



Graduate Council Meeting Notes

Friday, November 19, 2021

12-1:30

Zoom

ATTENDEES: Allard, Avilez, Cohen, Elby, Ewing, Fetter, Fisher Liu, Gittens, Gold, Julin, Kim, Kirmani, Lawley, Mount, Moeller, Nesson, Perkey, Powers, Rappeport, Roth, Shea, Shenassa, Shultz, Sprinkle, Tan, Turner, Waguespack, Williams, Wohlfarth

Graduate School Staff: Fan Tso, Anna O'Connell, Blessing Enekwe, Waqueelat Gaji, Christopher Perez, Angela Ambrosi, Susan Martin, Robyn Kotzker, Patty Woodwell, Megan Van Son

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Announcements
 - a. Approve 10/18/21 [meeting minutes](#)
 - The minutes were approved with no comments or corrections.
 - b. AD Search: [position description](#)
 - The GS appreciates those who have been alerting people to the position.
 - We would like to increase the diversity of the current candidate pool.
 - The closing date for best consideration is November 28th, but they will still consider those who apply after; however, they will be moving quickly after the 28th.
 - The position requires at least a master's degree and they cannot entertain candidates that do not have a master's degree.
 - Bill has promised to stay on until there is a suitable replacement.
 - c. TLTC GLOA collaboration
 - This will be implemented next fall.
 - TLTC will be running trainings as well as one-on-one consultations in the fall for programs which need it.
 - Can assist with creating measurable learning objectives and can assist programs with developing their plans.
 - d. Increase in minimum GA stipend (see proposed revised policy below)
 - There is a 14.5% increase in the minimum stipend. 60% of GAs will receive an increase.
 - This will take effect on January 2nd, and the GS will do an audit to make sure that all stipends have been increased appropriately.
 1. If there are departments that are found not in alignment with the policy, they will be notified and they will need to retroactively correct this.
 - This for the first time puts our 9 month stipend above the [cost of attendance](#) calculated by the Office of Student Financial Aid.
 - The campus is providing base funding to the colleges to bring state-funded stipends to the same levels. The funds will be transferred to GA accounts.



- Those on other accounts, we expect those accounts will cover the cost. However, if this is a hardship for the faculty PI, please see their college budget office for providing help.
 - This applies to all GAs regardless of their source of funding. We are not exempting any GAs.
 - e. New diversity recruitment fellowship program
 - This program is parallel to the President's PostDoc program and Family program.
 - Guidelines should be put out by December 1st and be ready for Fall 22 admissions.
 1. Expect about 30 offers for the 2022-2023 admissions cycle.
 2. The application deadline is tentatively January 31st, and it is separate from the flagship program.
 3. You can nominate students up for both the flagship and this program; however, only one will be awarded.
 - f. Update on student nomination requirements for GS fellowships and awards: [DGS Questionnaire](#) to replace DGS Letter for the Wylie and Summer Research Fellowships.
 - This helps alleviate the time needed by the DGS. They no longer have to submit a letter for some awards. Instead, they can complete the questionnaire.
 - The questionnaire helps the DGS streamline their process, and it streamlines the process for the committee to review the materials.
 - If you have any questions, please contact Robyn at rkotzker@umd.edu.
2. Policy Revision Discussion
- a. GA Compensation and Stipends [Policy](#) (vote using zoom polling)
 - This was discussed last Spring in response to departmental requests.
 - We understand that this could be a significant factor in offers of admission.
 - This will not take effect until July 1st so that no student is demoted or promoted due to a policy change.
 - On net this will result in more step 2 appointments.
 - If there are departments that want to provide supplemental funding to any students, they are still welcome. The Graduate School only sets the minimum.
 - The Graduate Council would like to have more information before taking a vote; however, they would like to vote on this as soon as possible so they can provide accurate admissions offers.
3. Future Discussions
- a. Can we have a presentation about master's students similar to the doctoral student presentation that Dean Fetter gave?
 - b. Can we see if there can be improvements related to the policy for overloads for domestic students?
 - c. If you have any topics, please send us an email, and we will add it to the agenda.
- The meeting adjourned at 1:20.



AMENDMENT

On November 29, Graduate Councilors submitted their votes for the new step policy. The proposal submitted to them for voting can be [found here](#). Voting was conducted anonymously through Qualtrics. We received 21 votes in favor of this policy and it passed on November 19, 2021 at 5pm.