Iowa State University Graduate Council MEETING AGENDA

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Meeting: Graduate Council*** | ***Key Roles*** |
| Date: March 22, 2023Place: 3150 Beardshear Hall | Meeting Leader: Monica Haddad, Chair |
| Start Time: 2:15 pm | Support: Natalie Robinson, Celina Turner |
| End Time: 3:30 pm |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **TIME** | **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION LEADER** |
| 2:15 | Call to Order* Attendance and seating of substitute council members
	+ Gabriel Rodriguez for Michael Brown, Jarad Niemi for Petrutza Caragea, and Jacob Simon for Amanda Weinstein
 | Haddad |
| 2:15 | Announcements and Remarks* Graduate Council Chair, Monica Haddad
* Graduate College Dean, Bill Graves
	+ Graves: The English Proficiency and Evaluation Committee (EPEC) recently proposed changes to the English requirement, including an expansion on the countries included in the exemptions for the English Placement Test. The proposed changes have been accepted for implementation. There will also be a three-year trial in the coming year to help graduate students who take the English Placement Test improve their English skills. There will be more to come on this topic in the year ahead.
* Graduate College Associate Deans, Heather Greenlee
	+ Greenlee: I’ve been querying graduate programs to determine how they evaluate graduate students. I shared a survey with DOGEs and graduate support staff to get a handle on how many programs evaluate graduate students in a formal manner. I also offered an evaluation tool that was developed by Deidra Schleicher and colleagues in the College of Business. If you’re interested, please speak with your DOGE or send me an email.
* Graduate College Office, Natalie Robinson
	+ Robinson: The deadline to nominate graduate students for the Teaching Excellence Award and/or Research Excellence Award is April 15.
 | Haddad, Graves, Greenlee, Robinson |
| 2:35 | Consent Agenda* [Agenda](https://1drv.ms/w/s%21AgHkWPEKrtNn-kMrxpNQ3Q3zyaCR?e=JNljF1) for March 22, 2023, meeting
* [Minutes](https://www.grad-council.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/2022-2023/February%202023/GC%20February%202023%20Minutes_ct_nbr.docx) from February 15, 2023, meeting
* Items from Grad Catalog Curriculum Committee:
	+ Dual-lists:
		- [C J 470/570X](https://nextcatalog.registrar.iastate.edu/courseadminx/?key=2576)
 | Haddad |
| 2:40 | Old Business* M.S. coursework-only naming: vote
	+ [Combined feedback (redacted)](file:///%5C%5Ciastate.edu%5CFiles%5Cgcol%24%5CUsers%5Cnbr%5CGrad%20Council%5CGC%202022-2023%5CFebruary%202023%5CMS%20Naming%20Feedback%5CCombined%20Feedback%202-7-2023.pdf)
	+ [Table summarizing combined feedback](file:///%5C%5Ciastate.edu%5CFiles%5Cgcol%24%5CUsers%5Cnbr%5CGrad%20Council%5CGC%202022-2023%5CFebruary%202023%5CMS%20Naming%20Feedback%5CM.S.%20Feedback%20Naming%20Table_color%20coded.docx) (both by division and by academic college)
		- Haddad: The motion on the table is to allow a coursework-only M.S. degree. Is there a second to this motion?
			* Tian: I second the motion.
		- Cutrona: I’ve heard a lot of negative feedback on this topic from many departments. The departments feel the M.S. degree should have more prestige.
		- Chen: Many prestigious universities offer a coursework-only MS degree. Our students need to compete with that.
		- Graduate Council Vote: 5 yay, 8 nay; motion does not move forward.
 | Haddad, Robinson |
| 3:15 | Subcommittee work updates (if any):* Student Health and Wellness Policy
	+ Ajay, Carolyn, Caitlyn, Michael Brown
	+ [Report](file:///%5C%5Ciastate.edu%5CFiles%5Cgcol%24%5CUsers%5Cnbr%5CGrad%20Council%5CGC%202022-2023%5CFebruary%202023%5CReport%20from%20Graduate%20Student%20Well-Being%20Committee%201-18-2023.docx)
	+ Cutrona: This subcommittee looked at issues that affect graduate students’ wellbeing and read reports from other universities. We then made a list of issues that could realistically be addressed through the Graduate Council. This includes the following:
		- The need for current data on graduate student stressors.
		- The need for additional training on best practices in the relationship between major professors and students.
		- Encourage DOGEs to organize a social event once a semester to reach out to students and build relationships.
		- The need for more awareness on the resources available to graduate students in the domains of wellness and mental health.
		- The need for more information on the rules that apply during a Medical Leave of Absence.
		- The need for financial education among graduate students.
		- The issue of food insecurity among graduate students.
	+ Morgan: Can the Graduate College have a clearinghouse where programs can post openings for assistantships? This would make it clearer to students which positions are available to them.
		- Robinson: Associate Dean Michelle Soupir is working on this issue to make it clearer to students.
	+ Cain: I’m thinking about ability and access. What tools can students use that don’t require a medical note? I think there’s some miscommunication on this issue among graduate students.
	+ Bartlett: The biggest thing is clarifying to all faculty, not just DOGEs, the number of hours that graduate students should work for half-time and quarter-time assistantships.
	+ Cutrona: The need for more information on the rules that apply during a Medical Leave of Absence implies that the Graduate College Handbook needs to provide additional details on this topic. This could be something the Graduate Council can address.
	+ Haddad: We can share this report with the Graduate College. They can look at ways to address these issues, such as including some of this information in their newsletter.
* Review Council By-Laws/Constitution
	+ Dean Graves, Sarah Bartlett
* English Requirement and International 3-year degrees
	+ Michael Bailey, Donna, Jian
* Handbook Rewrite
	+ Christine, Efrain, Emily (Natalie as ex-officio to clarify policy that can be changed by this body vs. university policy as needed).
	+ More direction from the Workday Student project and university leadership needed before this group can act. **Will suspend this work group for the year.**
* Supervision of Postdoctoral Scholars
	+ Steven Freeman update
 | Haddad, Robinson |
| 3:25 | Other Items/Issues* Xiang: Some of my colleagues are interested in how the Graduate Faculty Membership Committee makes decisions on graduate faculty nominations.
	+ Robinson: They can contact me directly.
 |  |

