

**Graduate Council Minutes
September 19, 2017
Health Science Campus, Health Education Building, Room 105**

- Present:** Brian Ashburner, Timothy Brakel, Tomer Avidor-Reiss, Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Michael Dowd, Viviana Ferreira, Bashar Gammoh, Rafael Garcia-Mata, Mitchell Haines (GSA), Hassan Hassab-Elnaby, Mohamed Hefzy, Edward Janak, Junghwan Kim, Song-Tao Liu, Jyl Matson, Daryl Moorhead, Alisa Nammavong (GSA), Douglas Nims, Penny Poplin-Gosetti, Jennifer Reynolds, Constance Schall, Barry Scheuermann, Rebecca Schneider, Ozcan Sezer, Ahmed Tiwari (for Zahoor Shah), Susan Sochacki, Megan Stewart, Jason Stumbo, Amy Thompson, Jerry Van Hoy.
- Absent:** Huey Shsys-Chen, Ben Davis, Joseph Margiotta, Madeline Muntersjborn, Geoffrey Rapp, Nursing rep tbd.
- Excused:** Wissam AbouAlaiwi, Frank Calzonetti, Jason Huntley, Andrea Kalinoski, Lori Pakulski, Beth Schlemper, Barbara Schneider, Kandace Williams.
- Guests:** William Ayres.

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order and the roll called.

Executive Reports

Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council

On behalf of Graduate Council, Vice Chair, Dr. Jerry Van Hoy ran the meeting due to an emergency absence of the chair. He stated that GC Chair, Dr. Andrea Kalinoski reported to the Board of Trustees on September 18th and that report is posted to GC website

<http://www.utoledo.edu/graduate/facultystaff/gradcouncil/BOTASAreport.html>.

Provost Hsu will attend the October 3rd GC meeting to discuss the strategic plan. Questions for the Provost can be sent to Dr. Van Hoy.

The graduate enrollment policy has been sent to the Academic Program and Regulations Committee for review. The policy addresses full-time and half time enrollment. The GCEC would like to recommend that graduate students be required to be enrolled for a minimum of one credit hour each fall and spring semester.

Report of the Graduate Student Association

Mr. Mitch Haines, President of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) reviewed the GSA budget over the last year academic years:

Two largest expenses are Travel Reimbursement and Graduate Student Research Awards and Graduate Professional Organizations. GSA received its first funding request this week to support the Biological Sciences symposium. Since the number of students requesting funding is increasing, the executive board will review possibly reducing its stipends. Stipends have decreased from 50.78% of the budget to 41.96% over the past three years. To date this academic year, we have already provided \$5000 in travel reimbursement.

Mr. Mitchell Haines added that the GSA executive board position stipends are equitable to work performed. He also noted that with lower stipends, interest in running for officer positions has decreased as well. Last year, several positions had nominees run unopposed.

Discussion:

Dr. Mohamed Hefzy inquired whether the GSA has sought funding from the Office of Student Affairs to support stipends, to which Dr. Michael Dowd responded that the GCEC had worked with the GSA to increase its budget from \$3886 to \$154,00 a few years ago and that occurred in part by separating their funding from Student Affairs, which had allocated only \$3886. There was a decision to designate an account that reports to the COGS Dean. This has been beneficial to the GSA and graduate students in that Students Affairs is primarily focused with undergraduates.

Report of the Dean of the College of Graduate Studies

Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Dean of the College of Graduate Studies provided the following updates:

○ Final Enrollment Numbers

UT Preliminary Headcount Census Report by student level and college Fall 2017 as of 9.12.2017 vs. fall 2016 9.6.2016 for graduate enrollment is down 16 students to 4335. While not a surprise, it is disappointing. She remains optimistic there will be a slight increase for spring semester 2018. There are a lot of things we have to do to make an increase happen and an important component is receiving the necessary IR data.

Discussion:

Dr. Michael Dowd noted that the margins are tight and that a 0.36 decrease is negligible and should not affect resources. Headcount has not changed.

○ Strategic Planning Goals

Dean Bryant-Friedrich invited Council to participate in a brief survey <https://sureveyhero.com/c/9bb06bb> titled 'Research Scholarship and Creative Activities' for their input.

