

# IU Graduate Faculty Council Final Report for AY 2016-17

*submitted to Dean James C. Wimbush by  
Margaret E. Bauer, Chair of the Graduate Faculty Council  
August 17, 2018*

In 2017-18, the Graduate Faculty Council discussed a variety of issues related to graduate education. Some of these issues included effective strategies in online graduate education; the concern about plagiarism in theses and dissertations; the Advance College Project Dual Credit Pipeline program, which provides graduate course credit for high school teachers who will teach IU-credit courses to high school students; and the role of GREs in graduate admissions decisions. The Council also took up business internal to the Council, including developing an improved process and timeline for Council elections; additionally, the Council had several conversations about its own role in the University Graduate School (UGS) and its relationship with the Dean of the UGS. As much of the work of the Council is accomplished through its several standing committees, this report is organized by committee. Year-end reports of each committee are available on the Council's Canvas site.

## **Work of the Council, including Policy Decisions and Recommendations**

The Academic Policy Committee reviews the policies that relate to all graduate programs, including those outlined in the front pages of the University Graduate School Bulletin. One issue raised at the beginning of the year was that of retaining or eliminating the PhD minor; this issue had been studied and discussed in each of the previous two years (2015-17), at the request of the same council seat that raised the issue again this year. Each year, this issue consumed much time and energy of both the Academic Policy Committee and the full Council. In 2016-17, a survey performed at the request of the Council demonstrated that most department chairs and directors of graduate studies at both IUPUI and IUB favored retention of the PhD minor. Given the amount of time and effort put into this issue in the previous two years, and the outcome of the survey showing little enthusiasm to change the minor requirement, the decision was made to table the issue of eliminating the minor for the academic year 2017-18.

The Council raised the issue of plagiarism in MS theses and doctoral dissertations. Given the easy online access to all sorts of resources, plagiarism is a growing problem across the country and throughout academia, even in theses and dissertations. Discussion revolved around who is responsible for policing theses and dissertations for plagiarism, and how this policing should be accomplished. The Council concluded that students' committees should take the concern of plagiarism into account when evaluating theses and dissertations. The Academic Policy Committee developed language to add to the "Academic Integrity" section of the University Graduate School Bulletin emphasizing the responsibility of the student's committee to ensure their research, and final thesis or dissertation, adheres to the University's ethical standards. This revision to the Bulletin was unanimously approved by the Council.

The Academic Policy Committee also discussed an issue related to continuing nondegree graduate students, who take courses without being admitted to a specific graduate program. At issue is how much previously completed course work can count toward a graduate degree; the amount allowed varies significantly across programs, schools, and campuses. With the Council deciding not to impose a uniform, IU-wide policy, the Academic Policy Committee recommended language be added to clarify the levels of restrictions in place on applying previously completed course work to graduate degree programs. This revision was unanimously approved by the Council for inclusion in the Graduate Bulletin.

The Awards Committee selected the recipients of several graduate awards, as follows. Two Distinguished Masters Thesis awards were given, both in the Humanities/Fine Arts; one was awarded at IUPUI, and the other at IUB. The IUB award subsequently won the

Distinguished Masters Thesis Award at the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools. The Herman B Wells Award went to an IUPUI student in Urban Education Studies. Five Adam W. Herbert Graduate Fellowships were awarded, one at IUPUI and four at IUB. Two John Edwards Fellowships were awarded, both to students at IUB. The Distinguished Dissertation Award is decided over the Summer, after the committee's final report was submitted for this year, and will be announced at the first 2018-19 meeting.

The Diversity Issues Committee focused this year on holistic review of graduate applications and the role of GRE scores in graduate admissions decisions. The committee provided resources showing that significant GRE score differences can be found across population groups. Further, although most agree that GRE scores should not be a single determinant in admissions decisions, the holistic approach, and of the role of GRE scores in holistic approaches, can be interpreted in a wide variety of ways. The Diversity Issues Committee recommended that this issue be further explored in 2018-19 by developing and executing a survey of all IU Graduate Faculty responsible for making admission decisions to determine how GRE score data are used in admissions decisions at IU. Survey results can be a starting point for development of more holistic approaches to admissions decisions across IU.

