**Indiana University Graduate Faculty Council**

**March 20, 2017**

**3:30 – 5:00 pm**

**IIUB: BY-004**

**IUPUI: UL-1170B**

**IU Video Bridge #238853**

**Agenda**

Attendance:

IUB: Jeff Rutherford, Claudia, Troy Smith, Devan Donaldson (for Raquel Hill), Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, Malcolm Smith, David Daleke, James Wimbush

IUPUI: Leslie Ashburn-Nardo, Margaret Bauer, Janice Blum, Tabitha Hardy, Yan Liu, Millie Georgiadis, Kristy Sheeler, Jody Sundt, Diane Von Ah

Regional: Mary Bourke, Deborah Finkel, Edwina Helton, Terry Shepherd, Susan Zinner

Recorder: Jennifer Lentz

Meeting began 3:30pm

2/20/17 Minutes approved

1. Announcements

* + Reminder: April will be our last meeting of the academic year
		- Final Reports from committees for 2016-17 Council
		- Election of Officers & Committee Chairs for 2017-18 Council
		- Will need new officers – please consider if you can do the job

2. Updates from the Dean. No major additional updates, but noted a NY Times article on graduate enrollments in which IUB was mentioned. IUB is specifically seeing a decline in business and small decline overall. Unclear how the political climate affect PhD enrollment.

3. Discussion items

1. Info on the Graduate Mentoring Center—Dr. Maria Hamilton Abegunde, Director of the Graduate Mentoring Center (GMC)

Margaret will post additional information about the center on the GFC website.

GMC falls under the president’s diversity initiative to serve under-represented minorities. GMC serves IUB and IUPUI. Janice Blum and Tabitha Hardy helpful for outreach and sustaining the center.

Mission: Provide mentoring to graduate students with programming open to all grad students on both campuses. All grad students encounter difficulties in success and finishing grad education. Issues of identity can exacerbate the situation

This year’s invited scholar is Kevin Cokely at UT Austin, a scholar of African American psychology. He specifically studies the imposter phenomenon and how it impacts students of color. Imposter phenomenon (or syndrome) occurs when an individual feels they are not deserving of their current position.

A core program in the GMC is a mentoring program. Cohort invites minority faculty members to mentor underrepresented minority students. Currently have 9 faculty, 13 students. There is space for program to grow at IUPUI; looking for 4 faculty to mentor 6-10 students. Hoping for a max 1-year term, but many faculty continuing with their mentees until dissertation. Gives a link to students and faculty so that students can benefit from those with similar experience. Pairing is not really made based on discipline, but can be. Faculty get training on how to mentor.

James Wimbush mentioned Abegunde is doing a tremendous job, and the center is now exceeding expectations. Carolyn wholeheartedly agreed.

The committee discussed how the faculty can get involved, and how let more faculty and students know about this center. Word of mouth is the current model. Abegunde encouraged those who are already mentoring to continue to do so; the GMC is intended to be a complement to traditional faculty mentoring.

b. Service Learning in Graduate Education—Dr. Mary Price, Director of Faculty Development, Center for Service and Learning

Service learning (SL) is community engaged teaching and learning in education - not community service and volunteerism. It is a teaching method. Numerous ways students can go out into the community – teaching, clinical, research experience. But if the work is not community engaged or integrated into teaching, it is not service learning.

Community engagement is a curricular-based activity that is completed in and with the community. Needs to be a balance between student needs and community goals. Participation in activity is not sufficient. Learning is generated through reflection based on the experience: academic enhancement, personal/professional growth, civic learning

The impact of SL is well-documented at UG level; not so much at Grad level. Outcomes for graduate students might be different for G and UG. Trying to get more involvement at the graduate level.

Two examples of service learning provided

1. IU School of dentristy in Kenya. Experience integrated into classroom, hands on experience and learn about health system and public health, participate in research on fluoride.

2. NSF project at the University of Georgia prepares doctoral students in problem-solving, interdisciplinary teamwork, leadership, communication, community engagement, and critical professional skills that transcend discipline and prepare graduate students for a broad range of career choices and public purposes. Graduate Scholars Leadership, Engagement and Development [GS LEAD – Univ. of Georgia]

Working with IUPUI to deal with cultural differences at IUPUI and in graduate education.

c. Update: Nominations for Spring elections of new GFC reps—Carolyn Calloway-Thomas

Carolyn has received no nominations from the group, and the next step is to send out a request to general faculty. Regional campuses actively looking for replacements. Mary Bourke is still looking trying, and Susan Zinner has nominees but IUN needs to run an election first.

Grad Initiatives committee is going to assemble the nominations for an election in April.

d. Plagiarism at the Graduate Level––Carolyn Calloway-Thomas

Tabled to next month due to time constraints.

4. Standing Reports/Updates from Committees

a. Academic Policy Committee

Review of the report results regarding the PhD minor. Largest percentage of those surveyed indicated support for retaining the minor. To the extent the data were available, it seems that N&M were most supportive of removing the minor. Could not come to consensus on whether to survey the entire faculty. Question will be brought back to larger group. No support for eliminating, but also could not come to consensus on eliminating the requirement.

The background of the problem is related to biology. Biology has a belief that the minor is adding additional time to complete the degree, and therefore IUB biology is not as competitive as peer-institutions in recruiting the best students. Janice and David both indicated that there is little evidence of longer degree completion times and that perhaps we are trying to solve a problem that doesn’t exist.

Troy Smith, the biology representative, indicated two problems: The survey did not yield an even sample of responses across disciplines (some disciplines had as many as four people responding to the survey). He suggested a program-specific approach to evaluate which programs benefit from the minor and perhaps have something flexible for individual departments.

Jody asked whether we should take a more global approach and consider what an IU degree means and evaluate the role of the minor within the context of a PhD from IU. Qualitative data did bring up the issue that the minor requirement is a distinguishing factor in the IU degree. Margaret would like individual programs to deal with how a “minor” might be integrated into their program; give flexibility. Millie suggested polling the students.

Troy indicated we should perhaps not get rid of the minor in entirety, but we should carefully consider that it is not serving a lot of N&M programs.

Margaret would like to consider potential revisions of the policy, rather than just eliminating it.

Will resume this discussion next meeting.

1. Adjournment at 5:00

*Next Meeting: April 24, 2017*