

Minutes of Graduate College Council Meeting  
May 10, 2020

Unapproved as of June 3, Approval to be voted at June 7 Meeting

Attendees (assessed from Zoom screen): Parcels, Rossi, Martin, Riordan, Irvine, McAfee, Wang, Perry, Braun, Hutchison, Biswas, Chremos, Griffin, Purciello, Kwansa, Laux, Ali, Kane, Hutchison, White, Hagosky, Tepsuporn, Xiao, Pic, Caplan, Zurakowski, Zide, Kendus, Rechsteiner, Ford, Bell, Healey, Bank, Chan, Safiyah, Davis, Racicot, Lenhoff, Thomas, Botello, Bais, Teplyakov, Okoye, Kerbawy, Daniels, Dobler

Meeting called to order at 3:30

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Dean's Report (see his slides)

- Annual report to Senate was presented by Dean at recent Senate meeting, slides were distributed to Council with the Agenda for this meeting
- Enrollment update
  - "Still running hot"---about 350 students ahead of last year's pace on accepting our offer of admissions (details on slides)
  - For entering students, watch country of origin and consular status to help them understand visa needs. Like to a useful website is in slides.
- Doctoral Hooding Ceremony update
  - Expecting about 250 students, honoring 2020 and 2021 grads
- Strategic plan update.
  - Process continues as planned and previously explained
  - Presentation of several exemplary strategic objectives, to exemplify where the process stands (see slides)
  - Q: Will there be language in the plan about post-docs. A: There are sections where this group will be a focus.
- gradSERU update. graduate Student Experiences at Research Universities---comprehensive, national, biennial survey
  - Last time was 2019, we are using the data now.
  - 2021 survey will be important for local decision, please encourage students to participate
- Appeal: Please serve on Awards Committee
  - Over summer, will ask committee to look at our process.
  - Our Awards are a significant budget, time, and prominence effort---faculty influence need
  - Please contact LaRuth McAfee
- Awards: there was some excess budget, so bestowing some extra one-year awards
  - Will reach out to programs
- A fast track process for new programs has been mapped out. If needed for your effort, contact Mary Martin.
- Vacation policy for grad students is now live.

- Covid vaccine is now required for all students as of Fall 2021. Intl. students can come to US, then contact student health service if needed. UD will recognize any WHO-recognized vaccine. Can come to campus after first dose.
  - Q: Students who need to travel internationally for research must follow CDC. Not always appropriate. Any was to help? A: Contact Health Advisory Committee via VP Riordan's office.
  - Q: Will this info be emailed to international students? A: IFSS (OISS) has already sent some info. Grad College plans a letter on or before June 1 including this.

Update on Committee proposals and formation (Mark Parcels, see his slides for details)

- Online Ed, Data Management and Assessment Committees nearing formation finalization. Plan for first meetings before end of spring

Standing Committee Reports

- Graduate students (Famatta Perry)
  - 2021-22 reps being recruited
  - A new rep position for Biden School is established--expressions of interest welcome
  - Concerns:
    - Increased fees:
    - International students concerns: Some addressed, still outstanding
    - Newark/Lewes disparities: Still outstanding
    - Grad Council mailing list update: Addressed
    - Ombudsman position: still under discussion
    - Vacation policy: Addressed
- ICC (Richard Braun)
  - Bylaws changes as proposed sent out for today's meeting (clean and markup version were provided)
    - Send any comments to Richard and Mark
  - Awaiting June approval at June meeting
- Grad Student Life committee (Amy Griffin, see her slides)
  - Thanks to all members for this year's service
  - Grad student time off policies have been approved and are in effect (see slides for details)
    - Travel outside the US is permitted within the scope of the policies
  - Time provided to Grad Student Ionnis Chremos to address some international student concerns
    - How to provide support to international students?
    - Due to pandemic many students were stuck geographically--either here or abroad.
    - Some changes made it more difficult, including some fees increased (e.g., international student health fees rose by about \$800)
    - Many case where communications from administration deemed not to include international students, adding to feeling of stress