The Graduate Initiatives Committee considered a proposal to revise the Constitution of the Graduate Faculty to clearly demarcate the advisory and legislative roles of the Council, and to remove authority of the Dean of the University Graduate School to create or veto policies. This led to a lively discussion about the purpose and responsibilities of the Graduate Faculty Council as well as the Council's relationship with the Dean. Ultimately, there was no enthusiasm among committee members, and little among the full Council, to change existing authority of the Dean or to modify the Constitution of the Graduate Faculty to enhance the authority of the Council. The overwhelming sense was that the Dean and the Council have a very positive working relationship that would only be harmed by these changes; furthermore, unlike other faculty governance structures in the IU system, this Council is focused not on faculty freedom and faculty authority but, rather, on graduate education and what is best for graduate students across the IU system. Thus, the advisory role of the Council was deemed appropriate to its mission. The committee, and the full Council, rejected the proposed revisions to the Constitution.

This Committee also received several recommendations for changes to the Council's Bylaws. These changes included: 1) defining the date of the January meeting of the Council as the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, because the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday always conflicts with the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday; 2) clarifying that consideration of proposed changes to the Constitution of the Graduate Faculty and revisions to the Council's Bylaws fall under the duties of the Graduate Initiatives Committee; 3) detailing the process by which the Council's Bylaws may be amended, including the role of the Graduate Initiatives Committee; and 4) defining the Graduate Initiatives Committee as the committee that assists with elections of new Council members by reviewing nominees presenting a slate of nominees for the Council's approval. The committee reviewed and revised the proposals and recommended the changes to the full Council, which unanimously approved all changes. The current Bylaws, updated with these changes, are attached below.

Also attached is the roster of the 2017-18 GFC, including committee assignments and officer positions. At our final meeting of 2017-18, new officers were elected for the 2018-19 Council. The new Chair is Rebecca Slotegraaf (IUB), Vice-chair is Barb Pierce (IUPUI), and Secretary is Terry Shepherd (IUSB). Alan Bender was elected Chair of the Awards Committee for 2018-19; remaining committee chairs will be elected at the first meeting of the new year. On behalf of the Graduate Faculty Council, we look forward to another productive year in 2018-19.

**Graduate Faculty Council Roster  
2017-18**

<b>2017-18 Council Member</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Committee Service</b>
Bauer, Margaret	IN-1	Executive (Council Chair), Graduate Initiatives
Bourke, Mary	KO	Executive (Council Secretary)
Calloway-Thomas, Carolyn	BL-2	Executive (Council Vice-chair)
Rooney, Patrick	IN-5	Academic Policy (Chair)
Bender, Alan	BL-1	Academic Policy, Graduate Initiatives
Hill, Raquel	BL-8	Academic Policy
Von Ah, Diane	IN-3	Academic Policy
Wille, Diane	SE	Academic Policy
Sheeler, Kristina	IN-2	Awards (Chair)
Bidwell, Joseph	IN-1	Awards
Charnes, Linda	BL-7	Awards
Lichtenstein, Alex	BL-6	Awards
Pierce, Barbara	IN-4	Awards
Shepherd, Terry	SB	Awards
Slotegraaf, Rebecca	BL-4	Diversity Issues (Chair)
Blazer-Yost, Bonnie	IN-6	Diversity Issues
Liu, Yan	IN-1	Diversity Issues
McLeod, Jane	BL-2	Diversity Issues
Pegram, Scooter	NW	Diversity Issues
Smith, Malcolm	BL-5	Diversity Issues
Georgiadis, Millie	IN-1	Graduate Initiatives (Chair)
Gershkoff-Stowe, Lisa	BL-3	Graduate Initiatives
Helton, Edwina	EA	Graduate Initiatives
Shackelford, Scott	BL-4	Graduate Initiatives
Van Zee, Liese	BL-1	Graduate Initiatives

**Bylaws  
of the Graduate Council  
of  
Indiana University**

*(adopted by action of the Graduate Faculty Council and the Graduate Faculty, May 3, 2010;  
last revised by the Graduate Faculty Council on March 19, 2018)*

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**Article I. Officers**

***Section 1.***

The officers of the Graduate Faculty Council (“*Council*”) shall be a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary. The Chairperson of the Council shall serve as the Presiding Officer.

