

Executive Council of Graduate Faculty

Minutes for 8 November 2019

Present: Interim Dean Audrey Lamb (Chair), Jody Brook, Hui Cai, Matt Gillispie, Jim Guthrie, Heidi Hallman, Chris Johnson, Robert Parsons, Tarun Sabarwal, Michael Wolfe, Amanda Ostreko (Staff), Kristine Latta (Staff), Amber Roberts Graham (Staff), Jessy Carolina Ayestas Hernandez (Staff)

Absent: Tien-Tsung Lee, Yan Li, Joshua Miner, Andrew Short, Mike Werle (Ex Officio),

Also present: Hong Vu (on behalf of School of Journalism)

Called to Order: 15:00

Announcements

- Dean Lamb introduced Professor Bob Parsons, who will take up representation of the School of Engineering.
- Dean Lamb provided updates on the Office of Graduate Studies transition.
 1. The search committee for a new Vice Provost of Graduate Studies is meeting. The committee expects to appoint a new VP by 1 January, 2020.
 2. Dean Lamb outlined the application and nomination processes for the VP position and asked Council members to nominate or encourage colleagues who would be a good fit for the role.
 3. The transition was effective for staff as of 3 November, 2019:
 - (a) Amanda Ostreko is now an Assistant Vice Provost and Director of Graduate Enrollment Management. She now officially reports to Enrollment Management.
 - (b) Kristine Latta now holds a partial appointment in the Office of Graduate Studies as an Assistant Vice Provost and Liaison to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
 - (c) Amber Roberts Graham has moved into the role of Director of Graduate Affairs and Liaison to the Professional Schools.
- 3MT “was awesome!”
 1. OGS welcomed 45 competitors from 7 schools to compete in the first-round heats.
 2. 15 competitors from 5 schools advanced to the finals round.
 3. The People’s Choice award winner came from Pharmaceutical Chemistry in the School of Pharmacy.
 4. The second-place winner was from Molecular Biosciences in the College.
 5. The overall winner was from Bioengineering in the School of Engineering.
 6. Graduate Studies will post videos soon of the three winning presentations and issuing a press release.

International Affairs Committee Update

- Professor Cai, as the Council's representative on the International Affairs Committee (IAC), provided an update about the recent IAC meeting.
 1. Carl Taylor, from the Office of Global Operations and Security, presented to the group about export controls and issues concerning the protection of intellectual property at research universities.
 2. The GOS office is undertaking several initiatives to reduce risk.
 3. GOS is also managing several policy initiatives:
 - (a) Restricted party policy: adopted in December 2015
 - (b) International travel registration: adopted
 - (c) New policy under review concerning registration of all domestic and international visitors to the KU campus

Petitions for Exception to GS Policy

- Alternative Documentation of English Proficiency
 - The Council reviewed one petition.
 - * They discussed the documentation submitted in support, the Applied English Center's (AEC) evaluative recommendation, past precedent at KU, and the philosophical rationale for the policy requirements.
 - * The Council voted to grant Regular admission on the basis of the alternative documentation of English proficiency as submitted. The student is expected to complete AEC testing upon arrival on campus.
- New GTA Orientation Conference Deferral
 - The Council reviewed one petition for a retroactive deferral of the Fall 2019 Conference requirement.
 - * The student has already completed the Online Tutorial and Mid-Semester Follow-Up components.
 - * The student has committed to attending the Conference at the first available time: January 2020.
 - * The Council approved a one-semester deferral to January 2020.
- The Council discussed how to handle time-sensitive petitions during the long period between the 6 December and 24 January meetings.
 - This period coincides with the highest-volume period for admission petitions and a high-volume period for requests to defer the New GTA Orientation requirement.
 - For petitions requiring the Council's review, members requested a system for online discussion and voting through Blackboard.
 1. OGS will circulate petitions by this means once per week
 2. OGS will set a vote deadline for each petition introduced on this platform
 3. A minimum of three Council members must vote in order to register a decision
 - For limited categories of petition. the Council authorized OGS staff to process administrative approvals if the requests meet clear, objectively defined criteria.

1. First deferrals of New GTA Orientation Conference if the student commits to complete the online tutorial and mid-semester follow-up during the deferral semester and to attend the conference during the semester immediately following the deferral.

Graduate Faculty Nominations

- The Council approved the following nominees for master's-level exam committee service:
 - Neal Molitor – HSES
 - Megan R. M. Brown – GEOL
- The Council approved the following nominees for master's- and doctoral-level exam committee service:
 - Rebekah Schultz Colby – ENGL
 - Gail Pashek – SPLH
 - Candace Hogue – HSES
 - Susan Ziegler – EEB
 - Lauren Norman – ANTH
 - Christopher Garmon – ECON
 - David Richard Corbin – CPE
 - Tim Pleskac – PSYC
 - Holger Brandt – PSYC
 - Tандis Bidgoli – GEOL
- The Council approved the following nominees for all five privileges and responsibilities:
 - Kathleen N. Zimmerman – SPED
 - Michael Riquino – SW
 - Rana Esfandiary – THDN
 - Christopher Cushing – CHCP
 - Briana McGeough – SW
 - Michelle Heffner Hayes – THDN
 - James Moreno – THDN
 - Matthew Mosconi – CHCP
 - Omar Gudiño – CHCP
- The Council requested more information before reviewing the following nominees:
 - Nicole Reiz – ENGL

Graduate Studies Awards Updates

- University Graduate Fellowship
 - Dean Lamb thanked the Council for its thorough review of the applications. 96% of the reviews were completed.
 - The Council reviewed the UGF budget and discussed how many fellowships to make available at what level of support. They noted the importance of maintaining the UGF as an honor and a recruitment tool.

- The Council reached the following decisions for the 2020-2021 award year:
 - * Set UGF stipends at \$25,000, to enhance the competitiveness of the fellowship
 - * Fund 29 fellowships this year
 - * Allocation of available awards among applicant departments, based on the Council's evaluations of application strength and merit

Next Meeting: 6 December 2019 — 3:00 pm in 210 Strong Hall