

**Iowa State University
Graduate Council
MEETING MINUTES**

<i>Meeting: Graduate Council</i>	<i>Key Roles</i>
Date: January 22, 2020 Place: 3150 Beardshear Hall	Meeting Leader: Bethany Gray, Chair
Start Time: 4:15 pm	Support: Sebastian Speer, Natalie Robinson, Judy Strand
End Time: 5:30 pm	Resource:

TOPIC

Call to Order

- Attendance and seating of substitute council members
 - No substitute member

Consent Agenda

- [Minutes](#) of Graduate Council Meeting, November 20, 2019
- Agenda for January 22, 2020
- Items from GCCC:
 - Dual List: [Hist 498X/598X](#)
 - Dual List: [IE 437X/537X](#)
 - Dual-list: [MAT E 475/575](#)
 - [Elimination of Technology and Innovation Management Specialization](#)
 - Dual List: [Math 422X/522X](#)
 - [Concurrent BS in Cyber Security and MBA](#)
 - Dual List: BBMB 445/545: [Syllabus](#); [Dual List Proposal](#)
 - Passed 9-0

Announcements and Remarks

- Graduate Council Chair, Bethany Gray
 - No comments
- Graduate Dean, Bill Graves
 - Graves informed the Council that applications and enrollment were both expected to be down again next year, as the case has been the past few years. Graves said that there were many ideas being discussed within the Graduate College to increase enrollment, including an open-option for graduate students similar to the one offered to undergraduates or admission into a Ph.D. or master's program in IGS for students who were not offered admission in their first choice of program. Graves said that he conducted an informal poll which reported that many programs are not offering admission to qualified candidates due to lack of funding/TA or RA appointments, etc., and he is looking for ways to get those students who showed interest in graduate education to come to Iowa State.
 - Jordan suggested looking at current staff at Iowa State who are interested in graduate degrees to reinvest in our people. Gray mentioned that one deterrent to students accepting admission to ISU is that master's student on assistantship only receive 50% tuition payment instead of 100%, and investing in a 100% tuition scholarship would likely increase master's student enrollment.
- Associate Graduate Dean, Carolyn Cutrona
 - Cutrona explained the changes she would be presenting in the bridge funding for arrival of new child policy. The new policy would allow 12 weeks of leave that can be split between child caregivers, will remove references to mother and father, and will enable caregivers to take some time prior to the arrival of the child if that better meets their needs.
- Graduate College Office, Judy Strand
 - Strand relayed that new student orientation was January 16th. She recognized Klimavicz for his assistance in planning the orientation. There was a good turnout despite snowy conditions. Strand

also thanked members of the Council who will be serving on Graduate College Awards committees in February and March.

Old Business

- Exception to full graduate faculty status policies
 - Ellinwood had no update.
- POSC Deadline and timeframe before preliminary exam
 - Speer presented the updated wording to this policy, including the recommendation to require 3 calendar months between POSC approval and the preliminary oral exam as well as the removal of some superfluous language. Speer mentioned the different lengths of time between the POSC and the prelim oral exam that had been discussed (8 weeks, 3 months, 4 months), but the Council agreed that 3 calendar months was appropriate.
 - The Council voted to approve as presented 9-0. Implementation will begin fall 2020, but students will be able to operate by either policy during the fall 2020 semester.
- Dismissal of Postdoc due to Loss of Funding (Misty Treanor, Post-doc Coordinator in the Graduate College)
 - Gray showed updated wording for this proposal (in docket). Jordan questioned whether the second paragraph had correct wording to adequately protect the student and the Dean. Speer replied that this was the same wording from the graduate student portion of the Graduate College Handbook and that had been reviewed by University Counsel. Jordan was still concerned that appointments of postdocs and graduate students might be different enough that review by University Counsel might still be a good idea.
 - Tosaporn was concerned about how some PIs will talk about multiple year commitments when they are hiring a postdoc, but then LOIs are only for one year. Ellinwood also noted that lack of funding can be difficult to police as PIs can write their grant in a way to eliminate the money for a postdoc when they renew.
 - Adams was concerned about where the money would come from if a postdoc appeals through this policy and the Dean ruled in favor of the postdoc when the PI really did not have the funds to cover the postdoc's salary.
 - The Council voted to pass the proposal as written 8-1.
- Change to credit taken as undergraduate counting toward graduate degree (Strand)
 - Strand introduced the same wording from the previous meeting (Ch. 6.3). This change from counting 9 credits at the undergraduate level that were not used to meet undergraduate degree requirements to allowing only 6 credits which can count toward meeting both undergraduate and graduate degree requirements is to assist programs in recruiting future graduate students who have undergraduate financial aid and would like to remain in undergraduate status to receive that aid before beginning the graduate program.
 - The Council voted to pass this 9-0. Timing for implementation of the policy was not discussed.
- Bridge funding for arrival of new child (Cutrona)
 - Cutrona introduced the changes she spoke about during Announcement and Remarks. She clarified that a parent can take up to 12 weeks off with paid leave if there are 12 weeks remaining in their appointment. Many discussed the need to make sure that a new LOI is in place before taking one's leave so that time off could carry over into the new LOI if all 12 weeks would not be taken under the old LOI. Gray suggested that the policy clearly state that the 12 weeks must be taken consecutively even if they are divided among parents/caregivers. Field mentioned the complications of co-parenting and asked if there were guidelines in the policy about how disagreements among parents/caregivers are to be resolved. Gray and Klimavicz stressed that LOIs need to be renewed before someone takes leave so that caregivers are protected. Cutrona will take all comments into consideration and present changes, including more gender-inclusive language as well as language that will include all types of co-parenting arrangements that students/postdocs might be in.

