**Indiana University Graduate Faculty Council**

**17 Feb 2020**

**2:00 – 3:30 pm**

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| Present: William Allegrezza, Lucas Adams, Margaret Bauer, Janice Blum, Deena Carson, David Daleke, |

Jill Fehrenbacher, Lessie Frazier, Dominique Galli, Spencer Hall, Edwina Helton, Tabitha Hardy, Mircea Ivan, Lee Kahan, Stacie King, John Macy, Larry Moss, Gloria Preece, Scott Shackelford, Terry Shepherd, Rebecca Slotegraaf, Vincent Starnino, Mary Waldron, Diane Willie, Justin Williams, James Wimbush, Jeff Rutherford

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| **TOPIC** | **ITEMS/DISCUSSIONS** | **OUTCOMES/DECISIONS** |
| Approval of minutes |  | Minutes approved |
| Updates from the Dean | Dean Wimbush:  Graduate Mentoring Center Dr. Randall Roper now a certified mentor through the National Mentoring Network. Excellent work.  Awards: IUPUI Chancellor and President McRobbie are making prize and award programs available at IUPUI and West Lafayette. Purdue has shown no initiative to make their students eligible which also limits their ability to vie for national awards. These should be available to all IU students.  Fees: Going to defer to David Daleke about the issues around fees. Upcoming meeting with Deans and Provost.  Dean Daleke on Graduate Workers’ Coalition and Survey:  Met with the coalition –the group of students with a petition to eliminate all mandatory fees. In meeting with the College, they learned that un-remittable fees have been ended. They took it to GPSG, then asked to meet. They read their petition and statement and then it was made clear that Dean Daleke has no role in setting fees. They are meeting with Provost and Dean Winbush to pursue the questions.  The graduate school doesn’t do funding; it can help through fellowship programs for underrepresented students and recruiting purposes. Schools are working in this area. Combined goals: make sure SAAs are well funded for many reasons, they advance research mission and reputation. RCM emphasizes the issue in the Schools. True across the country: PhD programs are expensive. Fewer and fewer faculty programs for doctoral students. 80% of our students do go on to academic positions. Programs need to ask, are we the right size? That is one approach. There are others: increase teaching load so there is more funding for their students. We are trying to understand how graduate students pay for their education; in collaboration with the GPSG to get a better understanding of that. The goal is to get this research done this Spring. Hidden sources of funding? How much is their financial burden from their undergraduate education? Like any survey, it is limited: IUB, a few questions. We also have 97% response rate on exit survey of new PhDs.  Mary: Need to table Mary and Spencer’s discussion items. Charge to Dominique’s committee on financial wellbeing: How is information shared from the GFC out? For example, on MoneySmarts? Please bring back to our next meeting how this is working on each campus. | All doctoral programs:  It has always applied to IU programs on these campuses but not the joint programs.  Mary Waldron: What can we do as the GFC? We had poor response rate on survey of programs on the GRE, how are we going to ensure adequate rate of participation?  David Daleke: Projects to look at career pathways. Contract with Center for Survey Research; we get 42-45% response rates.  Mary Waldron: 60-70% minimum in my field for generalizability.  David Daleke: I have been told 30% is good.  Mary Waldron: Worried about representative sample.  Jason: We think involving GPSG will encourage participation. Make it clear this is a student-led initiative to make it more compelling. GFC members can encourage participation.  David Daleke: We get 55% in career survey. Things we could do to increase the rate at great cost.  Jason: In crafting questions we were careful to make each one relevant.  Mary: Impressed with how analyzable questions are.  David: Concern about level of organization last Spring and so took the time to organize it.  Lessie: We are graduates and undergraduates being counted in the same ways?  David: We didn’t really get into that level of conversation. Should we charge students the same fees as undergraduates?  They use the heath center proportionately. Would you want to lose this service? Committee on fees is the right place for such questions.  Jason: GPSG is funded out of general student activity fee, not just graduate students. If we go too far down the path of distinguishing graduates from undergraduates there might be problems down the line.  David: It is complicated.  Spencer: Perhaps we need a more precise discussion about international students. They pay additional fees.  David: International students are part of the group but this was not a major focus.  Rebecca: What about discussion on breaking up fees so students aren’t hit all at once?  David: We can do a better job administratively. For example, paying students as soon as they get to campus. With the international fee: it is for services that have already been provided and that are due to current political climate. Planning for students has been difficult since the situation is changing.  Mary: Should we pick up this conversation?  David: Up to you to decide this. |
