GCC - 09.16.2024 - Meeting Minutes (Naylor)

1. Welcome
2. Dean’s Report
   1. Brief overview of GCC and thanks of serving
   2. Leadership changes
      1. CEHD, Rena Hallam, interim Dean
      2. COE Jaime Phillips, interim Dean
      3. Research Office Miguel Garcia-Diaz Vice President for Research
   3. Enrollments F24
      1. Doctoral enrollments: 2143 (-3 from Fall 2023, -50 from Fall 2022)
      2. Master’s enrollments: 2045 (-84 from Fall 2023, -83 from Fall 2022)
   4. Fall Update
      1. Stipends: Up to $24,500/9 months. Heading for $27,000/9 months.
      2. Health Insurance - 4.6% increase
      3. Fees: $5 increase to both the student center fee ($124 per semester) and the wellbeing fee ($357 per semester). Also being levied on part-time students; but not on online only students
      4. Housing: year 2, fully subscribed
   5. Operation Rudy
      1. Budget cuts
         1. Reductions across whole portfolio; impacting travel funding; diversity programming; GSO supplemental requests; recruiting; marketing
         2. Using reserves for one time investment in efficiency or progress
         3. Rebuilding staffing of College around admissions–will offer new trainings in SLATE
3. Election of new GCC chair (Lindsay Naylor)
4. Introduction and Election of ExComm
   1. Adil Bentahar\* (sabbatical fall 2024)
   2. John Slate
   3. Siyan Wong
   4. Ho Ming Chow
   5. Teya Rutherford
   6. Jeff Buler
5. Purpose and mission of the GCC (Lou)
   1. Shared governance for the College
      1. Interdisciplinary programs
      2. Campus conditions for students
      3. Partnership with staff
6. Standing committees (Sam)
7. Graduate student life committee (3 faculty; 3 grad students): makes recommendations on the care and support of post-doctoral, graduate and professional students; advise the Dean on rules and regulations of importance; bring issues to the faculty senate. Recently addressed problems of abuse of graduate student labor and verbal abuse–resulted in COE developing a graduate student bill of rights to be a model to be adopted across the university.
8. Interdisciplinary curriculum committee: assesses curriculum; vetting procedure prior to faculty senate review; reviews non-degree certificate programs
9. (not standing though bylaws); the DEI committee–reformed as CARES Working Group: improving equity in the application process, restructuring fees: (Ben) English department determining service workload, TBA leadership on this group

7. Previous and ad hoc committees (Sam)

1. Advisory Committee on On-line education (2019-2021) - review online programs
2. Graduate Student Awards Committee (annually) - to recognize student success
3. Bylaws Revisions Committee (2024) - making adjustments that will go to faculty senate in 2024

8. Bylaws (Lou)

1. Have identified operational flaws
2. Group is Lou + past chairs
3. Plan to get revisions to Excomm soon; to GCC in fall; and then to faculty senate

9. Grad Students Report

1. No report at this time

10. Thanks to Sam for his service

11. Q&A with Lou

1. Graduate travel changes
   1. usually budget $150,000–taking it down to about $100,000
   2. Demand is much higher and have dipped into reserves in the past because we want students to be able to go to conferences and present papers
   3. We will need to dip into philanthropy here–perhaps our graduate student alumni; currently putting together a campaign, we think they will remember the importance of that travel.
   4. Unless there are budget changes we will need to keep the restrictions; will reassess in January/February
2. Changes to funds, access to programs/software licenses, access to zoom; is there any way we can better communicate
   1. Always want to communicate clearly; we were not aware of the zoom changes
      1. Creates difficulty for TAs (running a lab on zoom and it’s restricted to 45 minutes) and for RAs hosting research meetings
3. Is the number of fellowships changed this year?
   1. We are planning to make a similar number of awards this year as last year