

Graduate Council Report to Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee May 15, 2017

The 2016-2017 Graduate Council has had a productive year and is now transitioning to the 2017-2018 Academic Year. This report highlights activities from the last three GC meetings and provide the preface for our work in the fall.

Graduate Council hosted Dr. Constance Shriner, Vice Provost for Assessment and Faculty Development to discuss the Institutional Student Learning Objectives that were drafted in response to the Provosts initiative. The ad hoc committee charged with drafting the ISLOs included 2 representative appointed by Graduate Council. The ISLO's were discussed and a full endorsement of the final version of the ISLO's was granted.

Dr. Willie McKether, Director of Diversity and Inclusion also spoke with GC about the Diversity plan and how the benchmarks pertaining to graduate education with be implemented and how the outcome measures will be evaluated.

Graduate Student Association President Eric Simpson gave an annual update on the allocation of the GSA budget and the Midwest Graduate Research Symposium. The 8th annual MGRS symposium was held on March 25, 2017 in the Memorial Field House and the keynote speaker was Dr. Emmitt Jolly from Case Western Reserve University. The MGRS grew significantly this year with over 300 attendees with 135 graduate student presenters representing sixteen universities in a variety of fields. There were also 75 volunteers and 70 judges from nine different universities. New this year was an undergraduate panel, seven professional development workshops and participation of the NOA-AGEP scholars from several universities.

The College of Graduate Studies Dean Bryant-Friedrich gave an update on the status of new and modified graduate programs currently under consideration by the Ohio Department of Higher Education. The University of Toledo currently has a new Executive Masters in Sales Leadership (online delivery) and a modification of our existing Master of Science in Biomedical Science with a concentration in Human Donation Science to add online delivery under consideration. The College has received a higher number of completed applications than last year but continues to see a lower number of overall admits. In contrast, colleges with large numbers of international applicants, such as Engineering, Pharmacy and the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics have seen a considerable decrease in applications. The college will continue to investigate the reasons for these declines.

At the University Spring Commencement on Sunday May 7, 2017, a total of 219 Doctoral degrees, 624 Master's degrees, 14 Education Specialist degrees and 20 graduate certificates were awarded by the College of Graduate Studies.

The Graduate Council launches each new year in May and at this first meeting of the 2017-2018 Graduate Council, I began my term as chair and new officers were elected. Dr. Jerry Van Hoy from the College of Arts and Letters was elected as vice-chair. The elected at-large members of the executive committee are Dr. Jason Huntley from the College of Medicine, Dr. Bashar Gammoh from the College of Business and Innovation, and Dr. Edward Janak from the Judith Herb College of Education.

The newly elected Executive Committee is taking part in the COGS Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs search. The Associate Dean will be directly involved in strategic planning for the Graduate College, developing graduate program policies, enhancing opportunities for undergraduate to graduate studies through pipeline programs and promoting opportunities for interdisciplinary graduate education. The Search Committee is chaired by John Plenefisch, Associate Dean, College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics and candidates have been scheduled for upcoming interview dates.

The COGS has extended the deadline for submitting new and modified graduate programs to May 31, 2017. All members of the University of Toledo community are invited to submit proposals and welcomes input from all constituents. Please feel free to contact Dean Bryant-Friedrich.

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