

## **Graduate Council Meeting**

Wednesday, September 4, 2024 ~ 3:30 – 4:30 pm  
VIA Zoom

### **MINUTES**

**PRESIDING:** Terrence Deak, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

**STAFF:** Andreas Pape, Courtney Ignarri, Ellen Tilden, Erica Sausner, Ann Marie Kellogg (recorder)

**PRESENT:** Pegor Aynajian, Sharon Bryant, Brad Cannon, Norah Henry, Loretta Mason-Williams, Vladimir Nikulin, Steven Schwartz, Tao Zhang, Yvonne Johnston, Jacqueline McGinley, Suzanne McLeod, Nicole Rouhana, David Werner, Joshua Reno, Sarah Wexler, Yakubu Alhassan Zakaria, Michael Jacobson, Judith Deluca, Matt McConn, Jillian Sandy, Nicole Sirju-Johnson

**ABSENT:** Kyoung-Don Kang, Sungdai Cho, Yetrib Hathout, Jobial Alex, Anjani Praneet Meruvu, Niyazi Bodur, Junghyun Cho, Pamela Stewart Fahs, Carl Lipo

Call to Order:

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

#### **1. Minutes of Meeting on April 22, 2024**

Tabled to the next meeting.

#### **2. Welcome and Plans for the Graduate School**

##### **a. Introduction of staff:**

- **Andreas Pape, Associate Dean of the Graduate School**
- **Courtney Ignarri, Assistant Dean for Program Review**
- **Ellen Tilden, Associate Director for Academic and Graduate Student Affairs**
- **Erica Sausner, Professional Development Specialist**
- **Yongabi Ngoh, Assistant Director of Graduate School Operations**
- **Ann Marie Kellogg, Executive Assistant to the Vice Provost and Dean**

Dr. Deak started as vice provost and dean of the Graduate School on August 1. He has been a faculty member at Binghamton University since 2001 serving in a number of capacities. He is excited for this new role leading the Graduate School.

Dr. Deak introduced the staff in the Graduate school and briefly described their responsibilities. The Assistant Dean for Program Review and Professional Development Specialist positions are newly created positions that were funded through a Roadmap proposal.

Dr. Deak shared his vision for the Graduate School going forward, which will focus on growing and expanding graduate programs, with an emphasis on doctoral programs.

Dr. Deak thanked the members of the committee for serving on Graduate Council. The council is an integral part of the Graduate School. Each member has the role of ambassador of graduate education to help strengthen and improve their programs and are instrumental in their evolution and growth. Graduate Council is essential to identifying programs with strong pools for expansion. Career and professional development play an important part of this growth. Some upcoming key changes will be to the format of new graduate student orientation, addressing rising federal mandates in ethics, and providing support to post-doctoral fellows. The Graduate School will look at external funding and building out all sources of funding to augment resources provided through the State. The Graduate School recently secured its first endowment and hopes to secure additional such funding. There have also been changes to the Graduate School website and a new page was recently launched, which includes giving options.

Several council members expressed their thoughts in support of expanding and growing the graduate programs in their individual areas.

**3. Sub-Committees – Descriptions and Major Responsibilities:**

- a. **Academic Standards**: Consideration of academic policy as needed, Bylaws
- b. **Budget and Grievance**: Travel grants, grievances (occasional-as needed)
- c. **Diversity**: Clark Fellowships
- d. **Professional Development**: Support for graduate student development, Graduate Excellence Awards, workshops targeting NSF/NIH mentorship and RCR requirements

Dr. Pape outlined the sub-committees and their functions and responsibilities. Each member of Graduate Council will serve on a sub-committee. Assignments to sub-committees have been made and calendar invites for the respective meetings have been sent.

**4. Proposals for Discussion:**

- a. **Adding a post-doc Representative to Graduate Council**
- b. **Adding a post-doc Excellence Award**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned by Dr. Deak at 4:19 p.m.

**\*\*\*Next Meeting: Monday, October 7, 2024 ~ 3:30-4:30 p.m. ~ AD-148\*\*\***