

Graduate Council Report to Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee December 12, 2016

Since the last report to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Graduate Council has had a number of invited speakers that have focused on the development of the Strategic Planning process related to graduate and professional programs.

President Gaber and Provost Hsu were our invited speakers on October 18th. President Gaber and Provost Hsu elaborated on the inter-related aspects of the Strategic Plan, Facilities Master Plan and the Enrollment Plan with respect to graduate and professional programs.

Stephanie Sanders, Vice President of Enrollment Management was our speaker on November 1st. She suggested strategies for successfully enrolling and retaining students that emphasize the academic product and outcomes.

Lawrence Kelley, VP of Finance, Terrence Romer, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Dr. Ying Liu, Director of Institutional Research were our invited guests on November 15th. They provided a discussion on the state share of instruction (SSI) and how the institutional reimbursement yield is determined at the graduate level.

Dr. Frank Calzonetti, Vice President of Research was our invited speaker on November 29th and provided an update on the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. He highlighted the trends in research funding for the past 10 years as well as how we compare to other institutions both locally and across the U.S.

The Higher Learning Commission has published guidelines for qualified faculty requirements for undergraduate and graduate student instructors. These guidelines are part of HLC criteria for accreditation and assumed practices and Universities are expected to be in compliance with these guidelines by September 1, 2017. Provost's office has developed a revised policy with input from GC and COGS to ensure compliance with HLC guidelines. The Academic Programs & Regulations committee has reviewed the policy and the Graduate Faculty membership categories in the bylaws have been modified to be consistent with the proposed policy revisions.

The Provost's office has formed an Ad Hoc Institutional Student Learning Outcomes Committee which includes 2 members of Graduate Council to propose a set of Institutional Student Learning Outcomes. Graduate Council has selected Drs. Viviana Ferreira and Zahoor Shah to serve on this important committee which will develop a set of statements pertaining to the general knowledge and skills that all University of Toledo graduates will be able to demonstrate at the time of graduation, regardless of academic program of study. Integration of the Institutional Student Learning Outcomes will facilitate the implementation of strategies on assessment of student learning.

The College of Graduate Studies reported a number of recruitment efforts for its graduate programs including:

- Sponsoring recruitment activities (along with the COM and the President's Office) at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS). Dr. Anthony Quinn (NSM) represented the institution and emphasized the breadth and depth of STEM programs. As a result, over 80 students expressed an interest in various STEM programs at the University of Toledo.

- Dr. Lesley Berhan (COE) participated in the STEM Women of Color Conference in Detroit Michigan and generated interest in STEM programs both at the undergraduate and graduate levels.
- On campus, the COGS hosted 'Coffee with COGS' to recruit UT students into UT graduate programs and to expose current graduate students to additional programs and the services of the College.

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

Respectfully,
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University of Toledo Graduate Council Vice Chair