

**Graduate Council Minutes****October 20, 2020****Webex**

Present: Wissam AbbouAlaiwi, Defne Apul, Brian Ashburner, Jonathan Bossenbroek, Timothy Brakel, Frank Calzonetti, Saurabh Chattopadhyay, Madeline Clark, Wendy Cochran, Heather Conti, Christina Fitzgerald, Daniel Georgiev, David Giovannucci, Daniel Hammel, Mohamed Hefzy, Marthe Howard, Gary Insch, Brittany Jones (GSA), Andrea Kalinoski, Kenneth Kilbert, Abraham Lee, Linda Lewin, Sara Lundquist, Michael Mallin, Nagalakshmi Nadiminty, Penny Poplin Gosetti, Geoffrey Rapp, Patricia Relue, Barry Scheuermann, Eth Schlemper, Rebecca Schneider, Martha Sexton, Zahoor Shah, Ekaterina Shemyakova, Ruslan Slutsky, Susan Sochacki, Varun Vaidya, Jerry Van Hoy.

Absent: Steve Sucheck, Kandace Williams.

Excused:

Guests: Sara Clark, Tracey Hidalgo, Ting Li, Timothy Mueser, Amy Thompson, Eileen Walsh.

***Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes***

The meeting was called to order and the roll called. The Minutes of the Graduate Council meeting of September 22, 2020 were approved.

The agenda was re-ordered to permit Dr. Timothy Mueser, Curriculum Committee Chair to give his committee's report.

***Standing Committee Reports*****Report of the Curriculum Committee**

On behalf of the GC Curriculum Committee, Dr. Tim Mueser, chair, reviewed the committee's report. All proposals were approved by the committee. Graduate Council approved unanimously.

No.	Proposal Type	College	Department/Program	Title	Course Number	Summary
54	PCR	MD	Physiology and Pharmacology, Metab, Card Sci	Biomedical Science: Molecular Medicine, PhD	MD-BIMS-PHD	program change request
55	CCR	MD	Medical Microbiology and Immunology	Current Topics in Mmi	MMIM 6030	course change request
56	PCR	CE	Teacher Education	Educational Technology, ME	CE-EDT-ME	program change request
57	CCR	AR	Political Sci and Public Admin	Law, Policy, And The Politics of Sexuality	PSC 5590	course change request
58	CCR	NU	Nursing	Advanced Research for Evidence Based Nursing Practice	NURS 5910	course change request
59	NCP	BU	Information Operations and Tech Management	Systems Analysis and Design	INFS 8560	new course proposal
60	CCR	PH	Pharmacy Practice	Special Topics in Diabetes Care	PHPR 6700	course change request
61	PCR	AR	Political Science and Public Admin	Health Care Policy and Administration, Graduate Certificate	AR-HCPA-CER	program change request
62	PCR	MD	Neurosciences	Neurosciences and Neurological Disorders, PhD	MD-BIMS-PHD	program change request

**Executive Reports**

Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council

On behalf of Graduate Council, Chair Dr. Wendy Cochrane, reported:

- *Tackling Challenges Key Initiatives 2020-2022 committees*  
President Postel is rapidly seating and implementing strategic planning committees <https://www.utoledo.edu/offices/president/key-initiatives/>. There would be shared governance. In seeking nominations from Graduate Council, please send your names if interested in serving on a committee so GCEC can forward. We cannot guarantee the nominee will be appointed. Eileen Walsh noted that she is currently on the Academic Agreement Partnership, so she is willing to serve as a GC representative.

Systematic Approach to Eliminating Racism
Enterprise Risk Management
Strategic Enrollment Management
Academic Agreement with ProMedica
Future of UTMC
Reinvestment in the Academic Enterprise
RCM Budget
Media Relations
Modernization of the HR Processes

Report of the Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies

Dr. Barry Scheuermann, Interim Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Interim Dean of the College of Graduate Studies provided the following updates:

- *Tackling Challenges Key Initiatives 2020-2022 committees*  
We have not received word who is serving on committees or the mandates. The President is intending for initial findings to be presented to the Board of Trustees at its meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup>. These committees will have intensive quick work. John Elliott, Sr. Associate VP and HR Officer and Melissa Hurst, Executive Director of Talent Strategy and Development, will be heading up one of the 10 areas under HR reimagination of what HR should look like. She has experience in higher education search consulting.
- *Search for Permanent Dean COGS*  
Discussions regarding a search for permanent dean of COGS at present is still to have someone in place by July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- *COVID 19*  
Numbers are looking good. UToledo is partnering with the Lucas County Health Department for testing and is looking for volunteers to help support this effort. Students may want to be tested before going home for the Thanksgiving holiday break.

A travel ban has been extended for spring semester 2021 meaning no university-sponsored travel, including grant-funded travel. If traveling for personal activities, use the university's travel registry <https://www.utoledo.edu/cisp/travel-registry/>. If travelling to a hot spot, isolation upon return to UToledo community is required. University is encouraging virtual attendance at meetings.

