

Graduate Policy Council: Year-End Report

Fall 21 and Spring 22

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I: Faculty Senate Graduate Study and Innovation Proposal:

The Council discussed the background and history of the proposal with respect to enhancing both the reputation and revenue of the University. Specifically the development of Centers for Graduate Studies and Innovation was discussed as well as providing an integrated vision and cohesive approach to developing, growing and overseeing graduate and graduate-undergraduate accelerated programs.

II: G-MMS: Graduate Multicultural Mentoring and Support Program: An overview of the G-MMS was provided and the rationale for the program was discussed. Basically, the G-MMS provides a mechanism for recruiting and retaining students from all walks of life but, providing support programs, social and recreational opportunities, faculty-student mentoring. The program is inclusive and, in particular, supports multicultural and returning students, in addition to promoting the participation of minority and marginalized undergraduate students in graduate-level scholarship. The G-MMS program was approved by the Senate in their May 5th meeting.

III: Ad Hoc Committee: Discussion of Ad Hoc Committee priorities took place with a review of priorities that were advocated by the 25-member Ad Hoc Committee. The two major priorities were to build a Center for Graduate Studies and a Center for Innovation with the goal of developing a more coherent, organized and systematic approach to program development and oversight.

IV: Graduate Study and Innovation Working Group: A working group was formed in order to solicit feedback regarding priorities and strategies for implementation of the Graduate Study proposal based on Ad Hoc Committee recommendations. The Graduate Policy Council expressed their support for the Working Group proposal priorities and the Council recommended that the approach be affirmative and direct in pursuing ways and means to implement the Graduate Study and Innovation proposal.

V. Graduate Forum 2022: The Faculty Senate Graduate Policy Council sponsored the Graduate Forum Friday April 29th and it included seven speakers: Bruce Diamond, Robert Laud, Reg Ross, Jonathan Lincoln, Stuart Goldstein, Yuri Marder and Ron Verdicchio. The Forum had an in-person and online structure and topics included: building Centers for Graduate Studies and Innovation, models for increasing enrollment, current initiatives, challenges to retention, application of technology to enhance marketing, programs that lead to jobs and reaching for a larger vision for the future.