

Graduate Admissions Committee

Annual Report 2023-2024

DATE: July 15, 2024
TO: Executive Committee, Faculty Senate
FROM: Jonathan Arthurs, Graduate Admissions Committee Chair
SUBJECT: 2023-2024 Annual Report for the Graduate Admissions Committee

The Graduate Admissions Committee operates under the Standing Rules of the OSU Faculty Senate, and under the policies and procedures formulated by the Graduate Council. The role of the Committee is to review files of Graduate School applicants who do not meet the admission requirements. The requirement is a grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in the last 90 quarter hours or 60 semester hours of the undergraduate degree. For international students, there is an additional English requirement: a TOEFL score of 550 (213 on the computer version of the test, or 80 if Internet-based scores are submitted) or a degree completed at an accredited institution offering all course work in English.

Cases not meeting these minimum requirements may be appealed to the Committee for review with one of the following outcomes: admit regular, admit conditional, admit provisional or deny admittance. For a conditional admit, the standard condition is that students must earn a 3.00 (B grade) or better in each course of the first 18 hours of graded graduate credits. A provisional admit usually involves additional coursework or GPA stipulations imposed by the petitioning department. If students are denied admittance, they may still complete 24 hours of upper division courses or graduate work, earning a 3.00 or better, to be considered for admission if the department approves the acceptance. Students who use this avenue are not reconsidered by the Committee unless they petition based on fewer than 24 hours of completed work.

In 2006, the Faculty Senate voted to streamline the appeals process for those applications not meeting these minimum requirements. This policy change established that, for an applicant with a GPA of 2.75 or above (i.e., between 2.75 and 2.99), the Office of Admissions will grant the conditional admission, as requested by the petitioning department, without sending the file to Graduate Admissions Committee. If regular or provisional admission is requested instead, the file would be reviewed by the Committee. Similarly, if a department petitions for any form of admission for an applicant with a GPA below 2.75, the file would be reviewed by the Committee.

In reviewing cases, the Committee has adopted a holistic approach to review and considers a range of predictors for success in graduate school, including standardized test scores, letters of recommendation, other academic performance, work experience since the applicant earned the previous degree(s) and life experiences. Each file is carefully reviewed by at least two committee members who look for substantive and compelling evidence indicating that the applicant has the maturity and drive to succeed at the graduate level.

During the July 2023–June 2024 review period, Committee work was conducted through email with the option for remote (Zoom) meetings on an as-needed basis. The Graduate Admissions Committee completed 10 reviewing periods with 34 cases under consideration. For one of the cases, the Committee requested additional information (through the Graduation School) from the candidate since the candidate's personal statement was incomplete and no letters of reference were included in the application packet. This applicant did not complete the application process and stopped responding to requests from the Graduate School for further information.

Out of the 34 cases, 4 students were international. Eight of the cases involved application into a certificate program and the remaining 26 cases involved application into a master's

program. Four cases were from international applicants. None of the cases reviewed involved doctoral program applicants.

For the upcoming year, two of the eight positions remain unfilled. Brian Sidlauskas completed his service and Leila Ranjbar has left the Committee. Scarlett Arbuckle from the College of Agricultural Sciences will join for the upcoming year.

Annual Graduate Admissions Committee Activity Audit: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

Report Date	18-Aug	7-Sep	3-Dec	12-Dec	9-Feb	22-Feb	22-Mar	19-Apr	17-May	31-May	Total
Files Reviewed	10	4	2	1	5	2	3	4	2	1	34

Decisions

Certificates	3	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	8
Admit											0
Cond. Admit	2		2		2	1					7
Prov. Admit											0
Defer	1										1
Deny											0

Master's	7	4	0	1	3	1	3	4	2	1	26
Admit					1		1	2	1	1	6
Cond. Admit	7	4			2	1	2	2	1		19
Prov. Admit											0
Defer				1							1
Deny											0

Doctoral	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Admit											0
Cond. Admit											0
Prov. Admit											0
Defer											0
Deny											0

Review Periods	10
All Files Reviewed	34
Decisions	34
Admit	6
Conditional	26
Provisional	0
Defer	2
Deny	0

Intl (4)	Cert	Master's	Doctoral
Admit		2	
Cond.		2	
Provis.			
Defer			
Deny			

2023-2024 Membership

Jonathan Arthurs, Chair '24	College of Business
Lily Ranjbar '24	College of Engineering
Brian Sidlauskas '24	College of Agricultural Sciences
Adam Kent '25	College of Earth, Ocean, & Atmospheric Sciences
Weihong Qiu '25	College of Science
Jennifer Beamer '26	College of Health
Sharon Shen '26	College of Forestry
TBA '26	International Education

Ex-Officio Member: Graduate School – Patrick McBrien

Executive Committee Liaison – Jordon Zardinejad