

USA Graduate Council Meeting Minutes  
10/28/21 @ 3 PM  
Zoom



Members Present: Elizabeth Adams, Eric Loomis, Mark Taylor, Gwendolyn Pennywell, Debra Chapman, Stefurak, Robert Cloutier, Leigh Minchew, Ben Lee, Blair Saale, Ryon McDermott, Timothy Sherman, Joyce Pittman, Alexandria Green, Todd Andel, Delwar Hossain, Harold Pardue, DeAnna Cobb, Lorene Flanders, Norma Jean Tanner, Kelly Osterbind, LaSonya Toney

Absent: Marie Migaud, Kevin West

Guests: Ashley Gibson, Angie O'Neal, Heather Nix

Agenda and materials distributed prior to the meeting.

1. Previous meeting minutes motioned, seconded, approved.
2. Dean's Report (Harold Pardue) An overview of the Graduate School budget was presented. Main sources of funding are the USA Foundation (Graduate Assistant stipends), Grants, Faculty Staff funding, and Costing Sharing on grants. Graduate Assistant stipends should be uniform, unless they are covered by a grant, which allows more flexibility in stipend amounts. Strategies to increase GA funding include appointing fewer GA's to provide a bigger stipend for each. Contracts can include GA stipends. A proposal to survey GA stipends similar to the faculty stipend survey already conducted. A subcommittee will be formed to assess ways and means to increase GA funding.
3. Webadmit/Slate (Eric Loomis) The advantage to Webadmit is that their EMP performs recruitment services for the Graduate School programs. Other institutions usually have their Enrollment Services perform this function. If a move to Slate happens, we lose this service. Robert Cloutier has worked with Slate at a prior institution and noted that Webadmit is easier to use. Cons to Webadmit is that Admissions already uses Slate and the student applications must move through both systems and end in Banner, leading to delays in processing applicants. Norma Jean Tanner reiterated that delays in processing students through Webadmit and Slate is cumbersome and recruiting through Enrollment Services could be explored. Also moving to Slate would simplify matters for student applicants. Allied Health and Nursing are separate from the Webadmit contract under discussion and will remain on their admissions system regardless. Our Webadmit contract ends 12/22. Eric Loomis stated that recruitment marketing for our graduate programs must be in place if we do move to Slate. Robert Cloutier remarked that faculty involved with Wesnv LFr6 ( p)-.4 (v 4h4 (y JTJ3 (f)6 (oi.tn)-.4 (v 4( p)-58< coverage however, at this time funding is not available. health insurance with a new classification of GA way to only need a part time GA position is to offer 0.25 FTE seconded, and approved the proposed 0.25 FTE policy as

5. **Graduate Faculty Member Requirements** (Selwar Hossain)-Proposed to eliminate the Associate Graduate Faculty membership. As a research focused institution this would increase the productivity in research and publications among faculty. Several members from various programs pointed out that Associate membership is crucial in forming thesis and disser(i)4 (a) to dge mea publi