Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2022


1. Meeting called at 8:33
2. Grad Council Meeting Dates for Spring 2022
   a. April 13 (in person, with PhD review committee)
   b. May 11 – via Zoom
3. Announcements
   a. Virtual Career Fair for PhD and research-based master’s students today
      i. 10 am to 4 pm
      ii. Nationwide expo that’s been happening for 10 years that is for grad students and postdocs in all disciplines. This is the first year that Tulane has been able to participate
   b. Academic Time Management Coaching and Dissertation Success Cohort
      i. New this semester. Academic Time Management Coaching started with a workshop and weekly meetings with individual students to discuss their goals and progress. Students are finding a lot of relief and success and it is helping managing their anxiety.
      ii. Dissertation cohort is a weekly group meeting. Students are working through NCFDD. Commit to 30 minutes per day of writing, plus other goals. Group is private so that the students feel comfortable. This group is for PhD students but all students can access the NCFDD resources regardless of the program they’re in.
   c. NCFDD – National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity. Tulane is a member of this center, and this is valuable for students and faculty
   d. Downtown Donut Day – tomorrow at 9 am in 1525 Hutchinson Building. On 3/24 it will be in 308 Jones Hall
   e. Commencement – 2020 graduates will have commencement in April, 2022 will be in May.
      i. Please do not tell 2020 grads to come to the May ceremony
      ii. Graduate Hooding in May will be at 3 pm in McAlister Auditorium
   f. Pregnancy.tulane.edu
      i. Has information for all students, undergrad, grad, and professional
      ii. Good for faculty to check if a student comes to them
      iii. This helps ensure that we are consistent in our support for students going through life events
iv. Website has resources for all students and for faculty and staff who work with students
v. Why don’t Tulane hospitals offer abortion services? Abortion services aren’t part of the curriculum for the MD program and students have to take extracurricular time to learn about it
g. Transitions in Campus Health and the Counseling Center
   i. Scott Tims has stepped down and there is a nationwide search for his replacement
   ii. Lilian Odera has stepped down from the Counseling Center and there is a nationwide search for her replacement
h. Changes in the Downtown Campus
   i. Charity Development. Adding more choices for food, moving SPHTM, adding a gym, generally creating a more campus feel
   ii. University COVID protocol changes
      i. Masks are not required on campus. Individual faculty members can say that they need to be worn in class
4. PhD Reviews
   a. Scheduled for April 11-13, 2022
   b. Roughly a month after their visit, they will submit a report which Grad Council will review
   c. Departments have been contacted, we’re still finalizing the schedule
   d. These reviews are formative, may help identify resources we need
5. SPHTM: Revisions to the PhD concentration in Social, Behavioral, and Population Science
   a. Vote: To approve revisions, all in favor.
   a. We don’t have part time students for programs
   b. For any current graduate student and could be opened to outside students.
   c. Staff/faculty who take a couple of courses can enroll as special students
   d. There’s a lot of language around full time and part time status, but that has more to do with what stage of their studies they’re in. Full time with the registrar means 9 hours – it’s very specific there and we may want to change some of our terminology for clarity
   e. Have to apply to the MS in Statistics program and can then work towards this certificate
   f. Vote: To approve new certificate, all in favor.
7. Vote on the minutes from February. Motioned by L. Dornier, seconded by F. Wietfeldt, all in favor.
8. Meeting adjourned at 9:22.