***Section 2.***

- A. Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary of the Council shall be elected each year by the Council. The officers constitute the Executive Committee of the Council and have the responsibility for determining Council meeting agendas.
- B. The responsibilities of the Chairperson include the following:
  - 1. To distribute both the agenda and information pursuant to it to the members of the Council in advance of its meetings.
  - 2. To receive in advance of meetings of the Council the reports by Council Committees.
  - 3. To refer agenda items to committees of the Council when necessary.
  - 4. To issue appropriate charges to the committees of the Council.
  - 5. To preside at Council meetings.
  - 6. To prepare annual reports at the end of the academic year of all policy decisions and recommendations approved by the Council.
- C. The responsibilities of the Vice Chairperson include the following:
  - 1. To preside at Council meetings when the Chairperson is unavailable.
  - 2. To conduct elections of chairpersons for each Graduate Council committee identified in Bylaw Article III.
  - 3. To conduct elections to the Council at the end of each academic year.
  - 4. To conduct elections of officers to the next Council at the last Council meeting of each academic year.
- D. The responsibilities of the Secretary include the following:
  - 1. To ensure that minutes of Council meetings are recorded and distributed to Council members.

2. To track graduate faculty membership and Council membership to ensure that appropriate representation is maintained.
3. To catalog and curate annual reports.

## **Article II. Elections**

### ***Section 1.***

Members of the Council shall be elected in accordance with the policies specified in the Constitution of the Graduate Faculty.

### ***Section 2.***

The Graduate Faculty groupings that constitute Council election units shall be specified in an appendix to these bylaws.

### ***Section 3.***

Each election unit shall be entitled to one Council representative for each one hundred and fifty (150) Graduate Faculty. Each unit shall have a minimum of one representative.

### ***Section 4.***

Nominations for representatives to any election unit may be made by any member of the Graduate Faculty. Nominees must be endorsed members of the Graduate Faculty. The Graduate Initiatives Committee shall review nominations and submit to the Council for approval a ballot consisting of two (2) nominees for each election unit. Graduate Faculty may vote for nominees in all election units within their campus.

## **Article III. Meetings**

### ***Section 1.***

The Council shall hold regular meetings on the third Monday of each month, from September through April, at 3:30 pm., with the following exceptions: because of holiday schedules, the Council does not meet in December; the Council will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in January in recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. Meeting dates and times may be altered by prior approval of the Council.

### ***Section 2.***

The Chairperson of the Council shall be the Presiding Officer of the Council. In the Chairperson's absence, the Vice Chairperson shall be the Presiding Officer. If the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are unable to preside, the Chairperson will designate a member of the Council to preside.

### ***Section 3.***

A quorum for the conduct of business shall be a majority of regular members of the Council.

### ***Section 4.***

Voting members of the Council or their alternates must be present to vote on Council business; each member or alternate present receives one vote.

## **Article IV. Committees**

### ***Section 1.***

The chairperson of each committee of the Council shall be elected members of the Council.

### ***Section 2.***

All committee reports shall be submitted in writing to the Chairperson of the Council.

### ***Section 3.***

The standing committees of the Graduate Council shall be the following:

#### ***A. Academic Policy Committee***

1. The Academic Policy Committee shall consist of at least five faculty members, including two from the Bloomington campus, two from the Indianapolis campus, and one from a regional campus. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the University Graduate School and the Associate Dean of the University Graduate School at IUPUI will serve as ex-officio members.
2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to make recommendations to the Council regarding development and review of academic policies of the University Graduate School.

#### ***B. Awards Committee***

1. The Awards Committee shall consist of at least five faculty members, including two from the Bloomington campus, two from the Indianapolis campus, and one from a regional campus.
2. The duties of the Awards Committee shall be to review applications for the annual award competitions administered by the School, and to review applications for external award competitions.

#### ***C. Graduate Initiatives Committee***

1. The Graduate Initiatives Committee shall consist of at least five faculty members, including two from the Bloomington campus, two from the Indianapolis campus, and one from a regional campus.
2. The duties of the Graduate Initiatives Committee shall be to review the current activities of the School and the Graduate Council and propose new initiatives as appropriate. The Committee shall also make recommendations to the Council regarding the introduction of new graduate degrees or graduate certificate programs developed on any campus in the Indiana University system. As appropriate, the committee shall also make recommendations to the Council to amend the Constitution of the Graduate Faculty and to revise Council Bylaws.

#### ***D. Diversity Issues Committee***

1. The Diversity Issues Committee shall consist of at least five faculty members, including two from the Bloomington campus, two from the Indianapolis campus, and one from a regional campus.
2. The Graduate and Professional Student organizations at Bloomington and IUPUI shall be entitled to appoint one representative each to serve as ex-officio members of the Diversity Issues Committee.
3. The duties of the Diversity Issues Committee shall be to review the current state of diversity within the graduate programs at IU, including both faculty and students. The Diversity Issues Committee develops goals for inclusion and diversity in the University Graduate School and advises the Dean and Associate Deans of the UGS on issues related to diversity and inclusion.