- How can Grad College show appreciation and support for international students? Grad College does a lot, but "sometimes there is confusion and sometimes lack of showcasing." Would like to discuss that topic with Council.
- Q: Are there suggestions you might have?
  - A: Improved communication.
    - We understand that fee support for students (HERF relief) was limited to domestic students by Fed funder, but in Town Hall the international students' issue was never mentioned.
    - Town Halls and efforts to communicate help a lot.
    - Graduate College advocacy for a Town Hall with only intl. students would be a great help.
    - When policy issues become apparent in the news, for OISS to send faster communications to clarify effect could help.
    - Clarity is important. After the anti-Asian violence wave of events, communications from UD left some students feeling left outside the span of support
  - Comments of thanks, including from the Dean.
  - Dean comments: It is understood that the presentation of HERF outcome should have been done better. College is looking for other ways to help (no conclusions at this point). Agree that town halls do help. Hope for continued good lines of communication. College needs to know when things fall short.
  - Chair comment: UD is quick to establish paying relationships with other countries. Should be a way for some funds to flow to help costs of our resident international students. We need some anticipatory revenue planning for international students.
  - Comment: A real case in point about communications was on vaccine. The communications did not focus on the issue of international students. That could have been in the initial communication rather than being in position of dribbling out info later.
  - Dean: we are a multifaceted campus, these issues need real work. Need to be a priority.
- Fellowships and awards (Ruth McAfee, see slides in Chairperson's deck)
  - Decisions on major awards completed
  - Competitive counteroffers successful (12/23 accepted, but used last money than expected---source of some extra temporary support as described by Dean earlier. Had expected to receive more nominations---will be investigating for next year.
  - The extra budget is being funneled into Univ. Grad Scholar Award (master or Phd). No need to renominate, just tell LaRuth if you want someone considered. Her office will also reach out. These are one year awards, given the funding source.
  - Committee members needed for the Awards and Fellowships committee. A summer process is planned to review how practices and process should changed, so committee will be extra-impactful in short run.

- College Liaison report (CHS, Sam Biswas, see his slides)
  - Includes Departments and Programs in Behavioral Health and Nutrition, Kinesiology and Applied Physiology, Medical and Molecular Sciences, School of Nursing, Physical Therapy, Communications Sciences and Disorders, and Epidemiology.
  - 
  - Epidemiology, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Nursing, Medical and molecular sciences, Kinesiology and Applied Physiology, and Behavioral Health and Nutrition. (See slides for distribution of 467 total students).
  - Includes Departments in Physical Therapy, Biomedical, Nursing, KAPP, BHAN, MMSC, Epidemiology, Comm Sci and Disorders
  - College has masters and PhD programs, some are professional based (and pay tuition with no fellowship), while others are research based, with 467 students at the graduate level
  - Over 10 years, about \$500 million in grants and contracts. 5K patients served per year. 2700 undergrad students served. PT program ranked number 1.
  - Challenges: clinical doctoral and master programs don't have much financial aid or fellowship support available, and students often have maxed out their financial aid during undergrad stage. Funding is thus a real issue.
  - Student services is also an issue for clinical and masters students, as they are often off-campus for practicum at traditional hours
  - Recruiting strong minority students is a challenge--pointed funding from Grad College would be a help.
  - Workload, admin support are a challenge, especially due to team taught courses that do not receive credit matched to actual time spent.

Next meeting: Monday June 7 330 to 430 pm. Main agenda to welcome new Councillors and establish new EC. Also to vote on the proposed bylaw changes that are on the table



# Graduate College Council

4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Spring 2021

10 May 2021



# Agenda

## Agenda Items

1. Call to order
2. Secretary's Report – (1 min)
  - a. Approval of agenda
  - b. Approval of minutes from April 2021 meeting
3. Dean's report and questions (Rossi) – (20 min)
  - a. Annual Report to the Faculty Senate
  - b. Graduate Admissions update
  - c. Update on doctoral hooding ceremony
  - d. Strategic plan update
  - e. gradSERU survey
  - f. Update on Covid-19 and Vaccination Issues and Policies, Q&A period
4. Update on Formation of New Standing Committee Proposals – (10 min)
  - a. Graduate Council Committee on DEI
  - b. Advisory Committee on Graduate Online Education
  - c. Graduate Committee on Data Management
5. Standing reports – (5 min)
  - a. Graduate student report – GCG representative
6. Committee reports – (15 min)
  - a. Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee (Richard Braun)
  - b. Graduate Student Life Committee (Amy Griffin): Graduate Student Vacation Policy update
  - c. Awards and Fellowships Committee (LaRuth McAfee)
7. College Liaison Reports – (15 min)
  - a. College of Health Sciences (CHS) Program Report
  - b. Activities across Colleges that relate to Grad College mission
8. New business
  - a. June 7, 3:30 meeting: Review of apportionment, transition of membership
  - b. Any Graduate Council Members may bring an item before council for discussion
9. Adjourn

