**Minutes**

**Meeting of the Graduate College Council**

**December 11, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 3:40 pm

1. **Minutes** of previous GCC meeting were approved.
2. **Dean’s Report**
   1. Launched search for Assistant Dean for Graduate Student Life
   2. Minimum stipends will increase--
      1. Fall 2024: $24,500 for 9 months and pro rata for 12 months.
      2. Fall 2025: $27,000 for 9 months and pro rata for 12 months
      3. These increases will match 2019 buying power.
      4. Provost would like to hold harmless PIs who are currently funded.
   3. Dean is seeking working group to help college identify criteria suggested by graduate students for excellence in six categories (DEI, Community Engagement, Leadership, Teaching). These are in addition to the present awards for dissertation and mentorship.
   4. Dean is seeking working group to address commercial conflicts of interest.
   5. Dean is seeking working group to address parental leave policy.
3. **Proposal 2:** Faculty Senate and Provost to require Departments to consider changes to P&T documents to include consideration of the quality of graduate advising and mentorship.
   1. The proposal was postponed to allow time to consider language that is consistent with the new Collective Bargaining Agreement.
   2. Working group (Jessica Sowa, Biden School, Teya Rutherford, CEHD, Ben Stanley, CAS) will put that language together and present it to the Executive Committee and then to the Council.
4. **Committee and Working Group** spots that need to be filled.
   1. Student Life committee—one faculty member needed
   2. Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee—
      1. CAS rep—Ivan Todorov
      2. One COE rep needed
5. **CARES working group**: Lindsay Naylor reported on the working group’s activity. There were several issues that the group thought the GCC might consider.
   1. *Course offerings*: Allowing certain offerings of the Graduate College for the inclusion of students who are not on the Newark campus.
   2. *GRE scores*: Construct and implement a survey to determine which units on campus could abolish or reduce their reliance on GRE scores.
   3. *DEI connections*: Explore the idea of working with the DEI Committee of the city of Newark regarding accessibility to affordable housing, transportation, etc.
   4. *12-month stipend structure*: CARES group wants to be part of the conversation regarding how the stipend structure would look in terms of equitable distribution for research and teaching assistantships.
   5. *Application fees*: Explore the idea of graduated application fees.
   6. *DEI Certificate*: CARES group was going to apply to UNIDEL for funding to house the certificate in the College. However, the Provost and President decided that is better housed in the existing unit in the Provost’s office.
6. **Problems with access to journal articles:** Given the difficulties with access to journal articles, including inter-library loans, the GCC will request that a representative from the Library come to give a talk.

**New Business**

**By-laws:** There is a need to take a “hard look” at the GCC’s by-laws. The Executive Committee will review the current by-laws and produce a charge for an ad-hoc committee to conduct the review. Chairperson Lee indicated that the committee will consist of him as current chair and previous chairs who have experience with the by-laws. The ad hoc committee will bring their findings to the Executive Committee, than to the GCC.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.**

Danilo Yanich, recorder