Key: P = Present; A = Absent

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **First Name** | **Last Name** | **Discipline Area** | **Aug** | **Sept** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Apr** |
| Monica | Haddad | Arts & Humanities | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Gretchen | Mosher | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | Sub | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Michael | Brown | Social Sciences & Education | P | P | Sub | A | A | P | P | Sub |  |
| Petruta | Caragea (Spring) | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | Sub |  |
| Chunhui | Xiang | Social Sciences & Education | P | P | Sub | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Steven | Lonergan | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | Sub | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Emily | Morgan | Arts & Humanities | P | P | P | P | P | P | Sub | P |  |
| Carolyn | Cutrona | Social Sciences & Education | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Michael | Bailey | Arts & Humanities | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Donna | Winham | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Iddo (Matt) | Friedberg (O’Neal) | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | A | A | A | Sub | A | P | A |  |
| Degang | Chen | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | P | Sub | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Ajay | Nair | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | P | P | P | A | P | P | A |  |
| Sung YellJin | Song (Fall)Tian (Spring) | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | A | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| PranavAmanda | Shrotriya (Fall)Weinstein (Spring) | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | Sub |  |
| Steven | Freeman | Faculty Senate Representative | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Elizabeth | Elliott | Post Doc  | N/A | P | A | A | A | P | A | A |  |
| Susheel Kumar | Nethi | Post Doc  | N/A | P | P | A | A | P | A | A |  |
| Christine | Cain | GPSS Pres/Grad Student – Social Sciences & Education | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Efrain | Rodriguez-Ocasio | Grad Student – Physical & Math Sciences & Engineering  | P | P | Sub | A | A | P | A | A |  |
| Caitlyn | Campbell | GPSS VP/Grad Student – Biological & Agricultural Sciences  | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Sarah | Bartlett | Grad Student – Arts & Humanities | N/A | P | P | P | P | Sub | P | P |  |
|   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ex-officio |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bill | Graves | Dean of the Graduate College | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Heather | Greenlee | Associate Dean, Graduate College | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | P | P |  |
| Elena  | Cotos | Associate Dean, Graduate College | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | A | A |  |
| Michelle | Soupir | Interim Associate Dean, Graduate College | A | P | P | A | A | P | P | A |  |
| Natalie | Robinson | Assistant Director of Academic Services, Graduate College | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Celina | Turner | Graduate Student Services Specialist II, Graduate College | P | Sub | Sub | P | P | P | P | P |  |