# Call to Order / Secretary's Report



## Agenda Items

1. Call to order
2. Secretary's Report
  - a. Approval of agenda
  - b. Approval of minutes (from March meeting)

## 3. Dean's Report and Questions

- a. Annual Report to the Faculty Senate
- b. Graduate Admissions update
- c. Update on doctoral hooding ceremony
- d. Strategic plan update
- e. GradSERU survey
- f. Update on Covid-19 and Vaccination Issues and Policies,  
Q&A period



# 4. Update on Committee Proposals

## On the Formation of New Standing Committee Proposals – Mark Parcels (5 min)

### A. Graduate Council Committee on DEI – Status of Committee Formation:

- Palaniappa Krishnan      CANR
- CAS
- Danielle Dixson              CEOE
- Mike Santare                COE
- Cole Galloway                CHS
- Erica Litke                    CEHD
- Kyle Emich                    LCBE
- Jessica Sowa                 Biden School
- Steve Kendus                Graduate College Admin. (website)
- LaRuth McAfee              Graduate College Admin.
- Mark Parcels                 Grad. College Exec. Com. (for set up and charge)

## 4. Update on Committee Proposals

### On the Formation of New Ad Hoc Committees –

#### B. Advisory Committee on Online Education

- George Irvine, PCS
- Nigel Caplan, ELI
- Rachel Klein, CEHD
- Awaiting word from nominees from Lerner and Engineering

#### C. Data Management and Assessment

- Grad College Administrative members:
  - Elizabeth Hagovsky
  - Steve Kendus
  - Bill Bennett
- CTAL member:
  - Matt Trevitt-Smith

## **4. Update on Committee Proposals**

**Plan and timeline for these committees:**

- **DEI committee meeting to be scheduled week of 5/17**
- **Advisory committee meeting to be scheduled in the short term pending an additional 2 faculty members**
- **Data management and assessment committee to be fully formed and scheduling meetings prior to the end of spring semester**

## 5. Standing Reports


a. Graduate student report: –Famatta Perry, Graduate Student, CANR

# Graduate Student Reps

# Current Business

Recruiting New Grad  
Student Reps For  
2021-2022

There is a new  
position for the Biden  
School



# Grad Student Concerns and Issues- 2021

- Increased student fees
- Foreign/International student concerns
- Disparities between the Newark and the Lewes campus
- Grad Council Emailing List Update
- Ombudsman conversation
- Vacation Policy, etc.



## 6. Committee Reports

- Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee (Richard Braun, chair)
- Graduate Student Life Committee (Amy Griffin, chair)
- Awards and Fellowships Committee (LaRuth McAfee, chair)



## 6. Committee Reports

- Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee (Richard Braun, chair)
  1. Latest version of by-laws changes sent out prior to today's meeting
  2. Awaiting final comments and approval from Grad Council (June meeting) or thereafter, depending on level of comments/changes

## 6. Committee Reports

- Graduate Student Life Committee (Amy Griffin, chair)
- International Graduate Student Report – Ioaniss Chremos



## 6. Committee Reports

- Awards and Fellowships Committee (LaRuth McAfee, chair)

# *Update on Nominations Processes for Graduate College Fellowships/Awards*

**LaRuth C. McAfee, Ph.D.**

Senior Assistant Dean, Graduate College

[mcafee@udel.edu](mailto:mcafee@udel.edu)

