Meeting Minutes
Graduate Academic Affairs Committee
April 29, 2021 (online via Zoom, 2:30)
DRAFT OF APRIL 29, 2021

Present members and adviser: Christopher Eliot (Chair), Li Huang, Daniel Miller, Stephen Hernandez, April Kinney, Elfreda Blue (Provost's Office), Suzanne Pike (Provost's Office), Evan Koegl (Registrar), Monica Florio (Graduate Recruitment)

The minutes of March 5, 2021 and March 22, 2021 were approved unanimously.

1 Announcements

a. The Faculty Policy Series 11G revisions and the Graduate Bulletin Badge Study revisions, each recently prepared by this committee, will come up for vote at the Full Faculty meeting on May 3.

2 Online Exam Security

Dan Miller and Chris Eliot will meet with Honor Board members, Undergraduate Academic Affairs members, Suzanne Pike, and Mitch Kase (EdTech) to discuss preparing a best-practices document to be shared with faculty, on the topic of administering online exams securely.

3 Graduate Student Support Focus Group

April and Chris are organizing the graduate focus group, perhaps for right after exams.

4 New business

a. Graduate students are currently required to use PINs to register, as a way of encouraging advising, despite that advising is not universally required. Monica Florio, having consulted with Evan Koegl and Elfreda Blue, suggests that continuing students who had been advised for the first semester not be required to acquire PINs. Accessing a faculty program director can cause delays in registration, which can cause other problems. Evan notes that dual-degree programs require PINs of undergraduates, who do not otherwise use PINs, and that this can cause frustration. However, some faculty seem to like having PINs. We do not know how many programs prefer to use them. We will poll graduate program directors about whether they are using the PIN system, whether they want to continue to require PINs for first-semester students, and whether they want to continue to require PINs for continuing students.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05.