- What is considered national recognition in your discipline?
- What is considered excellence?
- How do we increase prominence of faculty?
- To enhance graduate education, what do we need to invest in?

To achieve institutional national recognition for research excellence, we must increase the national prominence of faculty derived from their research, scholarship and creative and performing arts activities. Do we reinvent and reinvest in research processes to improve productivity?

Discussion:

Dr. William Ayres, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, responded that U.S. News and World Report rankings are often cited for several disciplines, example Chemistry. We know enough to work on it. Dr. Michael Dowd noted it provides the variables, but not weights.

Dean Bryant-Friedrich stated that class sizes are taken into consideration. She asked what rankings come to mind for Council members when they consider their own programs?

Responses

- World University Rankings China
- Student success rate and jobs
- National Research Council for Sociology
- U.S. News and World Report
- NIH grant ranking in medical school
- American Economic Association publishes rankings
- Journal Articles
- Carnegie classification (UT classification is Research Extensive)

National recognition includes the institution, program and faculty and 16 of 25 responses indicate that funding as not correlated to recognition. If it is related in your field, why?

Dr. Mohamed Hefzy replied funding allows support of graduate students who assist in research activities, which in turn, leads to publications.

Dr. Michael Dowd noted there is not much funding in Economics but that there are citations for each piece of work. Recognition is highly correlated with specific individuals.

Does Council agree that citations correlate to the quality of publications?

Depends on the size of the field.

Quality of work is the key factor regardless of journal.

Importance of Impact Factors

22 of 25 responses indicated that impact factors are important to recognition. How do you quantify quality?

It depends on the field. Some of this data is hard to collect aggregately as we have discovered in research. It may be helpful to parallel some of their outcomes in that document to include elements of diversity, research, etc.

What do you think we need to use as a way of looking at national recognition? Do we have a goal that we want to meet? Do we want a percentage of graduate students to publish? Should we focus on publications?

- There is information on web about social media on publications.
- Quality over quantity.
- Quality must be taken into account. What are they publishing? The point is excellence. There is a disconnect what the University requires for promotion and tenure.
- There are some programs more professional in nature that do not focus on publications.
- Huge disconnect of noting the numbers vs. the quality on HSC.

We are going to address in a holistic way, faculty promotion and tenure, graduate and professional students, and quality vs. quantity.

- Library can help with identifying the percentage of faculty publishing in top tier journals. It is measurable.
- Top and bottom tiers shift over time. Citations depend on the length of time an article is out.
- When graduate students publish in top tier journals and present at top conferences each year, those are illuminated. They have best presentations and paper. There are different ways to have matrix for assessing quality.

Outreach and Engagement and Awards. This will be the starting point for this body begin its writing.

- Quality matters across the board.
- A better assessment in Music is placement of students after graduation.
ABF – read comments GC listed. These are great for writing purposes.

How do we increase prominence of faculty?

- Publications/Performance/Creative Works.
- Public appearances, lectures panel discussions.

To enhance in graduate education, what do we need to invest in?

- Faculty Hiring was the number one response. Ex, Criminal Justice has only four tenure track. There is room for growth, but not sufficient personnel. The Toledo Chief of Police wants to send his staff to UT's Criminal Justice program, but we do not have enough faculty.
Do not want to grow beyond your faculty potential.
- Balance between increasing students and time for quality research.

How should UT attract high quality candidates for posted positions?

- Review quality of candidates who apply for faculty positions. Workload is a primary factor.
- Infrastructure and facilities are very important. Very important in Biology. When they join our department, we have specialty and then we can recruit students with that interest.
CS – Depends on the norm in your field and expectations in start-up. Combination of infrastructure and workload.
- The College of Business and Innovation saw a loss of senior level good high quality researchers.
- When speaking at area high schools, many are surprised that there is research at UT.
- There is quality research at UT, and it required marketing and advertising. For example, the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference at UT is well known in the community and is advertised well. i
- How does UT compare with other institutions in its number of post docs? The Strategic Plan does not mention post docs specifically, yet they are vitally important to training graduate students.