**Graduate College Council Meeting**

**May 10, 2021**



# *Status of Graduate College Fellowships/Awards*

## **Decisions on major funding awards completed**

- Doctoral Fellowship (goal of 25) – 62 nominees, 25 offers, 25 acceptances
- Dissertation Fellowship (goal of 25) – 59 nominees, 25 offers, 24 acceptances
- Unidel Fellowship (goal of 10-12) – 50 nominees, 21 offers, 10 acceptances
- New Graduate Scholar Awards (goal of 25) – 67 nominees, 30 offers, 24 acceptances
- Graduate Scholar Award Renewals – 29 requests submitted, all approved, one (1) declined, one (1) deferred due to NSF GRFP selection
- Other notes – three previously-selected GSA recipients deferred one semester or full year of funding to 2021-22, one Unidel Fellowship offer this year deferred to start in 2022-23

## **Reviews of Unidel Louise Roselle Collections-based Research Travel Awards completed**

- Five (5) requests, three (3) offers all accepted

## **Requests for Competitive Counteroffers closed**

- 25 requests, 23 offers, 12 acceptances

# Overall Summary for New Awards by Academic Program

	Nominations	Offers
Africana Studies	2	1
Applied Mathematics	2	1
Applied Physiology	3	2
Art History	8	6
Athletic Training	1	0
Bioinformatics Data Science	5	3
Biological Sciences	7	2
Biomechanics & Movement Science	6	2
Biomedical Engineering	8	4
Chemical Engineering	9	2
Chemistry & Biochemistry	15	5
Civil Engineering	5	0
Climatology	4	2
Communication Sciences and Disorders	9	3
Computer Science	4	2
Criminology	2	1
Data Science	1	0
Disaster Science & Management	6	4
Economic Education	2	1
Economics	1	0
Education	8	5
Educational Leadership	1	0
Educational Statistics and Research Methods	2	0
Electrical & Computer Engineering	10	4
Energy & Environmental Policy	1	0
English	8	2
Entomology & Wildlife Ecology	1	1
Fashion & Apparel Studies	1	0
Financial Services Analytics	2	0
Fine Arts	3	1

	Nominations	Offers
Geography	6	2
Geological Sciences	4	3
Health Behavior Science and Promotion	1	1
History	3	2
Human Development & Family Sciences	2	1
Linguistics	8	3
Marine Policy	1	1
Marine Studies	3	2
Marine Studies, Water Science & Policy	2	1
Materials Science & Engineering	9	3
Mathematics	2	0
Mechanical Engineering	9	3
Medical Sciences	2	0
Microbiology	1	0
MPH Public Health	1	1
MPP Public Policy	2	0
Music	2	2
Nursing Science	1	0
Oceanography	2	1
Physical Therapy	3	2
Physics	2	2
Plant & Soil Sciences	5	1
Political Science & International Relations	8	5
Preservation Studies	2	2
Psychological & Brain Sciences	10	3
School Psychology	2	0
Sociology	3	1
Urban Affairs & Public Policy	4	1
Water Science & Policy	2	0

# Overall Summaries for New Awards by Demographic Group

## All New Fellowships/Awards:

	Nominees	Offers	STEM Noms	STEM Offers
American Indian	2	1	1	1
Asian American	9	4	7	2
Black/African American	40	20	14	5
Hispanic/Latinx	17	9	12	6
Multiethnic	11	3	5	0
International	68	22	41	13
Unknown	6	2	2	1
White	85	36	53	21
URM	69	33	31	12
Female	138	62	71	28
Total	238	97	135	49

## New Graduate Scholar Awards:

	Nominees	Offers	STEM Noms	STEM Offers
First-generation college student	23	11	16	6
Member of racial or ethnic group historically underrepresented	54	25	21	8
Documented disability or chronic medical condition	6	3	1	0
Evidence of financial need	21	8	7	3
Unexpected extenuating personal circumstances	6	2	2	0
Other	6	1	4	1

# Summaries for Graduate Scholar Award Renewal

## Renewal Requests by Program:

	Nominations
Animal & Food Science	1
Biological Sciences	5
Biomedical Engineering	3
Chemistry & Biochemistry	3
Civil Engineering	1
Disaster Science & Management	1
Education	2
Educational Statistics & Research Methods	2
English	2
Entomology & Wildlife Ecology	1
Geological Sciences	1
Human Development & Family Sciences	1
Marine Studies	1
Mechanical Engineering	1
Psychology	1
School Psychology	1
Sociology	1
Urban Affairs & Public Policy	1

