**Indiana University Graduate Faculty Council**

**February 21, 2022**

**3:00 – 4:30 pm**

Zoom: https://iu.zoom.us/j/81796589962?pwd=NTE0UjBHU2ozZnFXVFM2RXUxaDhIUT09

**Agenda**

Present: Dominique Galli, Devon Hensel, Margaret Graves, Diane Henschel, Chris Foley, Natalia Rybas, Shu Cole, Stacie King, Hongxia Ren, Gloria Preece, Larry Moss, Beth Samuelson, Jason Jackson, Erika Cheng, Jeff Rutherford, Alyson Essex, Hitesh Kathuria, Janice Blum, Tabitha Hardy, Spencer Hall, Lisa Hoffman, Valentina Luketa, Dawn Holder, David Daleke, James Wimbush

* Approval of minutes from Council meeting for December 2021: [December 13, 2021](https://iu.instructure.com/files/135982567/download?download_frd=1) - unanimously approved with no changes.
* Online Collaborative Graduate Programs - Chris Foley (AVP Academic Affairs, Director of Online Education) and Hitesh Kathuria (Director of Collaborative Academic Programs)
* Collaborative model of online education (created in 2011-2012)
  + - Avoiding redundancy and developing efficiency in new online programs
    - Collaboration review - step to make a multi-campus program
    - Majority of IU’s online programs are not collaborative (only 38 out of 213)
  + Collaborative program implementation process
    - MOA process: soliciting interest from campuses - faculty committees develop each curriculum and logistics for programs - administrative approval and campus approval.
    - Programs then go through HLC and the Indiana Commission on Higher Education
    - OCAP coordinates different entities through the approval process to develop and guide programs through the degree.
      * Note: these are campus programs - not OCAP programs - students are enrolled through IU campuses, not an online campus. Programs are owned by faculty and facilitated by OCAP.
    - Once programs are mature enough – it is anticipated to have a program director nominated from an individual campus.
  + Delivering a collaborative program
    - Campuses deliver same services as they would for any other graduate programs by department
      * Advising, mentoring students
      * Admissions work done by departments
    - OCAP provides wrap-around services and enhanced marketing
      * Providing 24/7 service to answer student questions
      * Additional financial aid services
      * Success coaching, career services, math and writing services, etc.
    - Collaborative graduate programs often still call their program an OCAP or IU Online program.
      * Leads to different approach in serving students - yet these should be treated similarly to other non-collaborative programs in each department (e.g. recorders don’t know how to certify students ready to graduate)
    - There is a need for OCAP to provide more wrap-around services
      * Bringing students into the programs (inconsistent service during onboarding process) - no fault to the faculty members
      * Providing more support to graduate programs who were not prepared in some areas
  + Questions
    - Recurring problems with advising; communication gaps with faculty and collaborative programs - some faculty don’t know they are supposed to connect with online students to counsel or guide them
      * Every student is coded as a campus student - it was assumed that departments would recognize this and take care of students in their programs accordingly
    - No automatic notification in place to departments that they received an online students - need for standardized procedure to make faculty aware of new online students
    - Might be helpful to assign a program coordinator or leader to programs that have not reached a certain enrollment level
      * OCAP would support any program appointing a director - the program will need to fund the position even if a certain enrollment threshold has not been met - 100% of tuition from these programs goes back to campuses - it is not a large financial commitment to appoint a program director
    - Issues with governance and jurisdiction for faculty governance
      * OCAP is not a separate academic entity - try to utilize governance structures already present on campuses
    - Online collaborative undergraduate programs are very successful - more centralized and connected - can we implement these structures in the same way for graduate programs?
      * Online collaborative programs at the graduate level are very decentralized - causing significant problems (e.g. organizational confusion, inefficiency)
      * Don’t want to infringe on the autonomy of graduate programs - becomes hard to address problems because collaborative programs are so department based.
    - We should centralize at least some of the graduate advising process, as it is at the undergraduate level - in units that are willing to do it - faculty want to help students with disciplinary mentorship, not with repetitive tasks of advising students
    - Do academic deans get data on revenue that comes from collaborative degrees?
      * It was assumed that individual schools and academic units were examining financial data and data on tuition - yet, this does not seem to be happening at the level expected.

