

August 11, 2026

TO: Kim Whitehead, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
FROM: Marty Brock, AVPAA and Director of Graduate Studies
RE: Recommendations from Graduate Council, April 2026

Graduate Council voted on the following items in the April 2026 meeting:

- I. Review of credentials for consideration of the following faculty:
 - College of Nursing & Health Sciences – Speech Language Pathology
 - Madeline Blair
- II. Change Admission Requirement (see attached proposed language):
 - School of Education – Accelerated Bachelor's/MAT program
 - Lower from 3.25 to 3.0.
 - The following bulletin change: *Transfer students must have completed at least 24 credit hours at MUW, "prior to enrolling."*
- III. Change Course Prefix:
 - College of Arts and Sciences – Women's Leadership
 - Change the prefix of all courses in the Women's Leadership program, currently WS 500 and higher, from WS to WL.

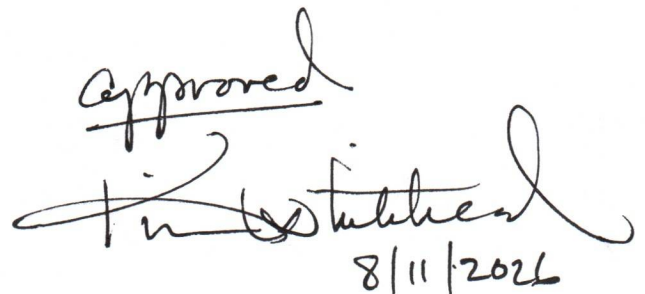
The Council's received vote was unanimous, in favor of recommending all of the above changes, for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Marty Brock
AVPAA and Director of Graduate Studies

Approved
Scott
Jallison 8/12/26

Approved

8/11/2026



College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Department of Speech-Language Pathology
1100 College St., MUW 1340
Columbus, MS 39701-5800
Phone: (662) 329-7270
Fax: (662) 329-7460
www.muw.edu/speech

M. Hunter Manasco Ph.D. CCC-SLP

Professor and Chair

Department of Speech-Language Pathology

Mississippi University for Women

mhmanasco@muw.edu

3/17/26

Members of Graduate Council:

This is a letter of support for the candidacy of Maddie Blair to be accepted as an instructor in MUW Speech-Language Pathology graduate program. Ms. Blair is an alum of MUW and completed her graduate degree at MUW and was exceptionally well regarded in her time here. She is fully licensed and credentialed as a speech-language pathologist and has recently been employed in the public schools working as a speech-language pathologist. She is being hired by us to provide clinical supervision for our graduate students in school settings. Ms. Blair will be teaching under SPA 513 (first year graduate) clinical practicum. She will supervise and guide graduate students as they complete a portion of their required hours of clinical work and provide feedback.

I am confident that Ms. Blair will be an outstanding addition to the graduate SLP program at MUW.

Please direct any questions concerning this letter to me at the email address above.

Sincerely.

M. Hunter Manasco



Vandergriff College of Nursing and Health Sciences
1100 College St., MUW-910
Columbus, MS 39701
Office: (662) 329-7299
Fax: (662) 329-8555
bhlarmon@muw.edu

March 17, 2026

Graduate Council,

I am writing my letter of support for the Graduate SLP Department and their selection of Maddie Blair for Graduate SLP adjunct clinical faculty. She has both the experience and practice knowledge to teach and peer mentor in the courses for which she is assigned as faculty. I have included this letter of recommendation and the faculty's curriculum vitae, along with a letter of support from the SLP department chair. Please let me know if you need anything further.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brandy H. Larmon, EdD, RN-MSN
Dean, College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Mississippi University for Women
Columbus, MS 39701

Madeline Blair, MS, CCC-SLP

511 Anderson Grove Road, Caledonia, MS

662-251-6499

maddiekb22@gmail.com

Objective: Speech-language pathologist dedicated to mentoring and guiding graduate clinicians in developing clinical skills to effectively support and enhance individual's communication needs.

Experience supervising a second-year graduate student in a school-based setting, providing direct instruction, modeling evidence-based practices, and delivering constructive feedback to promote clinical skill development and professional growth.

EDUCATION

Mississippi University for Women — Master of Science

August 2021 – May 2023

Received Master of Science Degree, Speech-Language Pathology, May 2023.

Mississippi University for Women — Bachelor of Science

August 2019–May 2021

Received Bachelor of Science Degree, Speech-Language Pathology, May 2021. Graduated Cum Laude.