## Renewal Requests by Demographic/Identity:

	All	STEM
Asian American	1	1
Black/African American	7	1
Hispanic/Latinx	6	2
Multiethnic	4	3
White	11	10
URM	17	6
Female	24	13
First-generation college student	13	8
Documented disability or chronic medical condition	1	1
Evidence of financial need	9	5
Unexpected extenuating personal circumstances	7	3
Other	2	1
Total	29	19



# Summaries for Competitive Counteroffers

## By Program:

	Nominees	Acceptances
Art History	2	2
Bioinformatics Data Science	1	0
Chemical Engineering	1	1
Chemistry & Biochemistry	1	0
Civil Engineering	2	2
Communication	2	1
Doctorate of Physical Therapy	1	0
Electrical & Computer Engineering	1	0
English	2	0
Fine Arts	2	2
Geography	1	0
Kinesiology & Applied Physiology	1	1
Oceanography	1	0
Political Science & International Relations	3	1
Preservation Studies	1	1
Psychological & Brain Sciences	3	1

## By Demographic Group:

	Nominees	STEM Noms	Acceptances	STEM Accepts
Asian American	1	0	0	0
Black/African American	2	0	1	0
Hispanic/Latinx	1	1	1	1
International	6	1	5	2
White	14	7	5	1
URM	2	0	2	1
Female	13	3	7	1
Total	23	8	12	4

# *New Funding Opportunity!*

## **Nominations will reopen this week for new University Graduate Scholar Awards**

- <https://grad.udel.edu/graduate-community-portal/faculty/ud-graduate-scholar-award/>
- Nomination deadline of June 1<sup>st</sup>
- Decisions announced week of June 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Programs that wish to have us consider a previously-nominated student who was not selected should let me know (no additional documents needed unless you want to update something)

**Eligibility criteria the same as before**

**Awards will be for one year with no renewal opportunity**

# *Committee Members Needed!*

**Graduate College Council Awards & Fellowships Committee developed to make recommendations on Graduate College funding competitions/practices**

## **Potential topics for committee to discuss:**

- Timelines – did we take nominations too early this year?
- Requirements/format, importance of components (e.g., rubrics)
- Considerations of diversity – race/ethnicity, sex, disciplines, etc.
- Guidance/resources that would be helpful for programs
- How to handle prospective vs. continuing vs. 4+1/3+2 eligibility for Graduate Scholar Awards

**Committee also provides support for identifying faculty reviewers**

# 7. College Liaison Reports

- a. College Program Reports:
  - College of Health Sciences (Sam Biswas)
  
- b. Activities across Colleges that relate to Grad College mission

## 9. Closing Business

### Timing of next meeting

- Monday, June 7, 3:30 – 4:30 PM
  
- Adjournment

# Graduate College Council

Dean's Remarks  
10 May 2021

# Annual report to the Faculty Senate

Questions?

## The Graduate College

Annual Report to the University of Delaware Faculty Senate

May 2021

Louis F Rossi  
Dean of the Graduate College

### Introduction

The Graduate College was created in 2019 to fill gaps in the needs of our graduate students and postdocs and to pursue new opportunities for graduate education at the University of Delaware. The Graduate College is still growing into its new role and has achieved a number of objectives despite the pandemic and while absorbing the same budget cuts and layoffs as other units on campus. It is important to note that Professional and Continuing Education is a part of the Graduate College as well, and many elements of that mission, especially the delivery of online learning, overlap with graduate education. This report summarizes Graduate College activities over the last academic year.

### Our mission, our vision and strategic planning

In the year leading up to the search for the inaugural Dean, Interim Dean Doren completed crucial hiring to build out the Graduate College team to achieve elements of its core mission, including recruitment, retention, professional development and administration of our graduate programs. He also established important relationships with colleges and other units on campus. Thanks to his efforts, many key resources were in place for the Graduate College to advance graduate education at the University of Delaware.

Early in the Fall semester, the Graduate College staff in collaboration with the Graduate College Council, the representative body for graduate education, examined and revised the Graduate College mission and vision statement to give it more focus.