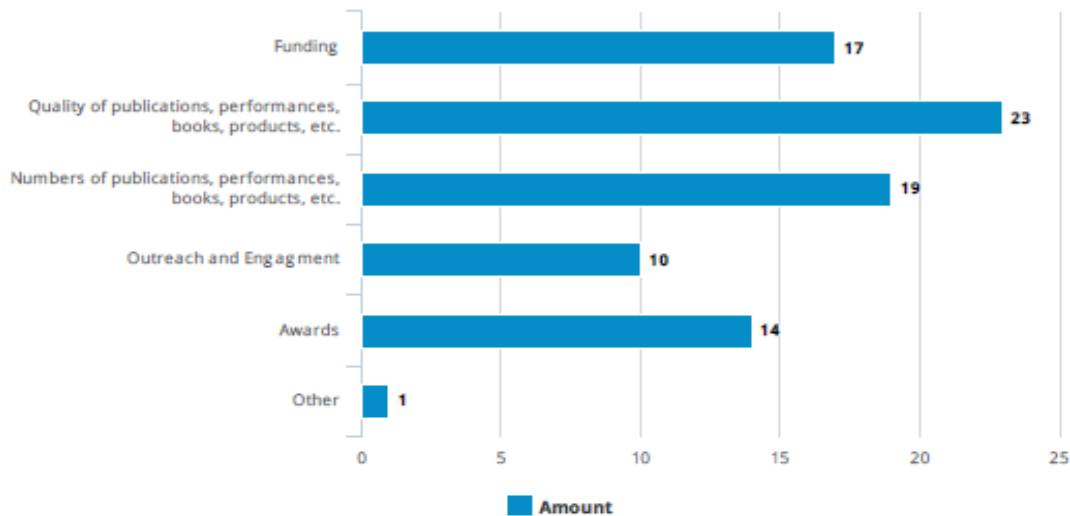
Below are the survey results from Graduate Council input. Dean Bryant-Friedrich would like further discussion with the council for incorporation into the Strategic Plan.



Research Scholarship and Creative Activities

What is considered national recognition in your discipline?

Number of responses: 26



What is considered excellence?

Number of responses: 26

Text answers:

Quality of work and recognition by peers

Publication in high impact journals and robust funding

Can you get a job in a similar or better institution

\$200,000/year, 5 journal publications, 2 national committee memberships

Research prestige, placement of graduate students after they graduate, quality of publications, quality of graduate program, infrastructure and university support

National board pass rates (i.e. USMLE, PANCE, NPTE, BAR)
Credentials distinguishing that individual as a specialist in a particular (i.e. Residency and fellowship trained)
Invitation to speak/present at a national/international level regarding a specific topic

Having influence on the profession - not just publish for publish sake.

Having faculty engaged in research, grants/funding, and publications. Community engagement is also highly valued.

Quality of publication

Strong, nationally recognized faculty with continuous funding and regularly publishing in peer-reviewed journals (i.e. - multiple publications each year).

To be able to perform considerably well in teaching and scholarly activities.

able to recruit high quality students and professors

1. Success of graduates
2. Positive feedback from graduates
3. Faculty/Programs with state, national, international reputations
4. Visible Rigor within evaluation of students and faculty

quality and job placement of graduates

Outstanding publications in flagship journals and books

Being nationally recognized as a leader in your area; colleagues knowing your name when they are discussing your research focus; producing high quality graduates who positively impact the lives of children.

An institution that excels in Research for creating new knowledge, Education to generate highly qualified future professionals, and Public service. These are core values that all Universities must have to even be considered a University.

