

## **Graduate Council Report to Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee April 16, 2018**

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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 completed the College of Graduate Studies Strategic Plan that aligns with the goals and strategies of the University and is dedicated to the following key areas: 1) continued graduate student success and academic excellence, 2) excellence in research, scholarship and creative activities, 3) supporting graduate students as faculty, staff and alumni, 4) providing a strong and sustainable fiscal position with enhanced infrastructure and 5) increasing the reputation of UT graduate programs and graduate student engagement. Most recently, Graduate Council hosted an open forum with President Gaber to discuss the University's Vision as related to Graduate Education.

The College of Graduate Studies has had a busy Spring and has hosted a number of events and new programs that emphasize the high quality of graduate education at the University of Toledo. These include the following:

### **Ohio PSM Workshop**

**March 15 -17, 2018**

Radisson at the University of Toledo

The Professional Science Master's (PSM) Degree is a graduate degree designed to allow students to pursue advanced training in science or mathematics while simultaneously developing workplace skills. Currently, UT houses four PSM programs, more than any other university in the State of Ohio. The workshop was hosted by Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Dean, College of Graduate Studies, and was designed to answer questions and spark new ideas to encourage collaboration and enhance graduate offerings in the State of Ohio. The working meeting focused on providing the tools and space for the creation or modification of PSMs across the State of Ohio.

### **The Dr. Tony Quinn We Are STEMM Initiative Fellowship Fund**

**March 2018**

In recognition of Dr. Anthony Quinn's 16 years of educational leadership, UT has created the Tony Quinn We Are STEMM Initiative Fellowship Fund that will build upon the existing We Are STEMM lecture series and will also include fellowships for graduate and professional education and mentoring programs. The fellowship fund was created by Drs. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich and Willie McKether to support the initiative to ensure ongoing support of underrepresented graduate students in STEMM disciplines – scholars so important to Dr. Quinn.

### **3MT Competition**

**March and April 2018**

UT's inaugural participation in the Three Minute Thesis (3MT<sup>®</sup>) which celebrates the exciting research conducted by PhD students around the world. Developed by The University of Queensland (UQ), the competition cultivates students' academic, presentation, and research communication skills. Presenting in a 3MT<sup>®</sup> competition increases their capacity to effectively explain their research in three minutes, in a language appropriate to a non-specialist audience. Competitors are allowed one PowerPoint slide, but no other resources or props. The winners of the competition are:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Claire Meikle, M.D./Ph.D. in Medical Microbiology and Immunology
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Amy Capparelli, Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology
People's Choice	Akshay Kulkarni, Ph.D. in Engineering: Computer Science

In 2019, UT will send its winner to the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools regional competition to compete.

## **NOA-AGEP Graduate Student Mentor Circle Pilot Program**

**April 11, 2018**

The Mentor Circles program provides a purposeful network of support to our UT **Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate** (AGEP) Scholars, a cohort of underrepresented minority PhD students, throughout their graduate school experience and into the professoriate. NOA AGEP Scholars are currently in the first or second year of a PhD program. Each mentee (AGEP Scholar) will have a circle of mentors from various roles associated with an academic research career: faculty, postdoc, senior graduate student, university administration, and industry.

### **Graduate Deans Scholars and Fellows Program**

**(220 applicants)**

The Graduate Dean's Scholars and Fellows program will create a team of ambassadors for the College of Graduate Studies to work in collaboration with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion to support the university's efforts to provide rich and rewarding experiences that enhance inclusion and exhibit the rich human diversity of our graduate programs. This Diversity and Inclusion Initiative provides funding for the ambassadors to allow them the time to develop/participate in meaningful activities to contribute to the diversity of their program of study and/or the university community.

### **Graduate Programs in Nursing**

The recently released US News & World Report 2019 Best Graduate Schools edition lists the master's program in nursing at 183, up 20 spots from the previous year and the doctor of nursing practice program is ranked for the first time. UT's Post-baccalaureate DNP was the first such program in the state when OBOR approved it in 2012.

### **New Graduate Degree Program**

The Executive Masters of Sales Leadership was approved by the Chancellor's Council of Graduate Studies on March 23, 2018.

There are a number of policies under review by the GCEC and the Academic Programs & Regulations Committee impacting graduate studies in close cooperation with COGS. These include the Research Misconduct, Missed Class, Academic Grievance, Student employment and the co-listing policies.

Our next invited speakers are Dr. Phillip Cockrell, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dr. Amy Thompson who will provide a discussion on the Behavior Response Guide and Crisis Training on how to help students in distress.

Graduate Council has been collaborating closely with our College of Graduate Studies Dean, Amanda Bryant-Friedrich and Graduate Student Association President, Mitch Haines to enrich graduate education and we look forward to continuing these efforts.

Respectfully,

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