### Our mission

The mission of the Graduate College is to achieve excellence in graduate education and graduate research, scholarship and creative expression at the University of Delaware. In doing so, the Graduate College will elevate the stature of our graduate programs nationally and

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# Update: Application trends (May 4)

Graduate Admissions Year-Over-Year Report  
 Highlight table by college  
 Calendar Year 2021 Applications as of 5/4/2021  
 Terms: Fall & Summer

Applied Academic Group	Applied Academic ..	Applied		Admitted		Awaiting Decision
		Total	%	Accepted	Awaiting Response	Total
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>5,162</b>		<b>2,099</b>		<b>1,192</b>
		4,376		1,880		841
		+18%		+12%		+42%
						279
						-46%
						+21%
Agriculture & Nat Resources	AG	165		89		60
		176		81		33
		-6%		+10%		+82%
						13
						-57%
						56
						-26%
Arts and Sciences	AS	1,728		524		288
		1,257		522		239
		+37%		+0%		+21%
						45
						-52%
						264
						169
						+56%
Business and Economics	BE	389		201		133
		480		229		93
		-19%		-12%		+43%
						37
						-66%
						114
						106
						+8%
Earth, Ocean, and Environment	MS	181		59		37
		159		52		25
		+14%		+13%		+48%
						3
						-73%
						85
						77
						+10%
Education & Human Development	EH	305		175		112
		252		141		92
		+21%		+24%		+22%
						26
						-4%
						51
						55
						-7%
Engineering	EG	1,325		588		278
		1,258		505		155
		+5%		+16%		+79%
						102
						-45%
						396
						322
						+23%
Health Sciences	HN	778		341		217
		646		273		163
		+20%		+25%		+33%
						26
						-4%
						107
						137
						-22%
Public Policy & Administration	PA	291		122		67
		148		77		41
		+97%		+58%		+63%
						27
						0%
						85
						16
						+431%

**Sept 1 2020: 1312**



# Update: Application trends (May 4)

Graduate Admissions Year-Over-Year Report  
 Highlight table by plan type/citizenship  
 Calendar Year 2021 Applications as of 5/4/2021  
 Terms: Fall & Summer

Applied Academic Plan Type Code	US			International		
	Applied	Admitted		Applied	Admitted	
		Total	Accepted		Total	Accepted
Grand Total	3,028 2,378 +27%	1,354 1,163 +16%	732 642 +14%	2,134 1,998 +7%	745 717 +4%	460 199 +131%
Certificate	6 12 -50%	3 8 -63%	2 5 -60%	1 2 -50%	0 1 -100%	0 1 -100%
Certificate - Online	37 55 -33%	11 15 -27%	10 9 +11%	0 3 -100%	0 1 -100%	0 0 0%
Doctoral Degree	1,645 1,242 +32%	599 593 +1%	280 289 -3%	1,270 1,102 +15%	375 312 +20%	216 98 +120%
Master's Degree	1,212 946 +28%	673 485 +39%	395 292 +35%	852 884 -4%	362 398 -9%	239 98 +144%
Master's Degree - Online	127 122 +4%	68 62 +10%	45 47 -4%	9 5 +80%	6 3 +100%	3 0 +300%

Let's keep an eye on the country of origin and consular status for your international students. ISSS is there to help.



<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15KbRghR0pZKvxgdb1hH064H4urKSI6GJoFBM0MXDRhs/edit#gid=0>

# Update: Application trends (May 4)

Graduate Admissions Year-Over-Year Report

Highlight table by plan type/URM status

US Citizens/Permanent Residents only

Calendar Year 2021 Applications as of 5/4/2021

Terms: Fall & Summer

Applied Academic Plan Type Code	Applied	URM		Non-URM or not reported		
		Admitted		Applied	Admitted	
		Total	Accepted		Total	Accepted
Grand Total	529 395 +34%	236 184 +28%	134 112 +20%	2,499 1,983 +26%	1,118 979 +14%	598 530 +13%
Certificate	4 4 0%	2 2 0%	2 0 +200%	2 8 -75%	1 6 -83%	0 5 -100%
Certificate - Online	8 7 +14%	3 1 +200%	2 1 +100%	29 48 -40%	8 14 -43%	8 8 0%
Doctoral Degree	279 194 +44%	105 81 +30%	45 45 0%	1,366 1,048 +30%	494 512 -4%	235 244 -4%
Master's Degree	217 167 +30%	117 92 +27%	78 60 +30%	995 779 +28%	556 393 +41%	317 232 +37%
Master's Degree - Online	21 23 -9%	9 8 +13%	7 6 +17%	106 99 +7%	59 54 +9%	38 41 -7%

# Doctoral Hooding Update



We plan to have a Doctoral Hooding Ceremony this year.\*

**Who:** All PhD recipients from 2020 and 2021. Over 250 students have signed up already. Each student can bring two guests. More tickets will be available on May 14.

