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Graduate Associate Deans' Group Minutes

Graduate Council

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Graduate Associate Deans' Group
Thursday, February 11, 2016, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Haslam Business Building 601

Attending:

Mary Albrecht (Chair), Kate Atchley (for Bruce Behn), Ernest Brothers, Sherry Cummings, Mary Gunther, Stephen Kania, Yvonne Kilpatrick, Alex Long, Sandra Leach, Masood Parang, Joan Rentsch, John Stier, Dixie Thompson

The meeting was called to order by Ernest Brothers at 2:06 p.m.

1. Updates – Mary Albrecht

- a. Dr. Mary Albrecht said she has received two requests to approve co-advisers for graduate students. She said there's nothing in the catalog that specifies needing the Dean's approval for co-advisers and asked if the group had dealt with said requests before. The group indicated they had never heard of a co-advisers needing the Dean's approval. Dr. Albrecht said she will check with a few other sources and send out an email saying it should be a department decision.
- b. Dr. Albrecht raised two items from the Academic Policy Committee.

1. Embargos

Dr. Albrecht asked whether the Graduate Council can determine that embargo length be extended for dissertations. She said there are issues arising with publishers being concerned about prior publication, publishing a dissertation without the student's knowledge, and tempting students with unscrupulous publishing opportunities.

Dr. Sandra Leach said all involved would need to know when an embargo would be most useful, that it's not always the route to go. Dr. Leach said an embargo doesn't necessarily prevent a publisher from being unscrupulous. Dr. Leach said the student has the option to extend the embargo a few more years.

Dr. Kania said the only language the Academic Policy Committee is proposing changing is the option to add one additional 12-month period to two additional 12-month periods.

The Graduate Council will continue the discussion regarding the proposed change.

2. Exemption from Continuous Enrollment in Course 600

Dr. Albrecht said the Center for International Education has suggested the catalog wording for Exemption from Continuous Enrollment in Course 600 be changed from “specific type of visa” to “immigration status.”

Discussion ensued regarding whether a student on an internship would have active status in Banner. If not, the student would be unable to use campus facilities. The Group discussed the possibility of a student being enrolled in a no-credit class so he or she could still have full use of facilities.

Dr. Kania said further discussion of this matter will be fine, and he hopes the Graduate Student Senate will weigh in. He will let Maria Stehle, Chair of the Academic Policy Committee, know about the conversation, and the Graduate Council will have general discussion about the issue at its next meeting.

2. Graduate Training Updates – Ernest Brothers

- a. Dr. Ernest Brothers said a workshop is scheduled for March 2, 2016 for Directors of Graduate Studies. It will be held from 9-11 a.m. in the CIE Great Room. He said Directors of Graduate Studies have until February 17 to submit any questions they may have. The workshop will be conducted in a roundtable format, answering the submitted questions and providing the opportunity for participants to make recommendations.
- b. Dr. Brothers said there has been a request for a Directors of Graduate Studies manual. He said many directors are aware of their responsibilities but don't know how to do them.
- c. A group from the University of Louisville will visit the UT campus on March 10. He said the Graduate School hosts three to five visits a year through the TRIO program. Dr. Brothers provides a presentation on the Graduate School and hosts a panel to discuss student interest. He said this is a low-cost way to recruit graduate students.

3. New Business/Announcements

- a. Dr. Albrecht said she expects an announcement regarding the new Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School during the week of February 15.
- b. The Graduate School has received several fellowship applications.

Dr. Albrecht adjourned the meeting at 2:58 p.m.

MA/lmh