

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

Since the last report to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Graduate Council Executive Committee (GCEC), has met during the summer term with a focus on preparation of for the upcoming academic year. As part of this preparation, the GCEC is working to re-populate our standing committees. These standing committees hold important roles in advancing the quality of graduate programs and scholarship through their work in, review of curriculum proposals, eligibility of faculty for membership on the graduate faculty, mediation of graduate student grievances and participation in academic policy formation and program review.

In summer business, GCEC has acted on curriculum items reviewed by the Graduate Council curriculum committees as well as discussed the intersession term pilot program with Provost Hsu for the upcoming academic year. In collaboration with Faculty Senate Executive Committee and Provost Hsu, a call for Intersession Courses as a Pilot Program that was sent to Faculty in early summer. Assessment data will be collected on these initial courses and discussed with GC. Determination of future course offerings will be based on the outcomes and possible implementation mechanisms discussed.

The GCEC participated in the interview process and provided recommendations to Dean Bryant-Friedrich for the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs in the College of Graduate Studies position. The Associate Dean is directly involved in strategic planning for the Graduate College, developing graduate program policies, enhancing opportunities for graduate studies through pipeline programs and promoting opportunities for interdisciplinary graduate education. We welcomed our new Associate Dean of COGS, Dr. Cyndee Gruden from the College of Engineering on July 1st, 2017.

The GCEC also referred a number of policies to the Academic Programs & Regulations Committee (APRC) for review. These policies are the Missed Class Policy 3364-71-14, Integrity in research and procedures for investigating allegations of academic and research misconduct Draft Policy 3364-70-21, Consensual romantic and/or sexual relationships Draft Policy 3364-25-65 and the Criminal background check Draft Policy 3364-25-47.

The GCEC also appointed Dr. Sveltana Belyukova from the Judith Herb College of Education, Dr. Marthe Howard, from the College of Medicine and Life Sciences and Dr. Song-Tao Liu, from the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics to three-year terms on the Research Advisory Council.

The GCEC has discussed the development of the Strategic Planning process for COGS and have opted for a working session GC for the first half of the academic year. This will allow the creation of a plan that not only increases enrollment in graduate programs, but emphasizes the Universities overall strategic goals including improving our research productivity, graduate program prominence and time to degree. Participation of each College and its graduate faculty will no doubt result in strong strategic initiatives that are a product of our collective Colleges and will play a key role in the success and prominence of our programs. Our initiatives will therefore enhance the University Strategic Goals of improving student success and preparing students for advanced academic studies and career success as well as grow enrollment and guide in the determination of future program allocations.

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