Graduate College Council Agenda -- 27 January 2020, 3pm; Perkins – Ewing Room
Prepared as draft by Caitlin Hutchison

Agenda Item

1. Call to order--On time start

2. Secretary’s Report
   a. Approval of agenda-approved
   b. Approval of minutes-approved

3. Dean’s Report and questions (Doren and McAfee)
   a. Dean Doren presented Get Connected webpage as vehicle to announce Graduate Student events and initiatives
      i. Announced Managing Conflict Training for Faculty and Graduate Students: Recognizing Bias and Dealing with Difficult Personalities, with speaker Israela Brill-Cass, organized by Assistant Dean for Graduate Professional Development Suprawee Tepsuporn,
         1. Graduate Students session is filled and there is a waiting list; will try to have a repeat session in future due to popularity
         2. Faculty session is not filled
   b. Dean Doren asked for more faculty involvement with reviewing and determining fellowship awards
      i. Currently have 2 volunteers, but would prefer 12 to review about 120 applications pertaining to the Doctoral, Dissertation Finishing, and Unidel Awards. The 12 volunteers would be divided into four committees of three organized by broad disciplinary expertise, i.e. humanities and arts, social and behavioral sciences, Physics/Math/Sciences/Engineering, and Life and Health.
      ii. Also need volunteers to review applications for the Graduate Scholars Program, around 75 applications
         1. JP Laurenceau volunteered; Asked for volunteers to send email to Dean Doren
         2. Also discussed Grad Scholars renewals
   c. Announced Undergraduate Research Scholars Program mentor emails sent out, continuing to reach all faculty
      i. Steps taking to advertise to students outside UD to join program
      ii. Joshua Zide and Mark Parcells both mention their college’s outreach to HBCUS
      iii. Nicole Rucker suggests community college recruitment as another pipeline
   d. Senior Assistant Dean LaRuth McAfee introduces herself and goals for the position, including: upcoming workshops about admission practices, especially examining remaining bias; making better use of pipelines and organizational memberships that we already have (i.e. Black Doctoral Network, etc.); and contributing to community building work for graduate students
   e. On February 5th, 2020, the responsible conduct and research conference will be held

4. Standing reports
   a. Graduate student report -- Topics of concern to grad student councilors and others
i. Nicole Rucker expressed the Graduate Student Government’s (GSG) initiative to form a permanent committee to act as liaison to the Graduate Council in order to work more cohesively and in a less ad hoc manner. There is currently not a formal succession plan. She serves as the conduit between the two bodies, as she is a representative for her program on the GSG and is a graduate student representative on the Graduate Council.

ii. Joshua Zide reminds the Graduate Student Representatives that they are also representing Post-Docs and MA students; George Irvine adds they also represent part-time students.

iii. Joshua Zide formally offers a standing invitation for the members of the GSG, particularly the committee formed to work in tandem with the Graduate Council, to attend the Graduate Council Meetings.

iv. Nicole Rucker also mentions the GSG’s initiative to take part in the Adopt-a-School Program. Bins for collecting new or gently used school supplies will be placed around campus, collected and donated to local Newark schools. The GSG is working with Graduate Student Association on the Lewes campus to contribute to the program in their area.

v. Mary Martin mentioned that the Graduate Student Research Forum will include a networking event, which will facilitate and foster graduate student-alumni interaction.

5. Committee reports
   a. Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee (Braun)
      i. Clara Chan: Computer Science Teaching Certificate Approved
         1. Collaboration between College of Engineering and College of Education and Human Development (CEHD)
      ii. Joshua Zide: Encourages a CEHD representative to join the interdisciplinary committee, as the group currently does not have a member from that college.
      iii. Discussion about how new interdisciplinary programs will be approved by the Graduate Council and how much oversight is necessary with the Graduate Council and Faculty Senate and their committees involvement in the process.
      iv. Should the Interdisciplinary Committee have to present to the Graduate Council prior to approval?
         1. Don Watson raises reservations
         2. Joshua Zide, Mark Parcells, and George Irvine concerned about the timeline of approval if another review step is implemented.
         3. Currently have an established a streamlined way of approval for the two routes, de novo or contained.
         4. Senate usually passes if their Graduate School Committee approves of new program.
         5. Resolution is for Interdisciplinary Committee to let Graduate Council know what program they are going approve going forward. They will submit their report in time to be included on the agenda and possibly include links to documents (Friday before a week in advance of the meeting) and will make a brief report at the Council meeting. This provides more information for Council members to vote, but keeps the timeline for approval as is.
   b. Graduate Student Life Committee (Griffin)
      i. Freda Patterson presented on behalf of Amy Griffin
ii. 3 Faculty and 2 graduate students met to review Graduate Student SERU Results from 2017 about Graduate Student Life concerns, such as well-being, and mental and physical health.
   1. Two main issues were Advisement and Financial Concerns
   2. Next steps would be to perform a survey of current advisory practices in different colleges and ascertain best practices for advising, thus assessing what is being done and what is the ideal
   3. Dean Doren mentioned that the Graduate College is interested in sending a number of faculty and staff to an advising training program at University of Wisconsin, and, in turn, these attendees would lead advising training workshops on UD’s campus.
   4. Group advisement, in addition to the traditional advisor-student model, was suggested as an alternative.
   5. Dean Doren discussed developing policies for mentoring and advising, in addition to expectation in student work load, and issues like temporary disability and parental leave.