New Business

- Expired course policy and MFA degrees
 - Gray brought forward a request from the MFA in English about which portion of the policy should apply to MFA degrees, as they are master's degrees, but are terminal like Ph.D. degrees and have more credits than most master's degrees. She also noted that the policy in general can be a

roadblock for people who have pursued non-academic careers or have degrees from long ago if MFA degree-seekers are only allowed to count up to 6 credits of coursework between 8-10 years old.

- Gray relayed that many MFA students have previous graduate degrees, and they can sometimes be from many years before. She said that the major professor and the DOGE both give their approval to use expired courses prior to the Graduate College, so there has been some vetting of those courses.
- The Council voted to add another column to the current policy specifically for the MFA, as it does fall somewhere in between a traditional master's degree and a Ph.D. The Graduate College will reach out to other MFA program and the new EDD programs for their input.

Other Items/Issues

- Master's tuition scholarships
 - Gray brought up that many programs have problems recruiting master's students because the policy is to only pay 50% tuition rather than 100%. Graves replied that departments are allowed to pay 100%, but Gray said that colleges will not pay 100% if they don't need to. Adams said that they cannot pay master's tuition scholarships from most grants, because the grants require that they only pay what they are required to from the institution. Graves echoed Adams's statement that national and federal grants will accommodate what the institutional policy states.
 - Multiple members spoke up about the inequity to master's students in the same labs as Ph.D. students not getting the same remuneration. One member mentioned students and/or faculty manipulating the system by having student register as Ph.D. students even though they had no intention of finishing the Ph.D. Haddad and Ellinwood spoke to data on peer institutions, many of which offer 100% tuition scholarships to master's students; students will often choose somewhere other than Iowa State because of the 100% tuition scholarships offered there, so offering 100% to master's students may be a good recruitment tool. Adams also mentioned that the original intention of the policy was to encourage recruitment of more Ph.D. students, and it has remained an inequity since then. He said this is contributing to why we're losing people to research and other institutions and that this should be brought before PLAC for discussion and review.
 - Graves responded that a rule change like this would probably also need to be approval from the Provost and College Deans as well as PLAC. Adams and Ellinwood were deeply in favor of exploring this possibility.
 - For a first step, the Graduate College will explore tuition and stipend amounts for peer institutions to see if it is possible to reduce the stipend a bit and offer 100% tuition scholarships for master's and report back.

First Name	Last Name	Discipline Area	Aug	Sept.	Oct	Nov	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Dean	Adams	Biological & Agricultural Sciences	P	P	A	P	P			
Joydeep	Bhattacharya	Social Sciences & Education	A	P	A	P	A			
Wenyu	Huang	Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering	P	P	P	S	P			
Shana	Carpenter	Social Sciences & Education	P	P	P	P	P			
Matthew	Ellinwood	Biological & Agricultural Sciences	P	P	P	P	P			
Bethany	Gray	Arts & Humanities	P	P	P	P	P			
Monica	Haddad	Arts & Humanities	P	P	P	P	P			
Tera	Jordan	Social Sciences & Education	P	P	P	S	P			
Tonglu	Li	Arts & Humanities	P	P	A	P	A			
Jodi	McGill	Biological & Agricultural Sciences	P	A	P	P	P			
Scott	Nelson	Biological & Agricultural Sciences	P	P	P	P	P			
Daji	Qiao	Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering	P	A	P	S	A			
Maria	Salas-Fernandez	Biological & Agricultural Sciences	P	P	P	A	A			
Jin	Tian	Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering	P	S	P	A	P			
Michael	Young	Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering	P	P	P	A	A			
		Faculty Senate Representative								
Tosaporn	Sattasathuchana	Post Doc	P	P	P	A	P			
		Post Doc								
James	Klimavicz	Grad Student--Physical & Math Sciences & Engineering	A	P	P	P	P			
Marcus	Jansen	Grad Student -- Biological & Agricultural Sciences	P	P	P	P	P			
Eleanor	Field	GPSS Pres	P	P	P	A	P			
Ozlem	Karakaya	Grad Student--Social Sciences & Education	P	P	P	P	P			
Ali	Garib	Arts & Humanities	A	P	P	P	P			
Ex-officio										
Bill	Graves	Dean of the Graduate College	P	P	P	P	P			
Carolyn	Cutrona	Assistant Dean, Graduate College	P	P	P	P	P			
Natalie	Robinson	Record Analyst	P	P	P	P	P			
Sebastian	Speer	Student Service Specialist	P	P	P	P	P			
Judy	Strand	Program Coordinator	P	P	P	P	P			