



Associate/Assistant Graduate Deans Council Meeting
October 28, 2025
2:00-4:00 pm
Darla Moore School of Business – Room 364
Chair: Dean Ann Vail

Present: Dean Ann Vail, Lucy Yu, Bill Hauk, Robin Dawson, Angelina Sylvain, Tracey Weldon, Danny Jenkins, Doug Pittman, Satish Jayachandran, Dale Moore, Heidi Conte, Stephen Shapiro, Barbara Foster, Jill Stewart, Peter Moyi, Susan Rathbun-Grubb, Ben Roth,

Welcome and Opening Remarks – Dean Ann Vail

Update on International Graduate Students and Recent Visa Changes – Harlan Smith



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aduate_Students_Upd.

- Ongoing federal rulemaking could change visa/immigration processes; a proposed rule with many public comments is under review.
- Visa interviews now mandatory (no waivers); interviews must occur in country of citizenship or legal permanent residence.
- New social-media vetting being implemented for visa interviews and U.S. ports of entry.
- Possible 2026 changes for F-1/J-1: proposed four-year entry period regardless of program length — may complicate long programs and require documented academic justification + USCIS approvals/fees for extensions.
- CPT likely to be limited to credit-bearing courses; OPT may face greater oversight; STEM OPT under review — recruitment impact a concern.
- Travel and re-entry could become more difficult; grace periods may shorten (e.g., 60 → 30 days).
- H-1B: extensions/transfers functioning; new H-1B filings abroad uncertain due to litigation.
- Guidance: do not exclude candidates for visa reasons; contact ISSS early for travel, extension, and hiring planning.
- ISSS will offer college-specific advising assignments when a new system launches in January; faculty encouraged to set up briefings.

Transcript Evaluation Requirement – Dean Ann Vail

- Students admitted before Sept 19, 2025: exempt for spring/summer 2026.
- Students admitted after Sept 19, 2025: must submit certified transcripts before registration.
- Arrivals without transcripts: registration hold and possible SEVIS reporting within 15 days.
- Programs should help students secure transcripts prior to travel.

Graduate School Updates – Dean Ann Vail

- Administration addressing a social-media issue tied to gender/pronoun data collection in applications; updates to follow.
- Thanks to departments for prompt action on admissions documentation.

Element 1801 Project Update - Heidi Conte



Element1801 Monthly
Status Report Octobe

- Implementation on schedule. Discovery Phase finished Oct 9 (200+ user stories); Development Phase began Oct 20.
- Sprint 1 focuses on security, authentication, and system setup; Banner and other integrations underway.
- Parallel run with legacy system planned for January for data migration.
- Prioritizing high-value features for Phase 1; some specialized needs (recitals, practica, internships) may require local development or later phases.
- Funding/options discussed: potential use of graduate fees, unit customization, paid development.
- Training approach: train-the-trainer and college “Element Champions”; demos and videos to be shared soon.
- Goal: improve milestone tracking, automate routine communications, reduce paper processes.

Closing Remarks – Dean Ann Vail

Next meeting of the AAGDC meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 18, 2025