**Indiana University Graduate Faculty Council**

**September 17, 2018**

**3:30 – 5:00 pm**

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| **TOPIC** | **ITEMS/DISCUSSIONS** | **OUTCOMES/DECISIONS** |
| Introductions |  |  |
| Approval of minutes from Council meeting on April 16, 2018 |  | Minutes approved without corrections |
| Updates from the Dean | Two brief updates: Focused on three main priorities. The first is to have an e-application that can provide an admissions process that is student friendly. Students do not receive any feedback as to whether an application was submitted successfully or if any action had been taken on the application. We are moving toward a more competitive market place and we have an admissions process that is broken. Admissions decisions will still reside with the programs. We want an admission process that makes it easier for students to submit their applications, provides feedback, and be able to track at any point in time where students are in the process. There has been a lot of discussion about the pros and cons of buying versus building an e-application. We are at a point now where the RFP is about to go out. Looking at the estimates of the cost of building and support, while at the same time entertaining estimates from various vendors. We should be at a decision point in a matter of weeks on whether to buy versus to build. A critical element is the ability to track students.  A year from now is the Bicentennial. There will be a lot of celebration and a lot of reflections. Activities for the Graduate School may include a lecture series, or a symposium, or other activities.  In the process of posting a position for a Marketing and Communication. We have made great progress on the PD. Hoping to have the position posted this week, and have a person on board within the next two months. We would like to have someone on board who can strategically communicate the successes and stories related to graduate education.  There is an annual award administered by Educational Testing Service and Counsel of Graduate Schools recognizing programs that have diversity from application to completion within the graduate school. This recruitment initiative provides a custom tailored experience for prospective students nominated by faculty and individuals around the country. We also have community-building retention types of activities. We have fellowship funding to help with recruitment to attract students, but also dissertation fellowships to help students who are making excellent academic progress. We feel that we have best practices through the type of diversity programs that have been created over the years. A proposal has been submitted to the Council of Graduate Schools for review. If we are selected as a winner, it would enable us to have $30,000 to help continue this efforts beyond what we are able to do now. | Information only |
| Discussion Items | a. The Graduate Faculty Council has a Canvas site and everyone should have access. The Canvas site is <https://iu.instructure.com/courses/1506992>. The Graduate Faculty Council website has been updated and is located at <http://www.indiana.edu/~gfc/>.  b. Members have been assigned committees (see attached).  c. Election of Committee Chairs:   * Academic Policy Committee - Stacie King * Awards Committee – Alan Bender * Diversity Issues Committee – Jane McLeod * Graduate Initiatives Committee – Fred Pavalko   d. Committee Charges for the Year:  Academic Policy Committee – The Academic Policy committee may be looking into a couple of issues this year. This will be discussed at a later date.  Diversity Issue Committee – One of the issues that came out of the council last year was a discussion using GRE. Currently, each School has the option of using the GRE as a requirement for admissions to graduate programs. We should know what extend are Schools using the GRE and how it is being used. Research has shown a huge discrepancy between the background of individuals who take the GRE. Schools that use the initial cutoff scores of the GRE may be missing out on some high quality, potential graduate students. The charge for the Diversity Issues Committee is to conduct a survey of faculty to determine if they are responsible for selecting graduate students, if they use the GRE as a requirement for their program, and how they use it when making decisions. While we cannot tell campuses to discontinue using the GRE, but we can educate them as to the loss of potential graduate students.  e. Strategic Emphasis for Academic Year: The strategic emphasis for the following year is going to focus on the mental health for graduate students. This has become a very important topic for the university and for the Graduate School. The Mental Health Taskforce (May 2017) focused on very specific items for graduate students. A reason why the mental health needs of graduate students tend to be ignored is because they are adults, they should know, and/or they know where to go for resources. Whereas undergraduate students are inexperienced and need assistance in finding the resources, graduate students are older and more experienced. Compiling resources from different campuses would help provide information for graduate students. However, graduate students may have different types of stressors. Further discussion on mental health of doctoral students is planned for the January GFC meeting. | Information Only  Election of Committee Chairs  Information Only  Discussion: Using the GRE for admissions requirements vary across academic units. How the various units use GRE scores could limit the number of potential, high-quality graduate students.  Action: Survey graduate programs on the use of GRE.  Information Only |
| Standing Reports from Committees | None  Student representatives should be reminded of dates and times of GFC meetings. | Discussion |
| New Business | None |  |
| Adjournment | 4:58 |  |

**2018-2019 GRADUATE FACULTY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT**

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| **2018-19 Council Member** | **Campus** | **Unit** | **Academic Policy** | **Awards** | **Graduate Initiatives** | **Diversity** | **Executive Committee** |
| Bauer, Margaret | IUPUI | IN-1 | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| Bender, Alan | IUB | BL-1 |  | **Chair** |  |  |  |
| Blazer-Yost, Bonnie | IUPUI | IN-6 |  |  | **X** |  |  |
| Bourke, Mary | Regional | KO | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| Buchenot, Andy (alternate) | IUPUI | IN-2 | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| Charnes, Linda | IUB | BL-7 |  | **X** |  |  |  |
| Frazier, Lessie | IUB | BL-6 |  |  |  | **X** |  |
| Galli, Dominique | IUPUI | IN-3 |  |  |  | **X** |  |
| Gershkoff-Stowe, Lisa | IUB | BL-3 |  |  | **X** |  |  |
| Helton, Edwina | Regional | EA |  |  |  | **X** |  |
| Ivan, Mircea | IUPUI | IN-1 |  | **X** |  |  |  |
| King, Stacie | IUB | BL-2 | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| Kovacik, Karen (sabbatical) | IUPUI | IN-2 | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| Liu, Yan | IUPUI | IN-1 |  | **X** |  |  |  |
| McLeod, Jane | IUB | BL-2 |  |  |  | **X** |  |
| Ossi, Masssimo | IUB | BL-5 | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| Pavalko, Fred | IUPUI | IN-1 |  |  | **X** |  |  |
| Pegram, Scooter | Regional | NW |  |  | **X** |  |  |
| Pierce, Barbara | IUPUI | IN-4 |  |  |  | **X** | Vice-chair |
| Rooney, Patrick | IUPUI | IN-5 | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| Shackelford, Scott | IUB | BL-4 |  | **X** |  |  |  |
| Shepherd, Terry | Regional | SB |  | **X** |  |  | Secretary |
| Slotegraaf, Rebecca | IUB | BL-4 | **X** |  |  |  | Chair |
| Van Zee, Liese | IUB | BL-1 |  |  | **X** |  |  |
| Waldron, Mary | IUB | BL-8 |  |  | **X** |  |  |
| Wille, Diane | Regional | SE |  | **X** |  |  |  |

**From the Bylaws regarding committees:**

Academic Policy Committee  
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.

Awards Committee  
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.

Graduate Initiatives Committee  
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.

Diversity Issues Committee  
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.