The Graduate School is led by the Dean of Libraries and Graduate Studies, who is assisted by a representative body, the Graduate Council. Among its responsibilities, the Graduate Council approves new and revised graduate programs and certificates, develops policies and processes related to graduate studies, and approves graduate admission requirements.

The Graduate Council meetings are held virtually on the 2nd Friday of each month at 12:00pm on Microsoft Teams.

Graduate Council Membership 2025-2026

Year 3

- Dana Griggs, COEHP
- Mohammad Jafari, COLS
- Saoussan Maarouf, COEHP (Chair elect)
- Jennifer Newbrey, COLS
- Aimee Vael, COEHP

Year 2

- Esther Park, COA

Year 1

- Benjamin Baker, COA
- John Finley, TCOBT
- Patricia Anafi, COEHP
- Lixin Wang, TCOBT
- Daewoo Lee, COLS

Ex-Officio

- Amber Dees, SACSCOS Liaison
- Clinton Barineau, Executive Officer of the Faculty Senate
- Catrina Smith-Edmonds, Associate Director of Admissions and The Graduate School
- Bryan Banks, Dean of Libraries and Graduate Studies
- Yesem Kurt Peker, Interim Director of Graduate School

[Previous Graduate Council Members](#)