

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2022

M. Cunningham, J. O'Brien-Brown, M. Canuto, M. Adams, D. Blake, K. Haugeberg, G. Morris, A. Chaffee, L. Dornier, F. Wietfeldt, B. Mohan, K. Andrinopoulos, A. Manning, X. Geng, L. Lukkarila, K. Tsubaki, A. Childress, A. Reusch, S. Van Bael, D. Khismatullin, M. Miller

1. Meeting called at 8:32
2. Approval of January Minutes, all in favor.
3. Grad Council Meeting Dates for Spring 2022
 - a. March 9
 - b. April 13 (in person, with PhD review committee)
 - c. May 11
4. Announcements
 - a. SREB fellowships
 - i. We have received 3 fellowships
 - ii. It's a recruiting tool that adds \$10,000 to the stipend the department offers
 - iii. It's prestigious and students get to attend a specific conference for underrepresented minority students
 - b. Electronic signatures for dissertation and thesis submissions
 - i. Adobe sign is coming
 - ii. Archives still need a physical copy, but signatures can be digital
 - iii. Embargos are for certain lengths of time
 - iv. Questions about art projects
 - c. Postdoc IDPs
 - i. Predoctoral fellows fall into this category as well (for units where the terminal degree is at the master's level)
 - ii. All postdocs are supposed to develop an IDP within a month of starting at Tulane
 - iii. These IDPs should be part of the annual review that should be happening at the point of renewing the postdoc's contract
 - iv. Salary changes at the renewal point would require review at Academic Affairs, so the IDP would help to indicate why the raise should happen
 - v. IDPs are supposed to be submitted to OGPS, but keep the records in the department as well
 - vi. Postdocs on grant funds usually have to have a plan for the grants. Postdocs on Tulane funds may not have that as a requirement but we insist on it.

- d. Sexual Misconduct Survey Update (Survey runs until February 20)
 - i. Survey is running from 1/28 to 2/20. Graduate and professional students have different experiences and we need to have more information
 - ii. Students received this information via email, social media, and presence on campus
 - iii. Is there a plan for educating or disciplining faculty who create problems? There may be more ability going forward due to increased mandates for other purposes
 - iv. Senate passed new rules about disclosing relationships between faculty and graduate students
 - v. More widespread education and training is needed for faculty, particularly for existing faculty
 - vi. Are adjunct faculty getting informed about these policies? In some schools it seems that they may not be getting this information. CELT is working on modules that they can do for orientation in many spheres
 - vii. Could Title IX go to departmental meetings? It would prevent faculty from avoiding the information. It is out of the scope of OGPS to insist on this, but academic deans could.
 - viii. In the Business School, academic integrity is now part of the annual review.
 - ix. Sexual misconduct does impact the academic and general student experience, which is how this can be part of the review of faculty. A faculty member who is being harassed or put upon in inappropriate ways, it detracts from their experience
 - x. Committee for policy on sexual harassment: it creates a perception of bias for scholars if your research was supervised by someone you're in a relationship with. This can cast a shadow on the research in the department and can impact the perception of our research. It can impact the perception that you are an independent scholar
- e. NSF/NIH Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows in Science and Engineering is beginning
 - i. This data goes into AAU rankings. It is unclear how AAU rankings are assigned, but we know that research activity and impact is a big part of it
 - ii. Our research activity has been going up, which is putting us into a better overall footing
 - iii. This survey does take up a fair bit of staff time, but is a valuable source of information

5. PhD Reviews

- a. Scheduled for April 11-13, 2022
- b. All the reviewers have been finalized

- c. Information will be sent to departments this week
 - d. These are formative, not punitive
 - e. Departments being reviewed have submitted studies
6. Incomplete Policy
- a. Edits for clarity. We needed some clarity that 12 months is not automatic, but the limit that a faculty member can do without extra paperwork
 - b. Vote on edits – all in favor
 - c. Will be sent out to GC and to the registrar
7. SPHTM: New PhD concentration in International Health and Sustainable Development (IHSD)
- a. Vote: To approve new PhD – all in favor
8. SPHTM: New certificate in Social Epidemiology
- a. Current enrolled students would be able to enroll. They are 15 credits and fit into masters curricula, designed for on-ground students
 - b. Do all certificates need to be the same? SoPA recalls that their certificates had to be 12 hours, but it's unclear whether that's an exact number or the minimum. SoPA's were stackable certificates, whereas these are for students who are already in a master's program
 - c. Vote: To approve new certificate – all in favor
9. SPHTM: New certificate in Violence Prevention
- a. Current enrolled students would be able to enroll. They are 15 credits and fit into masters curricula, designed for on-ground students
 - b. Vote: To approve new certificate – all in favor
 - c. Need to get this to the registrar, OAIR
10. Motion to adjourn at 9:24 by L. Dornier, seconded by A. Chaffee