

Graduate Council Meeting

Monday, October 7, 2024 ~ 3:30 – 4:30 pm
AD-148

MINUTES

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

STAFF: Andreas Pape, Ellen Tilden, Ann Marie Kellogg (recorder)

PRESENT: Pegor Aynajian, Sharon Bryant, Norah Henry, Kyoung-Don Kang, Loretta Mason-Williams, Tao Zhang, Sungdai Cho, Yvonne Johnston, Jacqueline McGinley, Suzanne McLeod, Nicole Rouhana, Hiroki Sayama, Joshua Reno, Jobial Alex, Anjani Praneet Meruvu, Sarah Wexler, Yakubu Alhassan Zakaria, Matt McConn, Jillian Sandy, Nicole Sirju-Johnson

ABSENT: Brad Cannon, Vladimir Nikulin, Steven Schwartz, Praseeda Gopinath, Yetrib Hathout, David Werner, Michael Jacobson, Niyazi Bodur, Junghyun Cho, Judith Deluca, Pamela Stewart Fahs, Carl Lipo

Call to Order:

Dr. Pape called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

1. Minutes of Meetings on April 22, 2024, and September 4, 2024

Dr. Pape asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meetings held on April 22 and September 4. A member made a motion, and another member seconded. All were in favor and none were opposed. The minutes of both meetings were approved as written.

2. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Standards Committee – met on September 16, 2024**
- b. Diversity Committee – met on September 11, 2024**
- c. Professional Development Committee – met on September 23, 2024**
- d. Budget/Grievance Committee – did not meet**

b. The Diversity Committee met on September 11 and is developing a rubric for Clark Fellowship applications that will bring more structure to the evaluation process and will allow approval of as many applications as possible. There was discussion regarding the criteria used for Clark Fellowships, the language changes that were implemented to comply with the recent Supreme Court ruling, and additional revisions that may be necessary to be in compliance.

c. The Professional Development Committee met on September 23 and its main focus was on adding components to better serve our post-doctoral students. Dr. Erica Sausner, Professional Development Specialist in the Graduate School, who serves on the committee, is assisting in developing a survey to determine ways in which we can best serve our graduate students, particularly post-doctoral research, through travel grants. Proposals are in process and will be presented to the committee for approval.

3. Travel Awards and Clark Fellowship Nominations: Update on Electronic Forms

Dr. Pape reported that the Graduate School is in the process of developing a Qualtrics model to automate the process for Travel Grant applications and Clark Fellowship nominations. Historically, these have been manual and labor intensive. A streamlined process will be rolled out with the next round of Travel Grants with the deadline of November 1. All admitted students will be invited to apply.

4. Clark Fellowship Assessment

Dr. Deak noted that one of the most important functions of the Graduate School is the Clark Fellowship program. The recent Supreme Court decision was discussed and strategies for compliance were considered. Clark Fellowship applications were previously processed through Slate, but will now be available on the website for the Graduate School, which would allow it to be used as a recruitment tool after applicants have been admitted. The goal is to spend the majority of the Clark Fellowship funds for new students to start in the fall and to make more offers and be more aggressive in recruiting. In addition, Clark funds will be directed toward relieving PhD students of teaching obligations.

Dr. Deak asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A member made a motion, and another member seconded the motion. All were in favor and none were opposed. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

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