Southwest Mississippi Community College; Summit, MS — Associate of Arts

July 2018–May 2019

Received Associate of Arts degree in May 2019, after obtaining high school diploma in May of 2018 from New Hope High School.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Columbus Municipal Schools; Columbus, MS — Speech Pathologist

July 2023– June 2026

Conducted comprehensive evaluations across four school and daycare locations, reviewed assessment data to determine eligibility, and developed appropriate IEPs while ensuring timelines and compliance are met. Facilitated MET, eligibility, re-evaluation, ESY, and IEP meetings, maintained accurate documentation, provided individualized speech therapy services, and participated in professional development trainings to strengthen clinical practice.

Champion Partners in Rehab; Generations: Vernon, AL — PRN Speech Pathologist

March 2025– September 2025

Provided skilled treatment to the geriatric population with a focus on strengthening cognitive and/or swallowing function. Conducted comprehensive evaluations of swallowing and cognitive status for new admissions, and accurately completed clinical documentation and billing in accordance with facility requirements.

Kids Therapy Spot; Starkville, MS — Student Clinician

January 2023– May 2023

Treated a diverse range of communication disorders in the pediatric population, working with numerous diagnoses. Consistently documented daily SOAP notes and provided regular verbal updates to parents/guardians, ensuring clear communication and ongoing support.

Caledonia Elementary School — Student Clinician

August 2022 – November 2022

Organized and delivered both individual and group therapy for preschool and school-age children, including those who were medically fragile. Wrote detailed progress reports, developed weekly lesson plans, and actively participated in meetings to ensure coordinated care and support.

MUW Speech and Hearing Center — Student Clinician

August 2021 – July 2022

Assessed and treated articulation and language disorders, as well as evaluated neurodegenerative conditions in both children and adults. Facilitated communication using Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) strategies. Conducted speech and hearing screenings, documented services, wrote assessment reports, developed treatment plans, and maintained SOAP notes. Additionally, provided telepractice services across the age span.

RESEARCH:

This research, conducted during graduate school, examined the relationship between gesture use and language development in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) during structured play-based therapy. Specifically, the study investigated whether a decrease in the frequency of atypical gesture use was associated with an increase in spoken language production, compared to children with ASD who demonstrated no improvement in language skills.

AWARDS, MEMBERSHIPS & CLUBS:

- American Speech-Language Hearing Association
- National Student Speech-Language Hearing Association
- Phi Theta Kappa
- Presidential Scholarship Recipient
- National Society of Leadership and Success
- President's List; Presidential Transfer Award
- NJCAA Academic Honors

Licenses & Previous Certifications:

- Mississippi Department of Education License
- Mississippi Department of Health License
- Lee Silverman Voice Treatment Certification
- MBSImP
- CPR
- MoCA

Tiffany Winter

From: Martin L Hatton
Sent: Monday, April 6, 2026 10:13 AM
To: Tiffany Winter
Cc: Kelly A Ballard; Malinda C Dale
Subject: RE: Graduate Council Meeting April 9th
Attachments: SOE_GC_April26_MEMO.pdf

Hi Tiffany,

The School of Education is requesting to change the GPA admission requirement for the Accelerated Bachelor's/MAT program from the current 3.25 to a 3.0. This change maintains a higher admission standard for the Accelerated program than is required for Graduate Studies full admission to either the MAT in Secondary Education or the MAT in Elementary Education, that GPA being 2.75.

I will not be able to attend this Thursday's Graduate Council meeting, but Dr. Kelly Ballard will be in attendance and can address any questions. Importantly, Dr. Anderson and the Arts and Sciences department chairs on GC are fully aware of the need for this change, prompted, in part, by the overall changes ongoing across the institution's Teacher Education programming.

Thanks so much,

Martin L. Hatton, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Education
Mississippi University for Women
(662) 329-7191 | EDHS Office 405
www.muw.edu/education

Educator Preparation Provider
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From: Tiffany Winter <trwinter@muw.edu>

Sent: Thursday, April 2, 2026 2:09 PM

To: Alena Groves <aagroves@muw.edu>; Brandy H Larmon <bhlarmon@muw.edu>; Brian Anderson <bbanderson@muw.edu>; Chad Murphy <tcmurphy1@muw.edu>; Chrystal Hodges <chodges@muw.edu>; David Carter <dbcarter@muw.edu>; Dee Larson <dalarson@muw.edu>; Hillary H Richardson <hhrichardson@muw.edu>; Irene Pintado <itpintado@muw.edu>; Jill M Drouillard <jmdrouillard@muw.edu>; Kelly A Ballard <kaballard@muw.edu>; Kelly C Woodford <kcwoodford@muw.edu>; Kendall Dunkelberg <kadunkelberg@muw.edu>; Laura B Turner <lbtturner@muw.edu>; Martin L Hatton <mlhatton@muw.edu>; Marty Brock <mabrock@muw.edu>; Mckinley H Manasco <mhmanasco@muw.edu>; Mikayla O Johnson <mojohnson@muw.edu>; Scott Tollison <ctollison@muw.edu>; Shahara'Tova V Dente <svdente@muw.edu>; Shannon M Lucius <smlucius@muw.edu>; Shonda Phelon <jsphelon@muw.edu>; Tracee E Watkins <tewatkins@muw.edu>

Subject: Graduate Council Meeting April 9th

Good morning!

