GFC Minutes

9/19/16

Meeting began 3:47

J. Lentz recorder

In attendance

BL: Claudia Johnson, Ellen MacKay, Pat Foster, Jennifer Lentz, Adam Reneker, Vivian Halloran, Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, Malcolm Smith, Christiana Ochoa, Raquel Hill, Jeff Rutherford, and David Daleke

IUPUI: Leslie Asburn-Nardo, Margaret Bauer, Joe Bidwell, Janice Blum, Becky Chan, Millie Georgiadis, Kristina Sheeler, Jody Sundt, Diane Von Ah, and Andrew Winship

Regional: Deborah Finkel, Laverne Nishihara, Terry Shepherd, and Susan Zinner

**1. Minutes approved from Council meeting on April 18, 2016**

**2. Announcements – led by Chair Margaret Bauer**

New committee assignments have been made, but some committees, particularly the awards committee, may need some help, especially with specific areas of expertise. Please be open to helping out other committees if you are asked.

**3. Updated from the Dean**

Dean Wimbush was unable to attend, as he was representing IU at the AAU Association of Graduate Schools annual meeting.

**4. Discussion Items**

**a. Election for chair for academic policy committee – Led by Vice Chair Carolyn Calloway-Thomas**

Carolyn nominated Kristy Sheeler to chair the committee. Kristy Sheeler agreed, requesting help from the previous committee members. She was unanimously elected.

**b. Committee charges reviewed by Margaret Bauer:**

*Academic Policy Committee*

The committee is charged with reviewing front material in grad bulletin to clarify policies and procedures. The committee will make recommendations on university policies, particularly in reference to dissertations and will work closely with Jeff Rutherford, Asst. Dean for Academic Affairs.

Jeff Rutherford mentioned that the grad bulletin is undergoing a change in technical administration, which will affect this year’s dates for submitting changes. However, the general information “front matter” can be updated as we approve changes and is not subject to annual updating deadlines. Jeff will talk more about the administrative changes at the October meeting.

The BFC library committee has notified the GFC of some concerns they have regarding dissertations, particularly embargos on the access to dissertations and the preservation of dissertations. How this might impact including the dissertation title on one’s transcript was also a concern. David Daleke discussed that Scholarworks (free) limits the length of an embargo for 5 years, whereas ProQuest allows an indefinite embargo. He also suggested that we may want to consider an institutional repository with Scholarworks, and mentioned the possibility of being consistent across campuses.

The chair of the BFC library committee, Naz Pantaloni, will be attend a future GFC committee meeting to discuss these issues in more detail, after which the Academic Policy Committee will discuss and present recommendations to the full GFC.

*Awards Committee*

In addition to the current responsibilities of reviewing and making decisions on awards and fellowships, the committee will also develop process of timely distribution of information about the awards. This process has already been started by the new chair, Jody Sundt, who is working with Emily Winters, the Graduate Fellowships and Awards Coordinator.

*Grad initiative committee*

The committee will review the status on training for title IX issues across the campuses. Also will assist Vice-chair Carolyn Calloway-Thomas in developing the process to seek nominations and hold elections for the 2017-2018 council.

It was noted that IUPUI graduate school provides training to graduate students on sexual harassment, but the status at other campuses was unclear. We will invite Emily Springston, the chief title IX officer, to a future GFC meeting and to work with the committee. The GFC committee acknowledged that students need to be aware of their rights and that we should discover whether this training is implemented at all IU campuses.

Elections for new council members will happen this year. The Committee will help the vice chair determine when and how we seek nominations. We need to seek nominations in fall and hold election in spring. As we proceed through the elections, the committee will determine if we need to change anything in the bylaws.

*Diversity issues committee*:

Charge is to review and report to the council on the findings of the IU diversity assessment recently commissioned by Dean Wimbush. Develop goals for diversity and inclusion in graduate programs at IU.

**5. Committee reports**

No standing committees had updates.

Adam Reneker, the president of the GPSG at IUB, reviewed their goals for the year. They are working toward increasing grad student engagement on campus as they have observed that many grad students don’t feel connected to IU or know the resources available to them.

The GPSG is working with Dean Daleke and office of student affairs to develop a survey to see what students are lacking and what students might actually use. They are also setting up ambassador positions throughout the university who have information available to students. They also want to increase number of representative in student government. Some departments don’t participate and do not appoint representatives to the open seats. Move toward democratic selection of these students. Finally, they are striving to get students connected with IU culture. The committee suggested that the GPSG also get in contact with the human resources center.

**6. New business**

Margaret Bauer discussed the need to fill some of the vacancies on the GFC and noted that there can be difficulty finding eligible faculty due to the “endorsement” requirement for those on the GFC. The committee discussed this issue and was provided the historical information by David Daleke. The topic will be taken up by the graduate initiatives committee, who will recommend whether to continue requiring endorsed status for GFC members.

Bianca Evans, Asst. Dean for Diversity and Inclusion, will join us in November. She will discuss diversity issues and regional campus fellowships. She could be a good resource for the Diversity issues committee.

Note on video conference platform: we attempted to use Skype for Business to video conference for this meeting, but technical difficulties necessitated our moving to the 238853 video bridge platform. Beginning with the October meeting, we will return to the 238853 video bridge we have used in the past. Calendar events will be updated with the connection information. Future meetings will be videotaped and links to meeting videos will be included in the minutes.

7. **Meeting adjourned at 4:35.**