

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

THE GRADUATE COUNCIL- MEETING MINUTES

March 27, 2023

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

PLACE: Zoom / Couper Administration, AD-148

PRESIDING: Gretchen Mahler, Interim Dean of the Graduate School

MEMBERS: Christopher Bartlette, Paul Chiarot, Hiroki Sayama, Yetrib Hathout Yvonne Johnston, Jeroen Gerritis, Ann Fronczek, KarenBeth Bohan, Norah Henry, Jeremy Blackburn, Jeff Pietras, Pamela Stewart Fahs, Andreas Pape, Joshua Reno, Suzanne McLeod, Bogum Yoon, Nicole Fenty, Rory Eckardt, Thomas Powell

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS: Junghyun Cho, Jillian Sandy, Ellen Tilden

EXCUSED/ABSENT: Patrick Madden, Nicole Rouhana, Danielle Dunne, Nathan Tumey, Niyazi Bodu, Michael Jacobson, Carl Lipo, Scott Craver, Yongabi Ngoh, Kristina Marty, GSO President

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Dean Mahler called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

II. Minutes from the February 27, 2023 meeting

The minutes from the February 27, 2023 meeting were approved as written. Yvonne Johnston made the motion and Hiroki Sayama seconded the motion. All were in favor to approve the minutes and none opposed.

III. New Business

- Master's vs. Doctoral pay scale-
 - Master's students are paid less than Doctoral for the same job
 - Master's stipends are not set at the university level
 - Raise awareness with your department, department or college funds can be used to increase stipend levels
 - Student can't be paid less than they were in past years
 - Doctoral stipend level was set in 2016 in the 75th percentile

IV. Committees

Academic Standards Committee – The committee met on March 6, 2023

- Committee has finished the Graduate handbook template for graduate programs
- Every department should have one and this is a guide to create one
 - Each section has recommendations of what should be included
 - What to include is a policy your department has
 - Recommendation is a policy already in place
 - Links have been included for official policies
 - Should be available on the website for every student
 - Keeping copies of old handbooks for continuing students as you update is best practice
 - All edits suggested in February have been made
- The Graduate School will post the template on the website
- Present to Grad Directors' at the meeting in April
- Jeff Pietras made a motion to approve the handbook template and Hiroki Sayama seconded the motion. All in favor to approve the handbook template and none opposed
- Non-matriculated graduate student policies
 - To consider lowering the number of credits taken before signing the life-long learner contract
 - Currently 12 non-matric credits can be counted toward a degree and 8 credits toward certificate
 - A lifelong learner contract is signed at 12 credits, so some credits may not be counted toward a certificate
 - Academic Standard Committee recommends that students sign the lifelong learner contract after taking six non-matric credits
 - Change the life-long learner contracts
 - Approved by the subcommittee- no motion – all in favor to approve the policy change and none opposed
- Non-tenured track faculty to service on dissertation committee 3-Years
 - Approved by subcommittee, Dr. Miroff can service on dissertation committee and serve as a master's primary advisor for 3-years
 - Gretchen Mahler called to a vote all in favor and none opposed
 - Dr. Miroff was approved and will get communication from the Graduate School

Diversity Committee - The committee met on March 20, 2023

- 2nd round Clark Fellowships
- 10 offers being made for the Clark Fellowships
 - 30 nominations total in the second round

Professional Development Committee - The committee met on March 22, 2023

- Professional development series for humanities graduate students
 - David Sterling Brown, a former Binghamton University professor in the English Department now at TrinityCollege
 - Topics
 - Developing Your Talent, Developing Your Career: The Tools for Success
 - Take the staplers and run”: Navigating Institutions for Personal Growth
 - Your Silence Will Not Protect You”: Using Your Education to Shape and Shake Things Up
 - Business Needs Humanities; Humanities Need Business
 - DIY Digital: Sounding Out a Space of One’s Own
 - Transforming Where You Are
 - Maximizing Your PhD Skillset: Be(com)ing Agents of Change
 - Held on Zoom
 - Share with any graduate students who might be interested

Budget and Grievance Committee – This committee has not met yet.

V. New Business

- Graduate Council member ballots will go out in the next couple weeks
 - Due to change in by-laws two years ago
 - Please vote and encourage colleagues to vote

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. Yvonne Johnston made the motion and Ann Fronczek seconded the motion. All in favor to adjourn the meeting and none opposed.

Minutes recorded by Nicole Smith
Administrative Assistant to the Dean