

## Graduate Council Report to Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee February 10, 2020

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This report includes the activities of Graduate Council (GC) since our last report on December 16, 2019.

Graduate Faculty members across campus have presented many new and innovative programs to the GC curriculum committee for consideration. In response to this influx, GC continues to improve the speed and efficiency of the work flow to review and approve graduate courses and programs. The GC curriculum committee chair Dr. Tim Mueser is on sabbatical for the 2020 Spring semester. Dr. Ozcan Sezer, is interim chair of the committee. During the winter break, GC members participated in an unprecedented electronic voting process to review and approve a set of 15 proposals from the College of Nursing for their modified Graduate Entry Masters of Science in Nursing program. This move ensured the program could satisfy suggestions of their accreditation agency and meet the Ohio Department of Higher Education approval timeline. To clarify for graduate faculty the process to prepare course and program proposals, we have arranged a presentation for the Feb 11 GC meeting from Dr. Cyndee Gruden, Associate Dean of COGS, and Cathy Zimmer, Director for Academic and Curricular Initiatives in the Provost's office. The presentation will cover syllabus preparation and use of the new Curricular Inventory Management System (CIMS). The GC curriculum committee will also present some tips to prevent common mistakes. We hope these measures will facilitate the preparation and approval of course and program proposals and support the development of innovative program offerings at the graduate level.

During our first GC meeting this semester on January 28, Dean Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich briefed GC about the campus wide adoption of Centralized Application Services (**CAS**) to improve the application process for our graduate programs. Dr. Frank Calzonetti, Vice President for Research, briefed us on the status of applications of internal grants through the URFO program. Associate Dean Dr. Cyndee Gruden led a discussion on the emerging topic of "microcredentials" nationwide and called for formation of a working group to study whether and how to offer these courses at UToledo. Our guests included Sara Clark and Xinren Yu, Director and Assistant Director of the Center for International Studies and Programs, and Gary Rafe, Compliance Analyst on Export Control from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. They explained the international travel registry procedures for graduate faculty and answered questions.

The GC will keep enhancing the communication between graduate faculty and various administrative units on campus. In the near future, Dr. Amy Thompson, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, and Mr. Matt Schroeder, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration and CFO, will speak at GC meetings. The GC chair and vice chair also attend monthly meetings with the Provost to bring the opinions and concerns of graduate faculty to the administration.

The Graduate Council looks forward to continuing our partnerships with the College of Graduate Studies, the Provost's office, the Research office, the Graduate Student Association, and UT faculty, staff and students in supporting our graduate and professional programs.

Respectfully,  
Song-Tao Liu, Ph.D.  
University of Toledo Graduate Council Chair, 2019-2020