**Indiana University Graduate Faculty Council**

**January 28, 2019**

**3:30 – 5:00 pm**

Present: Margaret Bauer, Alan Bender, Bonnie Blazer-Yost, Janice Blum, Mary Bourke, Linda Charnes, David Daleke, Lessie Frazier, Dominque Galli, Lisa Gershkoff-Stowe, Kenneth Guerra, Tabitha Hardy, Edwina Helton, Mircea Ivan, Stacie King, Karen Kovacik, Yan Liu, Jane Mcleod, Landan Mintch, Massimo Ossi, Barbara Pierce, Jeff Rutherford, Scott Shackelford, Terry Shepherd, Liese Van Zee, Mary Waldron, Diane Willie, and James Wimbush

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **TOPIC** | **ITEMS/DISCUSSIONS** | **OUTCOMES/DECISIONS** |
| Approval of minutes from Council meeting on November 26, 2018 |  | Minutes approved |
| Updates from the Dean | A press release announcing the new graduate e-app implemented by Liaison International will be released to members of the GFC and graduate advisors. It is hoped that the graduate e-app will be available when recruiting students for the Fall 2018 semester. | Information only |
| Discussion Items | a. Real Issues Facing Graduate Students: Denise Hayes, CAPS Director, IUB. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers a number of services for undergraduate and graduate students. Students are allowed two free appointments each semester. Students will have to pay for additional sessions after the two free appointments unless the costs are waived. First appoint is a 30 minute triage session to determine the appropriate services for the student. CAPS does provide group sessions for graduate students during the evening hours. However, group sessions might be problematic for graduate assistants who teach courses. There may be current or former students from courses they have taught attending the group session, and this may create an uncomfortable able situation for the graduate assistant. The percentage of IUB graduate students using services was 10% for 2016-2017 and 11% for 2017-2018. The two leading issues of student concerns were anxiety and depression. Graduate students face two common types of mental wellness issues: Imposter Syndrome and Stereotype Threat. A person with Imposter Syndrome doubts their accomplishments and feels that they will be exposed as a fraud. Stereotype threat individuals feel themselves to be at risk to conforming to stereotypes. It was recommended that faculty have Gatekeeper Training to help recognize mental health concerns in students and how to refer those students to appropriate resources. The training is also designed to teach non-clinicians of the warning signs of suicide and how to respond, and provide mental health first aid to students who are experiencing a mental health crisis.  b. Survey Regarding Use of GRE in Graduate Student Recruiting. The Diversity Issues Committee was charged with conducting a study of IU graduate faculty who are responsible for making graduate application decisions to determine how the GRE is currently being used. Part of that charge is asking questions about where the GRE is required in different departments and programs, whether a department uses a specific cutoff score, and whether the GRE is used holistically, and what weight it is given in the admissions process. As reported in November, it made since to develop a survey to submit to graduate directors or others who were responsible for graduate application admissions. Some of the questions they committee considered for the survey were rejected because they would necessitate departments having a full discussion. Other question readily lent themselves to the survey. A draft survey regarding the use of GRE in graduate recruiting was submitted to the GFC members for comments (see below). Based on those comments, the committee would clean it up and work with the Graduate School who can assist in getting the survey loaded to Qualtrics. An overview of the survey was provided, and comments were solicited and offered by members of the GFC.  c. Timing Regarding Fellowship Deadlines. It has been taking 6-8 weeks to process candidacy paperwork. Applicants have been advised to submit the paperwork two months before the fellowship deadlines. Candidacy paperwork has been affected by faculty not tending to their action lists, getting things done on time, and things getting stuck in the mailboxes resulting in a backlog. | Information Only  Discussion: Services provided by CAP. Information regarding Imposter Syndrome and Stereotype Threat.  Information Only  Discussion on survey questions.  Discussion: Why does it take 6-8 weeks to process candidacy paperwork. |
| Standing Reports from Committees | * Academic Policy Committee: Nothing to report. * Awards Committee: Suzanne Kawamleh has been selected as the recipient for the Wells Graduate Fellowship. * Diversity Issues Committee: Nothing to add. * Graduate Initiatives Committee: Nothing to report * Student Representatives: Nothing to report. | Information Only |
| New Business | None |  |
| Adjournment | 4:55 |  |

Survey Questions on the GRE

Graduate Faculty Council

Diversity Committee

This survey is being administered on behalf of the Indiana University Graduate Council. The Council would like to know more about whether programs use the GRE and if so, how graduate programs use the GRE in graduate admissions decisions. If you do not oversee graduate admissions for your program, please forward this survey link to the appropriate faculty member.

For what graduate program are you reporting? (Text response)

On what IU campus is your program located?

IUB

IUPUI

IUPUC

IU East

IU Fort Wayne

IU Kokomo

IU Northwest

IU South Bend

IU Southeast

Does your program offer Masters, MFA, doctoral, or professional degrees? (Check all that apply.)

Masters

MFA

Doctoral

Professional (please specify)

Who makes admissions decisions for your program?

Director of Graduate Studies

Heads of area groups/specializations/labs within your program

An admissions committee

Other

Do you consult with individual faculty when deciding whether to admit specific students (e.g., if students express an interest in working with the faculty member or in the faculty member’s area)?

Yes

No

Do you require that graduate applicants submit GRE scores?

Yes, always

Yes, with some exceptions (“specify” text box)

No

(If no) Do you consider GRE scores if applicants submit them?

Yes

No (skip to question about materials submitted)

Does your program use a GRE cutoff score (i.e., a score below which you eliminate applicants from consideration)?

Yes

No

Which of the following GRE scores do you consider? Check all that apply

Total GRE score

Verbal reasoning

Quantitative reasoning

Analytical writing

Subject test score

Which scores do you consider most relevant to your graduate program?

Total score

Verbal reasoning

Quantitative reasoning

Analytical writing

Subject test score

In your judgment, what information do GRE scores provide (e.g., evidence of preparedness, specific knowledge, etc.)?

Has your program ever considered dropping the GRE requirement?

Yes

No

Why or why not?

(Other than GRE scores) What materials are graduate applicants to your program required to submit? (Check all that apply)

Undergraduate transcripts

Graduate transcripts

Letters of recommendation

Personal statement

Academic writing sample

Other (specify)

Which of the following factors do you consider in your admissions decisions? (Check all that apply.)

Undergraduate (and, if relevant, graduate) GPA

Quality of undergraduate institution

GRE scores

Clarity of student interests

Fit with program faculty strengths/expertise

Work/research experience

Volunteer experience

Personal background (overcoming challenges, contribution to diversity of program)

Publications or conference presentations

Other

What relative importance do you assign to each of these factors in your admissions decisions? (Rank from most important to least important)

(Will include list of those checked by respondent)

Do you interview applicants?

Yes

No

(If yes) Please describe how you choose applicants for interview and how you interview them (by phone, skype, etc.).

Has your program changed its admissions practices in the past 3-5 years?

Yes

No

If yes, what changes did you make and why?

Thank you for completing this survey. If you would like to receive a copy of the summary report, please check this box.