Graduate Council Meeting: **Microcredentials**

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Tuesday, January 28th

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What is a *microcredential*?

Typical definition: A competency-based, non-degree form of certification.

Both credit-based and non-credit-based.

Usually competency-based education (CBE) format.

Non-credit usually focused on professional development skills such as leadership, communication, etc.

Credit-based may be microcertificates (less than 8 credits) that are transcripted.

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Digital Badges Overview

Digital micro-credentials validate an individual accomplishment, skill, quality or interest that may be important to employers or graduate programs. They are "packaged" in a digital file, represented by an icon, and can be shared digitally. Non-credit badges are not transcripted.

Some vendor platforms include Credly, Mozilla Open Badges, Merit Pages, Pearson's Acclaim.

Microcertificates

- These are credit-based microcredentials. They combine courses or parts of courses into skills needed in the workforce.

- They can be stackable toward degrees. This can be used to attract new students to the institution or to address needs with employers.

SUNY Buffalo (buffalo.edu)

UPitt (pitt.edu)

MIT (mit.edu)

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Some Examples:

[Digital Composition](#) – two courses link to existing certificate (100% online) SUNY Buffalo

[Interprofessional Collab Practice](#) – more than 3 semesters, professional students (hybrid) SUNY Buffalo

[Data Programming for Business Insights](#) – Two semesters, flexible times, flexible starts, applicable to MBA (about 9 credits) Pitt

What is happening in Ohio (focus on graduate)?

Committees involved:

TechCred - technology-focused credentials take a year or less to complete and prepare current and future employees for the technology jobs Ohio employers need.

CCGS microcredential subcommittee - developing guidance for CCGS and the Chancellor.

Credit-based micro-credentials will likely be governed by state curricular approval.

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Questions or Comments?

If you or another graduate faculty member is interested in working on developing graduate microcredentials at UToledo, please email me at

cyndee.gruden@utoledo.edu **by February 12th**

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