**Indiana University Graduate Faculty Council**

**October 21, 2019**

**2:00 – 3:30 pm**

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| Present: William Allegrezza, Lucas Adams, Margaret Bauer, Janice Blum, Marlene Walk (for Deena Carson), David Daleke, Jill Fehrenbacher, |

Lessie Frazier, Dominque Galli, Spencer Hall, Edwina Helton, Amanda Diekman (for Edward Hirt), Mircea Ivan, Lee Kahan, Stacie King, Karen Kovacik, John Lacy, Morgan McMillan, Larry Moss, Landan Mintch, Fred Pavalko, Benjamin Perrin, Gloria Preece, Jeff Rutherford, Scott Shackelford, Terry Shepherd, Mary Waldron, Diane Willie, Vincent Starnino, Justin Williams, Tabitha Hardy

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| **TOPIC** | **ITEMS/DISCUSSIONS** | **OUTCOMES/DECISIONS** |
| Approval of minutes |  | Minutes approved with attendance corrections. |
| Presentation | Morgan McMillan, IU Office of Financial Literacy spoke on Money Smarts  https://moneysmarts.iu.edu/  VITA https://www.law.indiana.edu/student-life/organizations/vita/index.shtml | Information only, see power point Appendix A Discussion, Q&A:  Q: Bloomington students are quite alarmed about fees.  Q: Particularly out of state graduate students  Q: [Some] schools are selecting to not charge the out-of-state tuition by providing a funds.  Q: Upset: ‘I came here on a full fellowship tuition remission and why am I getting charged a thousand dollars?’  A: (David) There's something about how we're phrasing it that matters and needs revisiting.  Q: International students’ extra fee  has gone up higher, proportionally, than other fees, no notice.  Q: Online as well.  Q: Students embarrassed over having second jobs.  Q: Gap around summer funding. What's realistic in terms of planning progress to degree?  A: Professional conversations with students around money are hard because there isn't a whole lot that we can do. We can talk about management. We can talk about  budgeting and those types of things, but there's only so much you can do with a certain amount and that's what you're working with and trying to raise a family and things like that. Have conversations about what's realistic for students; really helpful to have someone recognize stress.  A: Need to get program word out: orientations, admission packets.  Q: Tax help?  A: We send them to VITA for tax assistance and United Way. Some go to the HR within their academic colleges.  A: Students interested in being on our team?  Q: GAships?  A: No, we're starting closer to $11.  Q: Info needs more consistency of language, including some language highlighting graduate students?  Q: (David) See Council of Graduate Schools and online grad financial education programs. |
| Update on GFC Elections for 2019-2020 | Jeff Rutherford welcomed the final 2019-20 GFC member: Spencer Hall for IUB | Information |
| Reports from Committees | Academic Policy Committee: [Margaret presents for Rebecca] Looking at considering policy for credit transfer and overlap and for shifting courses from for-credit to auditing which students are doing late in term. Changing language proficiency rules for international students. Recommendations for leaves of absences.  Awards Committee: [Janice presents for Karen.] Reviewing MA award applications.  Diversity Issues Committee: [Stacy] No standing report.  Graduate Initiatives Committee: [Scott] Updating questions for survey; gathering data on tuition rates and fees and remissions. Have stated quotes from Trustees. Saves legwork. The Graduate Initiatives Committee considered two primary initiatives. The first was improving graduate student mental health across IU campuses. The second initiative was related to graduate student funding and the overall financial issues facing graduate students. We've been busy.  We have survey on graduate student finance, which the committee has been working on Dojo and we had a meeting on Friday with David and Jeff to go through the feedback that we've gathered together so far. David will be updating some of the questions based on that feedback and then we'll go over to the survey center for their input as well. Hopefully some of the answers and the data we got it from that effort will inform. The other big project was gathering together data on tuition rates and fees and tuition remission, etc., around campus and the regional campuses and we've made some progress there; we were able to find from the trustees, the stated published tuition rates across all the different campuses for the different member schools. So I think that's a good foundation that we can build upon. There was a question that has come up about whether that captures some of the fees, for example, that we're most interested in. So we need to look into that and some more details, but at least it's a there's lots of websites and lots of interviews.  GPSG: [Lucas] We are communicating with the Coalition of Graduate Student Workers. Many students are interested in bringing some resolution to assembly. We met with them to ask some clarifying questions that were well received such as shaping their message. The claim of graduate workers can be better defined, if you wanted to include all graduate professional students so that you're using your leverage. Does that mean hourly workers? Have some clarifying questions on that end because I think that would really help broaden the message to something that we can advocate for all graduate and professional students. That'll come to our assembly next Friday. Our major initiative that has been a huge read of the pulse of graduate professional students on campus; mandatory fees: transparency and increase without notice are key fee issues. They are happy to work with us and happy to have felt much support from faculty. Our job is to help make the requests most successful. | Information Only  Discussion on Fees:  Stacy: who does their request go to next?  David: Ultimately Trustees and Commission on Higher Education. Fees are set by financial request from providers. Student activity fee is set at a maximum level and is set by a student committee that includes grad and undergrad students. We are encouraging students to seek information from each of the offices that assesses the fee; and trying to get more info on what graduate student use is for those fees.  David: Recent task force on student health center: use is proportional to student population (80% undergrad/ 20% grad). Reductions in fees involves looking at each fee.  Janice: Online fees support Office of Online education.  Justin [student rep from Indy]: We are on track to send out survey on fees. Using more visibility through social media. IUPUI may not have a mandatory activity fee.  Janice: There is no transport fee at IUPUI as cost from buses comes from campus parking. So campuses vary. Talking about general fee that apportions funds to student government. |
| Items for Discussion | None |  |
| Adjournment | 3:35 |  |