

The University of Akron
Minutes of Graduate Council
December 12, 2016

The Graduate Council met on Monday, December 12, 2016, in the Student Union, Room 310. Dean Chand Midha presided. Present were Dr. Philip Allen, Associate Dean Charles Beneke, Dr. Amanda Booher, Dr. Marcus Braga-Alves, Dr. Gary Holliday, Dr. Qetler Jensrud, Dr. Ronald Otterstetter, Dr. Judit Puskas, Dr. John Senko, Dr. James Steiger, Dr. Harvey Sterns, Dr. Baffour Takyi, Dr. Margaret Tung, and Dr. Nicole Zacharia.

GC Members Absent with Notice: Dr. Martha Santos and Dr. Shivakumar Sastry

GC Members Absent: Dr. Andrew Thomas and Marina Pelemis

Call to Order

Dean Midha called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Roll Call

Heather Blake recorded the attendance of those present.

Remarks – Dean Midha

Dean Midha stated that Ernst and Young has distributed a transformation plan. Key initiatives are in two phases. Ernst and Young has been hired by the University for the next six months with the option to extend for a total of 18 months. Dean Midha indicated that he is the lead for graduate assistantships. FY 2018 target is to save \$1,000,000, and FY 2019 is to save \$6,000,000. Representatives from Ernst and Young will provide support with data analysis, and one of the representatives will be in attendance at the next meeting of Graduate Council.

Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee – Dr. Allen presented a log of three proposals reviewed and approved by the committee: A&S-ARTSCO-16-19125, A&S-ARTSCO-16-19128, and A&S-ARTSCO-16-1913. Approved by Council.

Graduate Faculty Membership Committee – Dr. Takyi presented a log of one graduate faculty application as reviewed by the committee. Approved by Council.

Francis S. Broadway

Continuation of Strategic Initiatives Discussion

Data Sharing Regarding Stipends and Tuition Awards

There was continued discussion of graduate assistantship funding. Graduate Council members were provided with data pertaining to graduate assistantship analysis as well as data from the Office of Research Administration.

Funding graduate administrative assistants was discussed. Other universities in Ohio do not spend as much on administrative assistants as The University of Akron.

Dean Midha mentioned that he has met with both the Athletic Director as well as the Vice President for Student Affairs informing them that only where there is great need would administrative assistants receive tuition waivers.

Funding graduate research assistants was discussed. Other universities in do not spend as much on graduate research assistants as The University of Akron.

Dr. Allen stated that it would be helpful to know how much revenue is likely generated by teaching assistants.

New Business

Graduate Faculty Status for Non-Tenure Track Faculty

Associate Dean Beneke stated that, at the present time, no graduate faculty membership criteria exist for non-tenure track faculty. With the growing number of NTT faculty it is necessary that we work to establish such criteria. Associate Dean Beneke asked that the Graduate Faculty Membership Committee begin working on this.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather A. Blake
Graduate School