

## Executive Council of Graduate Faculty

Minutes for 26 August 2016

**Present:** Dean Michael C. Roberts (Chair), Norman Akers, Mahasweta Banerjee, Monica Biernat, James Daugherty, Thomas DeLuca, Apurba Dutta, Marie-Alice L'Heureux, Milena Stanislavova, Sherrie Tucker, Sara Wilson, Assistant Dean Amanda Ostreko (Staff), Amber Roberts Graham (Staff)

**Absent:** Ahreum Maeng, Scott Reinardy, Paul Scott, Michael Werle (Ex Officio)

**Also present:** Steven Leonard, Jae Chang, Hugo Sheward, Shannon Criss, Chad Kraus

**Called to Order: 2:04 pm**

### Announcements

**15 Minutes**

- Dean Roberts welcomed the Executive Council and introduced new members.
- Dean Roberts notified the Council that results from the Graduate Student Satisfaction Survey would be distributed soon to department chairs and school deans.
- Dean Roberts reminded the Council of the Diverse Graduate Student Welcome event to take place at 4:30 pm on Thursday 15 September. He hopes it will be all-inclusive, but especially attractive to new graduate students among whom it may foster feelings of connection.
- Dean Roberts notified the Council that the online application for funding to recruit Underrepresented Minority Graduate Students was available and asked them to contact Andrew Beets with questions.
- Dean Roberts reminded the Council that the Self Graduate Fellowship also offers some funding for recruiting Underrepresented Minority Graduate Students. Eligible programs should contact the Self Graduate Fellowship staff with questions.
- Dean Roberts discussed the University Graduate Fellowships (UGFs) available during the 2016-2017 year.
  - Graduate Studies will allocate the same percentage this year as last year to diversity recruitment fellowships. About 50% of the available funds will be allocated for diversity recruitment UGFs and the remainder will fund first-year and dissertation-year fellowships.
  - The deadline for UGF applications is about one month earlier this year than last year: Applications due Tuesday 6 September.
  - Dean Roberts addressed a question about how to answer application questions about this year's success rate, since that data is not yet available. He asked applicants to provide their best estimates for this year and clarified that those questions will become more relevant next year once the data is available.
- Amber Roberts Graham offered an overview of how the Executive Council's subcommittees will work for 2016-17.

**Review of Minutes****5 Minutes**

- 13 May 2016  
The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

**New Program Proposals****60 Minutes**

- Dean Roberts provided an overview of the process for reviewing new program proposals.
- MS in Organizational Leadership
  - *Representatives: Steven Leonard*
  - Mr. Leonard introduced a new Master of Science proposal in Organizational Leadership and fielded questions.
  - The Council discussed how this program relates to the M.B.A., the timeline for identifying officers who may be interested, the hybrid online/on-ground structure, tuition models, and how this program intersects with other leadership-oriented offerings across campus.
- Graduate Certificate in BIM
  - *Representative: Jae Chang and Hugo Sheward*
  - Professors Chang and Sheward introduced a new Graduate Certificate proposal in BIM and fielded questions.
    1. The Council discussed the BIM process, software packages, and market value, especially in the local area.
    2. The Council expressed specific interest in the course offerings, confirming there are no pre-requisites and that there is substantial interest from current Architecture students for the online courses because of the severe limitation on lab spaces for on-ground enrollments.
- Graduate Certificate in Designbuild
  - *Representatives: Jae Chang and Chad Kraus*
  - Professors Chang and Kraus introduced a new Graduate Certificate proposal in Designbuild and fielded questions.
    1. The Council discussed the certificate's primary goal to bring in non-KU Architecture students for a targeted and intensive experience with Designbuild, a strength KU has offered for sometime to its own students.
- Graduate Certificate in Public Interest Design
  - *Representatives: Jae Chang and Shannon Criss*
  - Professors Chang and Criss introduced a new Graduate Certificate proposal in Public Interest Design and fielded questions.

1. The Council discussed how the program will achieve its goals of fostering cross-disciplinary interest and development in the area of participatory design and foster partnerships with area agencies.
  2. The Council also discussed program structure and course offerings.
- Votes on New Program Proposals
    - M.S. in Organizational Leadership: Passed Unanimously
    - Graduate Certificate in BIM: Passed Unanimously pending technical and copy edits to proposal
    - Graduate Certificate in DesignBuild: Passed Unanimously pending technical and copy edits to proposal
    - Graduate Certificate in Public Interest Design: Passed Unanimously pending technical and copy edits to proposal

## Policy Proposals

20 Minutes

- Policy Revision: Graduate Admissions
  - *Representative: Amanda Ostreko*
  - This revision seeks to clarify and consolidate several related policies and to ensure currency and compliance with the SEVP Final Guidance issued in July 2016.
  - The Council discussed the implications of this change on other processes, including admission for domestic, non-native English speakers and students admitted provisionally who may seek an immigration status other than F-1.
  - Graduate Studies will produce a document of Frequently Asked Questions to assist prospective students and admitting units navigate the new requirements.
  - The Council voted unanimously to approve the proposed revisions pending the addition of a statement that these admissions requirements are university minima and departments may adopt more stringent requirements.
- Policy Revision: Grading
  - *Representative: Amber Roberts Graham*
  - This policy revision seeks to make Graduate Studies policy consistent with the grading policies stated in the U.S.R.R. code. In particular, it seeks to accommodate the new grading basis for thesis and dissertation hours approved in spring 2016.
  - Other than the changes to accommodate the new scale, this is an existing policy which was substantially revised for clarity, structure, and flow but, for the most part, left as it was in terms of content.
  - The Council discussed some further restrictions of the P grade across campus and whether the expectation for doctoral students should be average performance ‘better than a B’.
  - The Council voted unanimously to pass the proposed revisions.

**Adjourned: 3:25 pm**

**Next Meeting:** 30 September 2016 — 2:00 pm in 210 Strong Hall