

Meeting Minutes
Graduate Academic Affairs Committee
October 29, 2020 (online, 1:45)

Present members and adviser: Christopher Eliot (Chair), Li Huang, Daniel Miller, Michael Does, Stephen Hernandez, Renee McLeod-Sordjan, April Kinney, Elfreda Blue (Provost's Office), Evan Koegl (Registrar)

he minutes of September 15, 2020 were approved unanimously.

1 Announcements

- a. FPS 11G, sent up from this committee, passed the Full Faculty Meeting.

2 FPS 11G amendment

he committee supported a minor change in wording of FPS 11G that improved clarity but didn't change the intended meaning.

3 Graduate student support

he committee is investigating ways to enhance support for graduate students.

Christopher Eliot met with Holly Seirup (Dean of the School of Health Professions & Human Services) and Jacklyn Kuehn (Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs for SHPHS) about the general interests and needs of their graduate students. He also visited a meeting of the Student Affairs Committee, as below.

Renee McLeod asked whether there might be ways of getting more creative about soliciting the involvement of graduate students in this. April Kinney noted that there are graduate students potentially interested in being involved. Could we include international student representation? Li Huang asked whether we might make sure international students might be involved, as they have some distinct interests.

At the Student Affairs Committee meeting, Dean of Students Gabrielle St. Léger suggested working with Stan Cherian (Student Affairs) to consider representation from his newly-formed academically-focused organization of graduate organizations. Representation from this organization would require a minor change to the Senate bylaws. It would not address all the interest above. Evan Koegl suggested that the committee consider inviting guests rather than focusing entirely on membership.

April Kinney will work on this subcommittee.

4 Online instruction: Universal Design for Learning

Stephen Hernandez presented a draft survey, which the committee will take up at the next meeting.

5 Online exam security

Despite a general sense that this problem might be intractable, we will continue to investigate, including what other universities are doing about it.

Renee and Daniel Miller and Mike Dores will join this subcommittee with Zoran Sunik.

6 Open access support

Chris mentioned some interest in research support in this area. Others were less enthusiastic. Chris will consider a proposal.

7 New business

No new business was introduced.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25.

UDL Inquiry Questions to Faculty:

1. As a faculty member, are you aware of the "Teach to All Learners (UDL)" tab on your course Blackboard site? Yes ___ No _____
2. If your answer is yes to Question 1, does the UDL information available to you on Blackboard provide you support for your online instruction? Yes ___ No _____
3. If your answer is yes to Question 2, please explain how the UDL information is helpful. _____

In addition, could the UDL information more helpful? Yes ___ No _____. If yes, please explain how it could be more helpful. _____

4. Regardless as to your response to the previous questions, do you believe there is another manner in which Universal Design for Learning (UDL) can be introduced and explained to faculty? Yes ___ No _____. If yes, please offer your thoughts on how this can occur. _____