- *Proposed changes to Student Visas*  
Information to be provided in OISS discussion/presentation on today's GC agenda.
- *Chancellor's Council on Graduate Studies (CCGS)*  
Met with CCGS on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Discussions involved the notification process of moving courses to online modality for a master's program that is already approved - notification to the State is required. Proposed new graduate programs require the typical full proposal. Change of delivery from hybrid or face-to face for new and existing doctoral programs still requires a change request form.
- *Fall 2020 Semester Grading*  
Undergraduate is using modified grading for fall. Graduate level will use pre-COVID grading scheme (not modified) fairly consistent across Ohio.
- *Spring Registration 2021*  
Opens October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Graduate students are required to register for 1 hour minimum.
- *Graduate Student Research Awards*  
COGS website updated with link to the application. Deadline for submission is November 30<sup>th</sup>. Help get the word out. There have been good proposals in the past.

#### Research and Sponsored Programs Update

Dr. Frank Calzonetti, Vice President of Research reported:

- *Responsible Conduct in Research Policy*  
Approved by senior leadership and is posted for comment. It was divided into two policies, to deal with research records and for a new policy to address authorship issues, which is under development in the Provost's Office.
- *INFOED Grants Information System*  
We are moving forward with implementation of this system. The Conflict of Interest module will be rolled out first then we will move to the grant award module. Dr. Rick Francis who is leading this project would like to have some volunteers.

#### Report of the Graduate Student Association

Ms. Brittany Jones, President of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) reported:

- *GSA College Representatives*  
Thanks to the efforts of Dean Barry and the College Deans, we have almost reached full capacity for our Representatives!

Our roster is at 17, so we have three more to go until all positions are filled—one more each from the College of Nursing, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Pharmacy. Special elections have concluded on October 14th and we are awaiting the results.

- Conference Registration Reimbursement Program  
Was approved and will be open for submissions soon. Students can receive up to \$350 for their registration fees. If they are a GSA Representative, MGRS volunteer, or Committee Chair, the amount increases.
- *Graduate Research Award (up to \$2200)*  
The application is available with a submission deadline of November 30<sup>th</sup> by 5 pm. GSA Treasurer, Sujan Subedi, and the Budget Review Committee oversees review of applications, along with COGS.

With the addition of new Representatives and e-board members, we are ready to expand on GSA initiatives and programs, and ongoing work with COGS.

### ***Information and Discussion Items***

#### **Immigration Updates for International Students - Ms. Tracey Hidalgo, Assistant Director, Office of International Students and Scholar Services**

Tracy Hidalgo discussed her PowerPoint presentation touching upon immigration updates that may impact current and incoming international students to UToledo.

#### ***Duration of Status D/S***

Indicated on the Form I-94 as the official record of the authorized length of stay in the United States. Proposed changes include listing a fixed date period and include the following:

D/S will be replaced with a fixed admission period.

F/J status holders and dependents will be admitted until program end date not to exceed 4 years.

Possibility of 2-year admission for students from countries designated as state sponsors of terrorism (Iran, North Korea, Sudan and Syria) and countries with F/J visa overstay rates exceeding 10% (can change).

F/J status holders and dependents previously admitted in D/S will be given an admit until date that is consistent with their program end date, on the date the rule goes into effect not to exceed 4 years.

30-day grace period instead of current 60-day grace period.

These changes can affect coop opportunities, CPT, OPT and English Language Training limit to 24 months in a lifetime (including breaks and vacation).

OISS is closely monitoring changes, informing senior leadership and communicating with the campus community as well as hosting informational sessions to answer questions and explain changes.

More information provided on attached PowerPoint presentation.

We are encouraging everyone to write a comment on behalf of our students that this rule is unacceptable. Comment available through the federal registry.

Graduate Access Program - Ms. Sara Clark, Director and Dr. Ting Li, Curriculum Coordinator and Instructor, Center for International Studies and Programs (OISS)

OISS has spent a few years overhauling its English language training and test preparation training. We have worked with administration for undergraduate students to go through the American Language Institute (ALI) and are exploring options to do same with graduate students.

The GAP program provides intensive language and test preparation training to international graduate applicants to improve their English and academic skills to fulfill graduate level language proficiency requirements. This provides a pathway and opportunity for those who have not met the UToledo graduate level language proficiency requirement and/or do not have an admission test score (GRE/GMAT/MAT). Students enrolled in the GAP will be provisionally admitted to their graduate program and enroll as a full-time student at the American Language Institute. ALI is the only intensive language program in Ohio/Michigan region that is entitled with all of the three accreditation/ memberships: CEA, UCIEP, and English USA. Five-year initial accreditation by CEA, the only specialized accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

The attached PowerPoint presentation was reviewed with Graduate Council outlining the benchmarking and proposal.

*Question and Answer:*

Q: Concern about provisional admission if they cannot get a passing test score even after receiving language training. They cannot enter a degree program.

A: They will be given two times to join GAP program, and if they do not pass, they will have signed beforehand aware that they have a certain period of time (one semester) to complete the language training, and would not be admitted to the program. Student needs to meet language requirement.

Q: Is an initial assessment conducted upon entering?

A: Yes, a placement test is conducted that is aligned with the CEFE.

Q: Can they come here and support themselves?

A: We do have half of our population abroad – doing virtual online learning. That is an option. It is possible they can start before they enter the country.

GC Chair, Wendy Cochrane indicated that Graduate Council would review the material, discuss and consider endorsing at the next GC meeting. She also indicated that we could invite both Sara Clark and Ting Li back if Council has questions about the program.

***Standing Committee Reports -continued***

**Report of the Membership Committee**

None.

***Old Business***

None.

***New Business***

None.

***Adjournment***

There being no further business, the Council adjourned at 1:56 p.m.