

10-8-2020

University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, October 8, 2020

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Recommended Citation

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Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2020

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

I. Welcome and approval of minutes from last meeting

II. Announcements

III. Updates from Dean Waldron and Associate Dean Olivares:

- a. Dean Waldron made the following announcements:
 - i. President Trump made an executive order a couple weeks ago regarding diversity and inclusion training. Our campus is beginning to examine how the executive order will impact UNI and its compliance with the order. This will impact the initiatives that the Graduate College is working on.
 - ii. 14 students have expressed interest in the affinity groups
 - iii. Diversity book read has begun: How to be an Anti-racist
 - iv. Connecting with the CME to bring the Countdown to Graduate School program to encourage underrepresented populations to attend graduate school
 - v. Planning for literature review and writing assistance programs for December and January are underway
- b. Dean Waldron spoke on Associate Dean Olivares' behalf:
 - i. Announcement about Graduate Curriculum committee – adjusting an error
 - ii. Amy and Gabi are working with the registrar's office on their project (renewal policy)
 - iii. The Awards committee needs to be in operation
 1. 2 submissions so far for dissertation award, 1 for thesis

IV. Chair of the Graduate Faculty update:

- a. Reminded all to attend the fall faculty meeting on October 19th. She emphasized that we want to represent the Graduate Faculty well.
- b. In lieu of Brown Bag lectures, workshops for graduate level faculty may be implemented; more information is forthcoming. There is graduate faculty now on the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

V. Diego and Jason presented a data discussion on the Graduate College admission, enrollment, and funding opportunities.

- a. Able to display enrollment diversity for select programs (right now MBA has the most international students)
- b. Able to show the programs that have the most students and consistency with explanations as to why (Speech-Language Pathology showing the highest enrollment)
- c. Jason will look into developing data displaying the range of countries UNI international students come from.
- d. Able to display data on graduate funding by departments and enrollment by year displaying trends. COVID-19 has impacted these numbers.

- e. It was discussed that the Board of Regents makes final decisions regarding funding for distance learning students.

VI. Programs in the Academic Catalog

- a. Dean Waldron stated the catalog will be updated in November. There are several programs that are suspended and need to be clarified as to whether or not they will be terminated. The Graduate College will be reaching out to departments for clarification. This is a notification..

VII. Update on Summer Work

- a. Darcie addressed ad hoc committees. They are in the process of working with summer committee members to gauge interests in participating further. More updates to come.

VII. Standing Committee Discussion

- a. Joan reviewed the subcommittee and its corresponding members and encouraged involvement
- b. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1obxHqpn4XsM-zc_7gm-KfEhY3UZb6m_0rndz8Re7bAE/edit

VIII. Communication Procedure Review

- a. Joan invited members to bring forward any departmental concerns they have.

Next meeting October 22, 2020.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Ita

Graduate Council Secretary