6. College Liaison Reports
   a. None this month
   b. Key achievements across Colleges that relate to our mission (if any)
      i. George Irvine reported that the Professional and Continuing Studies had a record number of attendees and registrations after their January recruiting event.

7. New business
   a. Consideration of new committee: Awards and Fellowships
      i. Description attached
         1. Committee of 7-10 faculty members would help recruit people to act as reviewers and approve suggested policies and guidelines
         2. Graduate Council approves of creation of the committee by a unanimous vote (24 in favor, 0 against)
      ii. Immediate need for ad hoc reviewers for this year
         1. 12 to review about 120 applications pertaining to the Doctoral, Dissertation Finishing, and Unidel Awards. The 12 volunteers would be divided into four committees of three organized by broad disciplinary expertise, i.e. humanities and arts, social and behavioral sciences, Physics/Math/Sciences/Engineering, and Life and Health.
   b. Introduction of new business by Councilors
      i. Update on Dean of Graduate College interviews, finalists will meet with university groups during the week of February 17th. Links to resumes and other job documents will be sent out a couple days prior.

8. Notice of Intent to Amend Bylaws
   a. Open for discussion and vote at February meeting
      i. Proposed changes to Bylaws attached; effect is that all 7 Graduate Student members of the Council (rather than 3) would be voting members.
         1. Joshua Zide: Bylaws establishes a precedent, one can reasonably presume that that the graduate student members of the Council can also fully participate and vote in committees, in addition to the general vote.
2. Mark Parcells: Recommended Council members poll their faculty members regarding this issue.

9. Adjournment
   a. Next Meeting: Monday, February 24th, 2pm, Perkins Ewing Room

Attachment 1: Awards and Fellowships Committee

The Graduate College Council Committee on Awards and Fellowships shall be responsible for (1) making recommendations to the Council for approval of suggested policies and guidelines for awards and fellowships, and (2) helping to recruit reviewers for applications. The committee shall consist of 7-10 faculty members appointed by the College Council. The membership of the committee should have expertise that reflects the broad diversity of academic disciplines that offer graduate degrees at the University of Delaware.

Attachment 2: Proposed bylaws changes re: grad student voting

III.C: Eliminate the sentence: "Of these graduate student members, three (3) will be voting members and the others will be non-voting members."
IV.A: Eliminate “voting” from “...one voting graduate student representative....”; Eliminate “three voting” from “...one of the three voting graduate students."

Attached power point slides presented (in pdf)

Attendance of members and alternates, by college – shown in attachment
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4. Standing reports
   a. Graduate student report – Topics of concern to grad student councilors
5. Committee reports
   a. Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee (Braun)
   b. Graduate Student Life Committee (Griffin)
6. College Liaison Reports
   a. None this month
   b. Key achievements across Colleges that relate to our mission (if any)
7. New business
   a. Consideration of new committee: Awards and Fellowships
      i. Description attached
   b. Immediate need for ad hoc reviewers for this year
6. Notice of Intent to Amend Bylaws
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9. Adjourn
Call to Order / Secretary’s Report

• Approval of agenda
• Approval of minutes
Dean’s Report and Questions
Standing Reports

• Graduate Student Report – Topics of concerns to grad student councilors
Committee Report: Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee
Committee Report: Graduate Student Life
College Liaison Reports

• Brief report from a College: None this month.
  • College’s programs and how the Grad College can help:
    • Raise overall grad education profile/importance/excellence
    • Share info about growing strong interdisciplinary programs

• Schedule
  • 2/24: Education and Human Development
  • 3/23: Engineering
  • 4/27: Health Sciences
  • 5/18: Lerner College of Business and Economics

• Key achievements across the Colleges
New Business: Consideration of Awards and Fellowships Committee (Discussion and Vote)

• Immediate need for ad hoc reviewers for this year. (3 people each in Humanities and Arts, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Physical/Mathematical Sciences and Engineering, and Life and Health Sciences) Reviews needed by early February

• Proposed Description of Committee (thanks to Melinda Duncan for draft)
  • The Graduate College Council Committee on Awards and Fellowships shall be responsible for:
    (1) making recommendations to the Council for approval of suggested policies and guidelines for awards and fellowships, and
    (2) helping to recruit reviewers for applications.

  The committee shall consist of 7-10 faculty members appointed by the College Council. The membership of the committee should have expertise that reflects the broad diversity of academic disciplines that offer graduate degrees at the University of Delaware.
Introduction of New Business

• All Councilors have the right to introduce new business
Notice of Intent to Amend Bylaws
(For information only; please discuss with your constituents)

• December meeting: Tabled until February
• Open discussion and vote planned for February meeting. 2/3 vote required.
• Proposed change makes all 7 Graduate Student members of the Council (rather than 3) voting members.
  • Changes:
    • III.C: Eliminate the sentence: "Of these graduate student members, three (3) will be voting members and the others will be non-voting members."
    • IV.A: Eliminate “voting” from “…one voting graduate student representative…”; Eliminate “three voting” from “…one of the three voting graduate students."
Closing business

• Timing of next meeting
  • Monday, February 24, 2pm
• Adjourn