## **Article V. Implementation and Amendment**

### ***Section 1.***

The adoption of the Bylaws of the Council shall be by a two-thirds vote of the Council, following the approval of the Constitution of the Graduate Faculty by that body. The effective date of implementation shall be 1 July 2010.

### ***Section 2.***

The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Council. All proposed amendments to the Bylaws must be submitted to the Graduate Initiatives Committee for detailed review and consideration; the Graduate Initiatives Committee will then present the proposed changes, along with the committee's recommendation, to the full Council for their consideration.

## **Article VI. Alternates, Temporary Replacement Members and Vacancies**

### ***Section 1.***

Members of the Council may appoint alternates to serve in their places at any meeting.

### ***Section 2.***

If an elected member will be absent for one or two semesters, the member shall identify an eligible replacement to serve in the member's place. The eligibility of the replacement member shall be verified by the Council.

### ***Section 3.***

In the event of a vacancy on the Council, a nominations committee shall be formed by the executive committee and a replacement shall be elected by graduate faculty in the affected unit.

## Appendix Indiana University Graduate Faculty Council Election Units

### **Bloomington (1618; 11)**

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#### BL-1 (265; 2)

Astronomy  
Biology  
Center for Exploration of Energy & Matter  
Chemistry  
Geological Survey  
Geological Sciences  
History and Philosophy of Science  
Mathematics  
Molecular & Cellular Biochemistry  
Physics  
Statistics

#### BL-2 (249; 2)

Anthropology  
Economics  
Geography  
Political Science  
Sociology  
Psychological & Brain Sciences  
Kinsey Institute  
Criminal Justice  
Media School  
    Cinema & Media Studies  
    Communication Science  
    Journalism  
    Media Arts & Production

#### BL-3 (148; 1)

School of Medicine - Bloomington  
School of Nursing  
School of Optometry  
School of Public Health  
    Applied Health Sciences  
    Environmental Health  
    Epidemiology & Biostatistics  
    Kinesiology  
    Recreation, Parks, & Tourism  
School of Social Work  
Speech & Hearing Sciences

#### BL-4 (239; 2)

Kelley School of Business  
School of Public & Environmental Affairs  
Mauer School of Law

#### BL-5 (195; 1)

Art Museum  
Jacobs School of Music  
School of Art & Design  
    Fine Arts-Studio  
    Apparel Merchandising & Interior Design  
Theater, Drama & Contemporary Dance  
Art History

#### BL-6 (147; 1)

African-American & African Diaspora Studies  
Folklore & Ethnomusicology  
Linguistics  
Philosophy  
History  
Gender Studies  
Second Language Studies  
Classical Studies  
Religious Studies  
American Indian Studies  
American Studies

#### BL-7 (168; 1)

Comparative Literature  
English  
French & Italian  
Germanic Studies  
School of Global & International Studies  
    African Studies  
    Central Eurasian Studies  
    East Asian Languages & Culture  
    International Studies  
    Near Eastern Languages & Culture  
    Russian & East European Institute  
Slavic & East European Languages & Cultures  
Spanish & Portuguese

#### BL-8 (207; 1)

School of Informatics & Computing  
    Computer Science  
    Informatics  
    Information & Library Science  
    Intelligent Systems Engineering  
School of Education  
Institute on Disability and Community

### **Indianapolis (1401; 9)**

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#### IN-1 (619; 4)

School of Medicine

#### IN-2 (161; 1)

School of Liberal Arts

#### IN-3 (149; 1)

School of Dentistry  
School of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences  
School of Nursing  
Fairbanks School of Public Health

#### IN-4 (136; 1)

School of Education  
School of Social Work  
Academic Affairs  
Herron School of Art & Design  
School of Informatics & Computing  
Physical Education & Tourism

#### IN-5 (129; 1)

Kelley School of Business  
Columbus Campus  
McKinney School of Law  
School of Public & Environmental Affairs  
Lilly Family School of Philanthropy  
Library  
Executive

#### IN-6 (207; 1)

School of Sciences  
School of Engineering & Technology

### **Regional Campuses (723; 6)**

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FW - Fort Wayne (144; 1)

SB - South Bend (187; 1)

E - East (62; 1)

NW - Northwest (121; 1)

SE - Southeast (139; 1)

Kokomo (70; 1)