Our next Graduate Council meeting will be **April 9th** at **2:00 pm** in the Library's **GPG Room**.

Agenda items will be due **April 7th** by **noon**.

Thank you!

Tiffany Winter

Executive Assistant to the Provost/VPAA

Graduate Studies Coordinator

Mississippi University for Women

Office of Academic Affairs

1100 College St MUW 1603

Columbus, MS 39701

662-329-7139



School of Education
1100 College St., MUW-1637
Columbus, MS 39701
Phone: 662-329-7191

SCHOOL of EDUCATION

6 April 2026

TO: Dr. Marty Brock, Graduate Studies Director
FROM: Dr. Martin L. Hatton, Dean
RE: GPA Requirement for the Accelerated Bachelor's/MAT

The School of Education is requesting to change the Admission GPA requirement for the Accelerated Bachelor's/MAT from a 3.25 at the time of application to a 3.0.

The Accelerated Bachelor's/MAT is a bridge pathway that allows well-qualified undergraduate students to begin taking up to 12 credit hours of graduate coursework, to include the 9 credit hours required for admission to the MAT alternate route to teacher education, as required by the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). Importantly, MDE requires an overall GPA of 2.75 for admission to the MAT teacher education alternate route program, and this past year the institution lowered the GPA requirement for admission to our MAT majors from 3.0 to 2.75 based upon the Graduate Council's recommendation.

Lowering the admission GPA for the Accelerated Bachelor's/MAT program from 3.25 to 3.0 still maintains a higher standard than the GPA required for admission into the full MAT program. Additionally, students who maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher are eligible for a waiver of the Praxis Core or ACT composite score (21 or higher), which is otherwise required by MDE for admission into alternate-route teacher education through the MAT.

As a result, students who meet the 3.0 GPA threshold continue to satisfy two MAT admission requirements, and this change allows us to expand access to the accelerated pathway. This change increases opportunities for more undergraduate students interested in teaching and supports a faster transition into the workforce, allowing qualified candidates to begin teaching as early as the fall following completion of their bachelor's degree.

We seek the Graduate Council's support in this admission change to the Accelerated Bachelor's/MAT program and look forward to the opportunity to address any questions in the April Graduate Council meeting.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Winter

From: Brian Anderson
Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2026 12:07 PM
To: Tiffany Winter
Subject: Re: Please add to Graduate Council Agenda

Hi Tiffany,

I am off campus on a SACS site visit through Thursday, so could this email stand in as my approval of the proposal as submitted?

Thanks,

Brian

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Tiffany Winter <trwinter@muw.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2026 9:06:14 AM
To: Brian Anderson <bbanderson@muw.edu>
Subject: FW: Please add to Graduate Council Agenda

Brian,

Good morning! I don't believe I have received a memo from you in support of this change for Graduate Council? Could you either resend it or please send it so I can work on getting the agenda together?

Thank you!

Tiffany

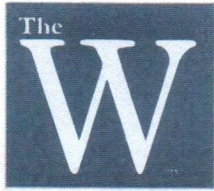
From: Kendall Dunkelberg <kadunkelberg@muw.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 11:36 AM
To: Marty Brock <mabrock@muw.edu>
Cc: Tiffany Winter <trwinter@muw.edu>; Brian Anderson <bbanderson@muw.edu>
Subject: Please add to Graduate Council Agenda

Marty,

Languages, Literature, and Philosophy voted unanimously to approve the change from WS to WL for the Women's Leadership course prefix. Please see the attached memo for Graduate Council approval. Brian, can you send a memo to support this change?

Let me know if there is anything more we need to do.

Thank you,



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Department of Languages, Literature, and Philosophy
College of Arts, and Sciences
1100 College Street W-1634
Columbus, MS 39701-5800
662-329-7386 Office
662-329-7387-Fax
www.muw.edu

April 7, 2026

Graduate Council
Mississippi University for Women
1100 College St,
Columbus MS 39701

Memo:

The Department of Languages, Literature, and Philosophy requests a change to the prefix for all courses in the Women's Leadership program, currently WS 500 and higher, from WS to WL. This will better align the prefix with the program name and distinguish it from the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program, which has the prefix WGS.

The department has voted in favor of this change by email on April 6 and 7 by 11am.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kendall Dunkelberg', written over a horizontal line.

Kendall Dunkelberg, Chair

Tiffany Winter

From: Martin L Hatton
Sent: Monday, April 6, 2026 10:13 AM
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Cc: Kelly A Ballard; Malinda C Dale
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Graduate Studies Coordinator

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