

## **Graduate Council Report to Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee September 16, 2019**

---

This report includes the activities of Graduate Council (GC) since our last report on June 17, 2019.

The Executive Committee of GC (GCEC) met on August 6 and August 27 to discuss several policies and prepare for the fall semester. Dr. Wendy Cochrane, Vice Chair of GC, has worked diligently during the summer to populate all GC standing committees. The Curriculum Committee led by Dr. Tim Mueser has reviewed 19 courses during the summer, mostly for the Physician Assistant program. The Membership Committee led by Dr. Svetlana Beltyukova has reviewed membership applications and discussed clarifications of the membership categories. We were contacted by and have also reached out to different offices at the University to schedule presentations to the GC during the 2019-2020 academic year. The information exchange and accompanying discussions are expected to enhance communications of issues that have impact on the graduate faculty and graduate education at UToledo.

We held our first GC meeting for the 2019-2020 academic year on September 3. During the meeting, the summer activities of the GCEC were presented to the Council and plans for the work of the new academic year were discussed. Considering that there are many newly elected GC members, Dr. Wendy Cochrane presented an overview on all GC standing and ad hoc committees and introduced current committee members. Dean Amanda Bryant-Friedrich introduced the staff and explained the activities of the COGS office to GC members so that they are more familiar with points of contact for different issues related to graduate education. Dr. Frank Calzonetti, Vice President for Research, announced the upcoming National Lab Day organized by his office. Ms. Alisa Nammavong, GSA President, briefed the GC of recent work carried out by the GSA. Associate Dean Cyndee Gruden introduced the new curriculum tracking system, and reported that the state has approved the sharing of 9 credits between bachelors and master's for a pipeline program.

At the beginning of the fall semester, several issues of concern were raised by graduate students and graduate faculty. These include graduate student insurance plans, graduate student late fee assessment, emails concerning tuition payments to new graduates students admitted on tuition waivers, and more strictly implemented Federal Regulations on Foreign Affiliations and Contributions which affect many graduate faculty and students. GC has been in communications with the COGS and other departments of the University with these issues. We hope that proper attention will be given to these issues to further advance the reputation of UToledo in graduate education and academic research nationally and internationally.

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

Respectfully,  
Song-Tao Liu, Ph.D.  
University of Toledo Graduate Council Chair, 2019-2020