**Minutes from Graduate College Council (GCC) meeting on December 12, 2022**

Meeting called to order 3:30 PM

Michael Michaud; Cynthia Rechsteiner; Laura Desimone; Bill Repetto; Caroline William; Lou Rossi; Emily Davis; Danilo Yanuch; Aviva Heyn; Elise Corbin; Siyan Wang; Constantin Bacuta

Ryan Zurakowski; Alan Mason; David Burris; Jill Higginson; Louise Bank; Jeff Buler; Jacqueline Washington; Paul Laux; Maria Anne Purciello; Samantha Akridge; LaRuth McAfee; Greg Kane; Marlaina Kloepfer; Lea Asti; Delight Morehead

Dean Lou Rossi’s Report:

* Spark symposium (was highly successful, new one planned for April 27- one per semester).
* Grad application: increased (domestic: from 732 to 839 and for international: 493 to 2,000).
* Melt: those who accept offers and don’t come have been a new problem.
* Housing: President mentioned this as the ‘crisis’ in the past board of trustee meetings. The student life master plan is under development. UD has created the pilot program- the details of which are yet to come. The long-term solution is still to build graduate student housing. Note that the master lease of the first and last month is a different program.
* Interdisciplinary frontier grad-postdoc fellow program: about a dozen proposals are being reviewed and the decision to be made soon.

(Dean’s ppt slides are included for the details)

Faculty/advisor-student relations

Some of the inappropriate behaviors are reported to the graduate college. Faculty handbook [4.2.2 (II) 2] has language, and the university has institutions (Title IX office, faculty affairs, research offices, Faculty Senate committee on faculty rights and responsibilities) for those policies and related problems. A new structure is being devised for is assistant dean for graduate student life. Some of the example and practices in the College of Engineering was mentioned. The discussion covered how to create an informed environment for students from different backgrounds and practices, encourage student peer discussion, and create a motivational, supporting environment.

Working groups:

Family-friendly working group*(Emily Davis; Rena Hallam; Ramona Neunuebel; Samantha Akridge; Deborah Drain; AJ de Coteau).* Specific tasks planned and undergoing are:

* Form graduate student parents group for social events/community building and stakeholder group to serve as a sounding board for the next steps.
* Collect web page information about local childcare centers, grants/aid for which our grad student parents are eligible, enrollment/vaccination requirements for local schools
* Create a new survey (planned for Jan) to gather the necessary data to reapply for the CCAMPIS grant (March 2023- Department of Education). More data from AA program about graduate parents will provide a refined focus for CCAMIS grant proposal. This will entail gathering data on leave and childcare scholarships from our comparator institutions
* Meet as a group in February to establish additional short- and long-term priorities.

Graduate funding working group: Points on timing and charging of the student fees: i) fee not charged until the first paycheck, ii) additional fee no longer assessed for using a credit card, iii) penalty of paying in installments avoided; iv) if the penalty has to stay, the policy is transparent and disclosed to students.

Qualtrics votes: 22 yes, 1 abstein, and 0 no.

Student caucus update:

GSG: parental leave policy, grad student in department decision making; advisee-advisor relationship

GCC: grad student housing and recovery ally training.

Other points that GCC is considering are: Graduate student travel assistance, housing, grad stipend, childcare, and transportation.

New business item on the floor:

No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 04:43 PM