**When:** May 27th at 4:00 pm. (Advisers, be there at 3:00.)

**Where:** The Stadium.

**How:** Students will be hooded in a manner with which they and their advisor are most comfortable.

<https://commencement.udel.edu>

\* Conditions permitting.

# Strategic Planning Update

## Operational excellence

Objective: The Graduate College will curate and share useful and empowering data from the Graduate College to program directors, chairs and deans about graduate students and graduate education to our stakeholders.

Objective: The Graduate College will assess and continually improve programs and policies designed to achieve our objectives.

Objective: We will work collaboratively with other colleges and units in the interests of the University of Delaware to achieve the objectives of the Graduate College.

# Strategic Planning Update

*The Graduate College will enhance graduate experiences by providing opportunities for **professional development** so that graduate students and postdocs can achieve their career aspirations.*

Objective: The UD Graduate College, in collaboration with partners from within and outside the institution, will build data- and outcome-driven, integrated and holistic graduate professional development resources that help them thrive during their time on campus and beyond. Upon completing their training at UD, our students will have acquired the following competencies:

- Leadership & Management
- Effective Communication
- Teaching & Mentoring
- Wellbeing & Personal Growth
- Career Navigation

# Strategic Planning Update

*The Graduate College will enhance graduate experiences by providing opportunities for **professional development** so that graduate students and postdocs can achieve their career aspirations.*

Objective: The Graduate College will inspire, educate and empower graduate students and postdocs in their journey to the array of career possibilities.

# Strategic plan update

*The Graduate College will enhance graduate experiences by building a welcoming, respectful, strong, diverse and resilient **graduate community**.*

Objective: The Graduate College will be accessible and attentive to the needs of our graduate students.

Objective: The Graduate College will develop a graduate culture that values differences with the following properties.

- Welcomes and transitions new students to the University of Delaware.
- Develops traditions that make the UD graduate experience cohesive and empathetic.
- Fosters positive cross-racial and cross-cultural interactions and experiences.
- Has focused programs that support traditionally marginalized populations.

Objective: The Graduate College will provide professional support for graduate operations while welcoming student participation and involvement in graduate life.

# Strategic plan update

*The Graduate College will enhance graduate experiences by building a welcoming, respectful, strong, diverse and resilient **graduate community**.*

Objective: The Graduate College will create an environment in which students can grow and succeed along multiple personal and professional dimensions.

- Articulates clearly how basic needs are met including personal finances, housing, transportation, healthcare, support for families etc.
- Creates opportunities for healthy social and recreational activity.



# gradSERU update

gradSERU = graduate Student Experiences at Research Universities.

- Comprehensive, multi-university, national survey
- Biannual
- We are starting to use 2019 data to inform some decisions, and we will be using 2021 data to inform decision making
- 2019 has a 25% response rate
- **Please encourage your students to participate**

# Appeal: Awards committee

- We give out a substantial number of competitive fellowships every year (Doctoral, Dissertation, Graduate Scholars, Unidel Graduate Fellowships).
- They advance graduate education by incentivizing what we value (opportunity, quality, diversity, supportive units).
- We would like the awards committee to examine the RFN, nomination procedure and rubrics. Six meetings over the summer. Work completed in Sept 2021. Maximum one representative from each college (or portfolio in CAS).
- Please consider serving or nominating a talented person to serve. Contact LaRuth (mcafee@udel.edu).

# Other updates

- New Graduate Scholar Awards round (one year only).
- Fast track for new programs (see Mary).
- Grant writing workshop opportunity closes on May 17th.
- Vacation policy...