| Discussion Items | Rebecca Academic Policy Committee has worked on issue of minors raised last meeting. Referring to current language: additional breadth and depth is value Recommendation: A minor is meant to add additional breadth to enhance the major and should be taken outside the major. Take out word department and program because they mean different things across the university; take out “depth” since that is what the major should do that work. Must be distinct from the major based on faculty discretion on this.  Rebecca: Auditing of graduate courses:  Boils down to the IU Registrar and IUB bursar noticing uptick. The only campus to charge $25/hour to audit is IUB, all others charge full tuition. If a student changes from credit to audit, the dept. offering course loses that money. The bursar wants departments to be aware of this. Bursar is not asking for policy but wants to inform the schools. Because this is campus-specific it is not a GFC issues; that said, there is a financial incentive for students to switch from credit to audit, esp. College & SPEA. We recommend that Dean Daleke discuss with Assoc. Deans that IUB campus consider charging same tuition for audit vs. credit. IUB may be this way because faculty wanted to take classes at cheap rates, why not give retired faculty a reduced rate, then?  Lucas: student representation in GFC committees: Possible need for a bylaw to allow student reps on grad initiatives and academic policy committees. Give students option to have rep. on those committees. Either main reps would serve or appoint another representative.  Just have committee reps on Canvas. Will need to specify voting or non-voting. | John: We were trying to be flexible and backed off from limiting whether same professor could teach for both major and minor.  Rebecca: Difficult across the university to draw that line.  Mary: There is a minor administered by faculty in the major.  Lessie: How is the major defined?  Jeff: It is the titling of the degree.  Lessie: How are we defining breath and inter-disciplinarity?  Janice: The complication that the credits vary, IUPUI is always 12 credits and minor rep always sits on committee.  Mary: Individualized minor has been the work-around.  Jeff: Minors vary from 6-15 at IUB.  Rebecca: We suggest no change in credit hours.  Lessie: RCM makes it structurally illogical for units to encourage students to go outside the school.  Spencer: Is the graduate school increasing compliance?  Jeff: We need to define language that accomplishes what council intends. We are not looking to step in but to leave determination to faculty.  Spencer: Biology wants minors removed. But if we are forced to have them, we do have very distinct internal specializations.  Rebecca: Limiting faculty would be really problematic.  I can forward the wording and we can revisit at next meeting. Some wording we might keep and other we might modify. It is challenging to come up with wording that captures variance. What is the goal of the minor? Think about how this suggested wording would work or not in relation to your own units?  Dean Winbush: Applies to undergrads as well?  Rebecca: We did not check on this.  Bill (IUN) We are considering lowering ours in line with IUB.  Dean Winbush: How many times can you audit?  Jeff: No limit. Where we see this is with non-degree students who are interested in the course.  Rebecca: Started a policy that no one can just sit-in on a course (fire code, etc.): must either audit or register.  Mary: Issue of communication of policy. The issue is the change at last minute and money getting pulled.  Rebecca: In hard classes people not doing well in a class can switch to audit.  Mary: One fix would be limit the period when students can switch.  Rebecca: We are seeing this at the Masters level in some schools (College & SPEA). |
| Reports from Committees | Awards Committee: [Dominique for Karen] Wells has been awarded. Excellent work resulted in 2 awards being made.  Diversity Issues Committee: [Stacy] Off to a slow start this year. Waiting on a staff change to gather attrition data. How do you decide if someone has left?  Graduate Initiatives Committee: [Scott]   1. Survey instrument questions finalized. Follow-up on results and dissemination. 2. Mental health task force issue: brainstorming along with some members of the 2017 task force and directors of clinical training (15). Want student representatives. Call for reps from non-IUB campuses from faculty, staff, and students. Tentative planning to have a meeting before break. Will appoint a chair. 3. We voted as a committee to empower the graduate student representative: Article 4, section 3 of GFC bylaws: voting grad members for 2 committees. 4. Name of diversity committee   IUB Students (Lucas): no report  IUPUI Students (Justin): no report | Spencer: As a committee member, grateful to David for agreeing to pay for second Wells award.  Rebecca: How does this affect our discussion of a leave of absence policy.  Jeff: No unified policy, each school develops leave policies; grad school sets benchmarks.  Mary: Some data on financial issues of underrepresented groups will come from the survey.  Jill: Will forward invitation. Will let Tabitha Hardy and Justin know.  Jason: Add “voting” ex oficio representatives. Important since student input is needed sooner at committee level.  Rebecca: Concern as to how GFC full-member will know what the student reps of committees. To what extent are we conflating input and voting. Potential for lack of communication.  Jason: We can’t expect that level of student service. We will work to communicate, regardless that input will be valuable.  Rebecca: Agree that student input is important. Can we also invite the committee rep to the GFC meeting if there is an issue that is pressing?  Jason: As the bylaws stand, I can’t appoint another student to a committee in any capacity or go myself.  Mary: Please send out the policy language to all and we will discuss. |
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| Adjournment | 3:33 |  |