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University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, February 13, 2020

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Graduate Council Minutes
February 13, 2020
Lang 115

Present: Radhi Al-Mabuk, Sydney Cindrich, Jason Cox, Dale Cyphert, Darcie Davis Gage, Amy Igou, Heather Jeronimo, Gabriela Olivares, Amy Petersen, Gayle Pohl, Leila Rod-Welch, Nicholas Schwab, Susie Schwieger, Jennifer Waldron, Bill Wood

The meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m.

Gayle Pohl asked for a motion to move the December minutes. Amy Igou moved the motion. Darcie Davis-Gage seconded the motion. The motion passed. One abstention.

1. Welcome

2. Graduate Council Reports/Announcements

- a. Susie Schwieger, Director of Graduate Student Life, announced the 13th Annual Graduate Student Symposium will be held on April 7, 2020 from 11 am-4 pm in the Maucker Union. The Poster Presentation category will be from 11 am-1 pm, the Creative Performance Category will be from 12 pm-2 pm, and the Oral Presentations will be from 1 pm-4 pm.
- b. Jennifer Waldron, Dean of the Graduate College
 - i. Preparing for a Diverse Workforce Panel had an attendance of about 50 students and made the second page of the *Northern Iowan* newspaper.
 - ii. Dean Waldron discussed the transitions happening in the Graduate College:
 1. The Graduate College was able to hire Jason Cox as Graduate Admissions Coordinator. Jason is in the process of familiarizing himself with GARP and the basics of the graduate departments.
 2. Lisa Steimel left the institution. Diego Saavadra has been hired for 30 hours a week to fill in that position through the end of May. He will keep the Graduate College afloat during the allocation cycle and look at the processes for best efficiency.
 - iii. The Graduate Faculty Roster will be sent out so faculty know if they have graduate faculty status. If they do not, this will be an invitation to do so. A representative for the College of Business Administration volunteered to work on the Graduate College faculty list to make it into a similar format as the general faculty list with the new list being organized by department and by college. This will be easier for elections for senate chairs. After the list is complete, the Graduate College can then determine what information is needed in order to keep that list organized.
- c. Gabriela Olivares, Associate Dean of the Graduate College
 - i. Associate Dean Olivares announced that the student award committee selected winners in every category.
- d. Darcie Davis-Gage

- i. Darcie Davis-Gage announced that there will be two Brown Bag Lectures coming up. There will be one on implicit bias and graduate admissions on March 30th. There will be another one in April on yoga and mental health.

3. New Business

- a. Day at the Capitol
 - i. The Day at the Capitol will be held on Monday, February 17th. Jason Cox and Rubina Chowdhury will be representing the Graduate College.
- b. Catalog Concern
 - i. Business College Admissions
 - 1. Dean Waldron sought advice from the Graduate Council regarding two students who have Benke Certificates. The Benke Certificate is equivalent to 4 years of undergraduate study, but not necessarily equivalent to a bachelor's degree. The language in the catalog says that students need a bachelor's degree from an accredited university to be admitted into a master's program. There is a clause that exceptions may be made by the Graduate Dean. Based off conversations within the Graduate Council, Dean Waldron has obtained recommendations on how to handle the two cases.
 - 2. In the next Graduate Council meeting, it will be discussed how to handle future admissions to the program and Benke Certificates.
- c. Graduate Council Chair Pohl emphasized that members should bring their agenda items to the council since it is faculty driven as well.

Reminder: Next meeting will be March 12th, 2020

The meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sydney Cindrich
Graduate Council Secretary