

Graduate Council

Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2020

220 Van Wormer Hall

Attendees: Quinn Ankrum, Flavia Bastos, Ron Debry, Gary Dick, Amy Fathman, Ari Finkelstein, Dan Gottlieb, Ana Hincapie, James Mack, Stephen Mockabee, Chip Montrose, GA Rassati, Sid Sridhar, Chris Sullivan, Roger Worrell

Absent: Rhonda Brown, Doug Burgess, Edson Cabalfin, Olivier Parent

Staff: Catherine Smith

Agenda Items	Synopsis of Discussion	Outcome
<i>Meeting Minutes</i>	Approval of November 26, 2019 minutes	The minutes were not reviewed at this meeting. They will be on the agenda for review at the next meeting.
<i>Discussion Topics</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chip mentioned we had a last minute proposal submission, but there was not adequate time for the committee to review prior to the meeting. • GSHI Award Update, offered as a pre-announcement discussion to help Chip prepare his message to college leaders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We now have a definitive answer for where the money is coming from for AY2020-21. Student out of pocket costs will stay the same as this year, with the president and provost generously finding the funds to fill the gap for the coming year. This is a one-year solution, so we still need a long-term solution that will be something worked on during the year. ○ Some cost-saving changes to student eligibility: Students cannot be part-time. This disqualifies ~116 students in our analysis of FY19 awardees. Eligibility will also be limited to 4 years (8 semesters of award). This disqualifies 39 students in our analysis of FY19 awardees. Remember spring semester coverage extends into summer so two semesters of paid insurance covers an entire year. • Stipends Update, offered as a pre-announcement discussion to help Chip prepare his message to college leaders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Grad School has some new stipend funds that will be strategically distributed to colleges so we can raise the stipends of the grad assistants paid the lowest hourly rates. The new hourly rates will be higher for all grad assistants, and highest for PhD students. Results based on the GSG survey of PhD stipends, we now know where investment is needed. This increase will start Fall 2020. It is a more strategic investment, one rate for all PhD students (21/hr) and one for all others (16/hr). ○ Q: will it be reassessed each year? No plans, but the stipend budget will once again be tied to any staff increases (if they get a 2% increase, so does the UGA budget).It will be up to the new Grad School Dean how to apply any subsequent UGA increase. ○ Q: why only the PhD singled out? The President and Provost wanted to prioritize the degree with highest impact on the research agenda. Colleges may need to invest in other degrees of importance to them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chip will email the proposal to GC and ask if an e-vote is warranted. If not, it will be reviewed in person at the February meeting. • Lots of discussion of 4 year eligibility criteria for GSHI. Chip to confirm it was 39 students, and where they came from. • The stipend and GSHI information will go out to colleges soon. Grad Council was asked to not distribute the information from this informal discussion until college leaders have been notified. Grad Council will receive the information before it goes out to the “public” so they can answer any questions that come up in their colleges
<i>Next Meeting</i>	February 25, 2020	