

PRESENT: Adam Hall, Ellen Kirkman, Leslie Poole, Michael Berry, Mike Furr, Ravi Singh, Rob Hampson, Sarah Esstman, Tracy Criswell, Fred Salisbury, Chaowei Zhu, Elizabeth Jensen, Brad Jones, Debbie Newsome, Dwayne Godwin, Erik Brady, Jennie McGuire, Sarah Simpson, Fadi Marayati,

ABSENT: Grey Ballard (on sabbatical)

GUESTS: Keith Bonin, Brandon Eberl, Vicky Zickmund, Mark Hall, Bret Nicks

The fourth meeting of the Graduate Council for 2020-2021 year occurred on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 3:30 pm via Webex. Dean Brad Jones presided.

The Council first heard a report on Cross-Campus Research from our invited guest, Dr. Keith Bonin, Associate Provost for Research and Scholarly Inquiry on the Reynolda campus. Dr. Bonin talked about: (1) shared resources between the medical and Reynolda campuses (e.g. microscopy at Wake Downtown and Nanotech TEM), (2) undergraduate students (approximately 80 WFU undergraduates a year, including summer, work on projects at Wake Forest Health Services, and they will participate physically in labs this summer), (3) fourteen faculty from Chemistry, Physics, Communication, and HES have appointments in the Comprehensive Cancer Center, (4) centers (Bioethics Health and Society, Translational Science, and Molecular Signaling) are located on the Reynolda campus but involve faculty from the medical campus, (5) Shared postdocs between the two campuses, (6) Collaborative Pilot Grants provide funding for preliminary data that can be leveraged to obtain external funding, are funded by the Reynolda campus, but five projects involve the School of Medicine faculty, (7) graduate students (there are students from the medical campus who are mentored by faculty in Biology, and there is a five-year program for WFU undergraduates to obtain a Masters degree in Neuroscience), and (8) shared grants (currently an NIH grant for older adults to use improvisational movement to improve health involves faculty from Biology, Chemistry, Communication, Dance, Engineering, HES, Math and Statistics, and Physics). Dr. Bonin ended with the question of whether Atrium will result in more cross-campus collaboration.

In questions from the Graduate Council, Dr. Bonin was asked whether a program like the old Cross-Campus Collaboration Grants might return; Dr. Bonin said he was open to cross-campus grant programs, but his particular current priority is trying to raise the amount of the internal grants (which has been fixed at \$20,000) to meet inflation. The arrival of our new president, Susan Wente, might be an opportune time to suggest funding for cross-campus initiatives. External funding on the medical campus has been increasing, but efforts to increase external funding on the Reynolda campus have been less successful. Dr. Bonin established a task force on increasing Reynolda campus external funding, and it made some short-term recommendations in January 2020; the task force is just finishing up its recommendations for the longer term of 5-20 years. Another question addressed to Dr. Bonin was about the difficulty of working across the two campuses because of financial systems that do not interface well. Perhaps that will be an issue our new president might have some interest in addressing. Another question concerned expanding Wake Downtown; Dr. Bonin said that would again be something the new president might address.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. 2-2-2021 Graduate Council Minutes were approved.
2. GSA Report: Fadi Marayati introduced the new Bowman Gray GSA Chair, Brandon Eberl, who is a second-year student in Pediatric Cardiology. The GSA is still searching for other officers: Reynolda GSA chair, Secretary, Treasurer. Elizabeth Jensen asked if students in online programs were invited to GSA events, and was told that they are included, though there have been few events this year. Career Development events organized by Linda Whited might be particularly appropriate for online students, and more thought might be given to ways to invite online students to participate in the GSA.
3. Committee Reports
 - A. Curriculum Committee (Tracy Criswell, Chair)
 1. Course Change Proposals

Course Number	Course Name	Action
<i>No course changes</i>		

B. Credentials Committee (Ravi Singh, Chair)

1. The following nominations for Graduate Faculty were approved. It was noted that these people had been Graduate Faculty members at one time, had served as provisional members on committees, but had not been reaccredited, hence were presented as new members.

Name	Department/Graduate Program Affiliation
Alexandra Thomas, MD	Internal Medicine, Biomedical Engineering
Barry Maine, PhD	English
Christopher Schaich, PhD	Surgery/Hypertension, Neuroscience

C. Policy Committee (Elizabeth Jensen, Chair)

1. Honor Code Update. Elizabeth reported that the Policy Committee was discussing the circumstances when a graduate student should be allowed to appeal, guidelines for appeals, the lack of continuity in the membership of the Graduate Honor Council (all terms begin and end at the same time and hence there is a lack of understanding precedents in sanctions), the fact that outside lawyers had been involved in hearings and in the cases where there was an appeal (perhaps a University attorney should be involved then, also), and making recordings of the Honor Council hearings available to the panel hearing an appeal. Elizabeth will draft a policy that will be discussed by the Graduate Council and then presented to the University legal office for comment. The suggestion was made that there be alignment between the grievance procedure policies and the Honor Council policies.

D. Long Range Planning Committee (Ellen Kirkman, Chair)

No updates

OTHER BUSINESS

4. Proposed revisions to the MD/ MA in the Bioethics Dual Degree program (Vicky Zickmund)
Under the current policy students work on a MD and a MA in Bioethics in a five-year program. The degrees are conferred at the same time (end of the fifth year). Changes were proposed so that students could enter the bioethics part of the program either in their second year, or in their third year, and the MA degree would be conferred at the end of the 11.5 months of study. The thesis would be completed before transitioning back into the medical track. This new arrangement would entail using an accelerated timeline that currently exists. This plan would give a more logical exit and re-entrance into the medical program and make financial support and tuition more clearly understood by the student. The current program has been in existence for 10 years, but only one student has completed the program as it appears in the Bulletin. The changes were approved by the Graduate Council.
5. Change in name of the Master of Science in Healthcare Leadership program (Bret Nicks).
By comparing with peer institutions, it was determined that the proper name for the degree earned in this program is a Master of Healthcare Leadership (an MHL degree). This change would entail some other changes, for example, the candidates would be in a separate group at the graduation hooding ceremony, as the Masters in Liberal Arts Studies students are.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dean Dwayne Godwin indicated that he is working on coming up with a virtual poster session so that this year's graduates will have opportunities to present their work.

Erik Brady announced that six students from the medical campus were successful in obtaining funding from NIH that totaled over \$100,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Kirkman
Secretary