* Committee Reports
* APC
  + Leave policies (e.g. medical, military leave)
    - asked for feedback from deans - deans will get information later in semester or summer
  + Breaks in long courses
    - A student requested mandatory 10 minute breaks for classes held for 90 minutes or longer
    - Question on relevance of issue to APC and GFC - may be a program-specific issue or for faculty councils to discuss
    - Issue was sent to UFC co-chairs with no response - will follow up
  + Qualtrics survey regarding W grades in graduate and professional programs
    - 12 responses - want representation from most campuses and different kinds of programs - will go back to APC and discuss goal number of respondents
  + What are university guidelines/policies on evaluating doctoral students?
    - University-wide metrics like GPA - also program-specific decisions on student progress - depends on how programs and departments have set up rules for student progress and expectations
    - Students could be put on probation even with a 4.0 GPA - depending on department assessment of progress (e.g. research, qualifying exams, etc.)
* Regional Campuses *Ad Hoc* Committee
  + Dominique will reach out and invite the regional campus members and the deans to discuss information from today’s guest speakers - will bring decisions back to the GFC
* IUB GPSG
  + Graduate student town hall
    - Issues center around coming to campus in another spike of COVID
* ability to take sick leave - providing masks - what to do when exposed to COVID
  + - Mental health issues - sense of insecurity and lack of safety during pandemic - issues with fulfilling role due to COVID
      * Many feel financial stressors affect one's ability to be successful in their role and meet basic living needs (e.g. rent, food).
    - IU GPSG unanimously passed resolution endorsing student unionizing efforts at the Bloomington campus - committed to encourage graduate students to vote in union elections
      * Serving as mediators between graduate student union, GPSG and the administration
* Working on dialogue between graduate student government and graduate coalition on encouraging graduate students and student workers to vote in union elections
  + - * Closed meeting called between Director of Graduate Studies and two students (one for and one against the union) - conversation on unionization of fees - GPSG and graduate coalition were not invited

* IUPUI GPSG
  + IUPUI student share similar concerns about COVID as students in Bloomington
    - Released executive statement to vice chancellor for student affairs - responded positively to student concerns (e.g. providing KN95 masks) - plans for expansion of drop-off testing
  + Elite 50 event - largest graduate award ceremony across IU campuses – to be held in April
  + Resolution for environmental justice - fighting environmental racism
  + Endorsed IUPUI faculty council statement in opposition to house bill #1134 - the bill limits teaching of topics on race, gender and ethnicity
  + Released graduate student experience survey
    - Data (post-pandemic) can help us tailor advocacy and work to help graduate students - especially those with mental health issues
* Updates from Dean Wimbush
  + Mask mandate to become optional on March 4th - still required for health settings and research labs - optional masking is welcomed
  + University reducing budget substantially - all campus units will be asked to cut their individual budgets
  + UA budget conference - two priorities - technology requirements for recruitment and DEI efforts (summer scholars institute, graduate mentoring centers)
  + Will we implement a different graduate application system going forward?
    - No - we want to make sure we can renew contract with CAS - want to continue with what we have but ensure sufficient funding to be able to continue
  + How are DEI initiatives related to budget cuts?
    - establishing priorities to advance initiatives despite any cuts – need to lay out more ideas for DEI

* Campus-specific updates from Deans Blum and Daleke
  + Discussing leave policies - finding out more about accreditation
  + IUPUI student awards and recognitions to be handed out at chancellor’s convocation
  + Separate award ceremonies on each campus
  + New senior staff hires at IUB
    - Assistant dean for diversity and inclusion - re-established summer STEM scholars undergraduate program for minority serving institutions - re-applying for the McNair grant
    - Director of graduate mentoring center - plans to assess mentoring at Bloomington
  + Participating in Aaron Carrol’s committees - encourage everyone to attend Aaron Carrol’s webinars
* Adjournment

*Next Meeting: March 21, 2022*