

**Graduate Council Report to Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee  
December 18, 2017**

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Since the last report to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Graduate Council Executive Committee (GCEC), and the Graduate Council have been working on the Strategic Planning process for the College of Graduate Studies (COGS) and graduate programs. The GCEC has discussed the development of the Strategic Planning process for COGS and opted for a working session GC for the first half of the academic year to gather input from graduate faculty. To aid in this process, Dean Bryant-Friedrich has met with each of the Colleges and discussed the benchmarks to be included in the COGS Strategic Plan. These meetings focused on the institutional data for graduate programs at both the Masters and Doctoral levels. Participation of each College and its graduate faculty have assisted in the development of strategic initiatives to increase enrollment in graduate programs, improve research productivity and graduate program prominence and improve time to degree completion. These data were discussed and provide the basis of COGS strategic goals and outcomes which are central to the Strategic Plan. Benchmarks of the plan include enhancing student success with academic excellence and professional development, growing enrollment, developing new and existing niche areas of focus, allocation of resources for positive fiscal positioning and efficiency, increasing faculty retention, promotion and satisfaction, while building a strong national reputation for research excellence at OUR University of Toledo.

To develop individual benchmarks, Graduate Council participated in open discussion forums that included surveys addressing each of the Strategic Plan priorities and individual goals. Interactive discussions were open, inclusive and productive which provided the guidance for the development of the COGS strategic plan. Graduate Council also hosted Provost Hsu to discuss the University Strategic Plan specific to Graduate Education. Discussions included elevating student and faculty success, increasing reputation, financial sustainability, elevation in research stature and promotion of a culture for SUCCESS at the University of Toledo.

A new process for the development and review of Graduate Programs in COGS was adopted by the Graduate Council and two new programs were recommended for approval. This includes the Masters in Athletic Training and the Executive Master of Sales Leadership (EMSL) program, which will both be presented today.

Graduate Council also discussed and affirmed the TOEFL entrance requirements for graduate admission and updated the countries that list English as the official language to include the 18 new countries that are listed in the 2016 Edition of the World Almanac and Book of Facts ([www.cia.gov](http://www.cia.gov)).

The GCEC also reviewed and referred a number of policies to the Academic Programs & Regulations Committee (APRC) for review. These policies are the Missed Class Policy 3364-71-14, Enrollment Policy 3364-77-05, Graduate Student Academic Grievance Policy 3364-77-02 and the Graduate Student Leave of Absence Policy 3364-77-04.

The GCEC appointed Dr. Michael Mallin from the College of Business and Innovation (COBI) to the Research Council to fulfill the final year of a 3 year term served by the now intern Dean of COBI Dr. HassabElnaby.

The Graduate Council looks forward to continuing partnership with COGS, the Provost's office, the Graduate Student Association, and UT faculty, staff and students in supporting our graduate and professional programs.

Respectfully,

Andrea L. Kalinoski, Ph.D.  
University of Toledo Graduate Council Chair