large grants

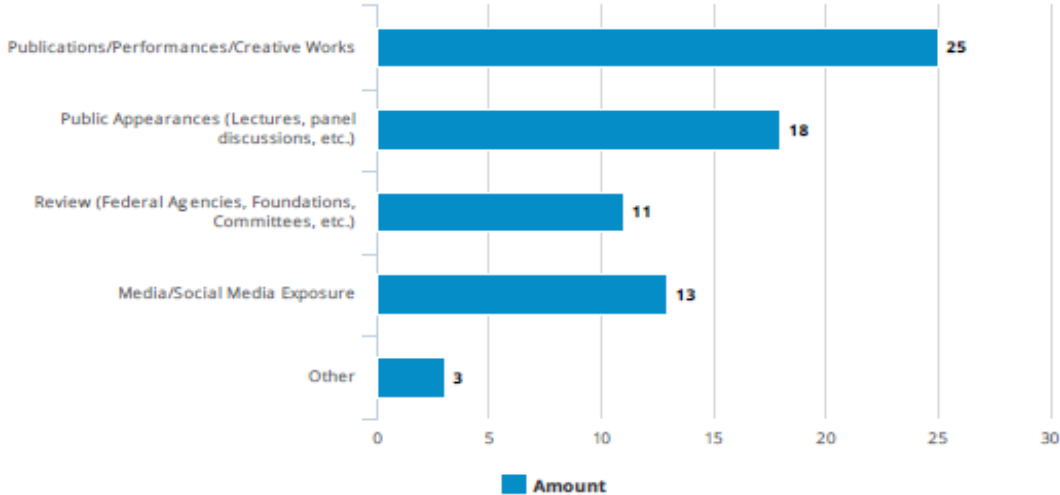
Peer-reviewed journal articles in "top" journals.
Books published with well-regarded university presses or, in a few cases, prestigious commercial publishers.
Highly successful (read: placed in academic positions) graduate students.
High (media) visibility as an acknowledged expert in the field.

Institutional excellence is national and international recognition for the achievements of a university, its students and faculty, and programs that are offered. Excellence produces professionals prepared for the workforce and success.

- Students outcome.
- Significance of research to the field of study.
- The highest quality scholarly products (primarily publications in top peer reviewed journals)
- Contributing useful knowledge.
- Impactful publications in high ranking journals
- Well rounded in research, teaching and community engagement.

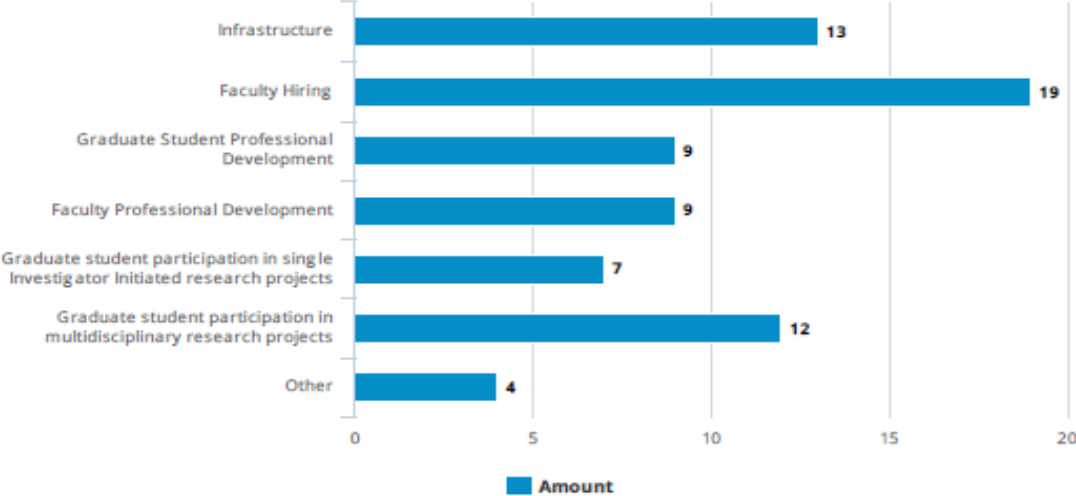
How do we increase prominence of faculty?

Number of responses: 26



To enhance graduate education, what do we need to invest in?

Number of responses: 25



Information and Discussion Items

Research and Sponsored Programs Update

On behalf of Dr. Frank Calzonetti, Vice Chair, Dr. Jerry Van Hoy, reported that the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs received approval for a Research Compliance Officer position to be filled.

Standing Committees Update

Dr. Jerry Van Hoy, GC Vice Chair sought a representative from the College of Business and Innovation to serve on the Curriculum Committee. Dr. Ozcan Sezer volunteered. The Curriculum Committee review scheduled should be available and posted soon.

Standing Committee Reports

Report of the Membership Committee

On behalf of the Graduate Council Membership Committee (GCCC), Vice Chair, Dr. Jerry Van Hoy, reported the membership schedule for application submission and review is now available on the Graduate Council website <http://www.utoledo.edu/graduate/facultystaff/gradcouncil/reviewschedule.html>.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Council adjourned at 1:40 pm