# Update: COVID 19

- Vaccination is required of all incoming students.
- Vaccines are not required for air travel at this time. SHS can assist international students who were unable to be vaccinated before coming to UD.
- UD will recognize any WHO approved vaccine.
- Students who were not able to be vaccinated prior to departure can start the semester on campus while awaiting their second dose.

Ground truth:

<https://coronavirus.delaware.gov/vaccine/>

<https://www.udel.edu/home/coronavirus/>

<https://www.udel.edu/home/coronavirus/return/faq/#vaccinations>

<https://www.udel.edu/academics/global/news/coronavirus/#health>

# Questions?



# Graduate Student Life Committee Report

- Time-off policy has been approved and is now in effect. Thanks everyone for your feedback and support!
  - Students supported on TA or GA: not eligible for time-off beyond when the University is officially closed
  - Students supported on RA: minimum of two weeks vacation.
  - For students whose support is divided between RA and TA, the minimum vacation time is prorated
  - Note that international students are allowed to travel outside of the US and still be paid their stipend.
  - Sick leave - 40 hours of sick leave regardless of source of support. Will require a physician's note if absence is more than 4 days.
- Support of international students
  - Ioannis Chremos, Grad student from mechanical engineering and GSG senator.

# Overview of Graduate Study in the College of Health Sciences

University of Delaware

Presentation to the Graduate College Council, May 10, 2021

**Dr. Sam Biswas,  
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# Structure: Departments and Programs

- Behavioral Health & Nutrition (BHAN)
- Kinesiology & Applied Physiology (KAAP)
- Medical & Molecular Sciences (MMSC)
- School of Nursing
- Physical Therapy (PT)
- Communication Sciences & Disorders
- Epidemiology



# Structure: Graduate Programs and Students (N=467)

Department/ Program	PhD Program(s)	Master's Program(s)	Other (e.g., post- bac/Master's certs)	Professional MS or PhD
Behavioral Health & Nutrition	2	2	2	1
Kinesiology & Applied Physiology	2	4	0	1
Medical and Molecular Sciences	1	1	1	2
School of Nursing	2	1	1	1
Physical Therapy	1	0	0	1
Communication Sciences & Disorders	1	1	0	
Epidemiology	1	1	0	

DEPARTMENT	ENROLLMENT				
	PHD	Masters	Professional Masters	Professional Doctorate	TOTAL
PHYSICAL THERAPY	24	0		DPT-124	148
BIOMECHANICS (BMS-PT)	24				24
NURSING	14		MSN-PM CERTIFICATE 22 8	DNP-36	80
KAAP - APP PHYSIOLOGY	18	MS EX SC 3	CLIN EX PHYS 10		31
BIOMECHANICS (BMS-KAAP)	24				24
BHAN	6	8	24		38
MMSC	12	11	13		36
EPIDEMIOLOGY		29			29
COMM SCI & DISORDER	9		48		57
				CHS TOTAL	467



# Contextual Factors

## FACTS & FIGURES

From game-changing research by UD faculty to businesses discovering the many benefits of partnering with us on the STAR Campus, the College of Health Sciences is driving sustainable economic change in Delaware.

**\$500M**

Of Business and  
Infrastructure investment

**5,259**

Patients Served  
Annually

**28,891**

Unique Clinical  
Visits FYE '18

**382%**

Growth in Research  
Expenditures (FY10-17)

**2,696**

Undergraduate  
Students

**501**

Graduate  
Students

**15**

Patents  
(FY10-17)

**#1**

Physical Therapy  
Program

# Graduate Student Training

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- Interdisciplinary training
- Laboratory, clinical and practicum-based experiences and learning



# Challenges: Financial Aid and Other Services

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- Clinical/ professional graduate programs (i.e., DPT) do not necessarily follow the 9-month academic calendar
- Often these students are “Private Payers” and not recipients of assistantships like research PhDs
  - financial aid office has difficulty meeting the needs of these students because they may not qualify
- Student services (counseling center, parking office, etc.) have limited non-traditional hours

# Challenges: Workload and Administrative Support

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- Team-teaching interdisciplinary courses can be difficult to accurately determine workload allocation
- Mentorship model; allocation of workload for mentoring grad students can be hard to standardize
- Maintaining clinical and community placements is a huge administrative burden
- Recruitment of quality graduate students and under-represented minorities present challenges to every department



