Graduate Council Meeting Minutes  
September 24, 2020

Present: Karen Tracey, Natalie Ita, Darcie Davis-Gage, Joan Bessman Taylor, Amy Igou, Amy Petersen, Gabriela Olivares, Nicholas Schwab, Angela Pratesi, Jennifer Waldron, Arti Mann, Heather Gallivan, Tabitha Decker, Gayle Pohl, Eran Hanke, Shoshanna Coon

I. Welcome and approval of minutes from last meeting: Joan welcomed all the members present.

II. Announcements
   a. Please identify alternates for representation on this Council

III. Updates from Dean Waldron and/or Associate Dean Olivares:
   a. Dean Waldron made the following announcements:
      i. First graduate quarter meetings for the year. 20 were present and communicated about Graduate Council initiatives.
      ii. Darcy is working with IT and faculty senate on obtaining a roster with faculty senate
      iii. Addendum is going out with the GA offer letters to account for the shorter academic semester. This will be sent Monday 9/28.
      iv. TAGS event occurred 9/22
      v. Diversity Advancement Awards have been broadened in terms of eligible students and is under review by other departments. There are new enticements and incentives in the award to increase recruitment. Hopefully we have two recipients for the first year and four students in the future years. Will also include a transition stipend.
   b. Dean Olivares had no updates at this time.

IV. Chair of the Graduate Faculty update:
   a. Darcie Davis-Gage: Reported the faculty roster is making progress. She also attended a meeting involving midwest graduate schools. Darcie attended and can confirm UNI’s challenges are similar to other midwest graduate schools
   b. There are technical issues with graduate faculty nominations link

V. Discussion and formation of subcommittees
   a. Darcie, Amy and Joan met to determine standing committees. Council members updated the following form. Joan discussed the need to review the Grad Council constitution and by-laws. There may be a need for more guidance on policies in the by-laws.
   https://docs.google.com/document/d/1obxHqpn4XsM-zc_7qm-KfEhY3UZb6m_0rndz8Re7bAE/edit
   b. Joan invited members to sign up for standing committees and add new initiatives
   c. Joan has mentioned each member is recommended to be on a standing committee.
   d. Next meeting Joan will assign members to subcommittees if needed. Small group meetings will occur in breakouts.

VI. Future meeting schedule
a. Subcommittees will be able to meet with some flexibility
b. Regular meetings will occur bi-weekly on Thursdays

Next meeting October 8, 2020.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:22 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Natalie Ita
Graduate Council Secretary