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| **Graduate Affairs Committee**  **Minutes** | **Date: February 25, 2025**  **Time: 1:30 p.m.**  **Location: Zoom** |
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| Meeting called by: Dr. Janice Blum | |
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| Attendees: | |
| Janice Blum (Chair), Margaret Adamek, Kyle Anderson, Pierre Atlas, Keith Avin, Kathi Badertscher, Rebecca Ellis, Margie Ferguson, Ray Haberski, Tabitha Hardy, Monica Henry, Brittney-Shea Herbert, Dawn Holder, Amelia Hurt, Frank Lippert, Karl MacDorman, Jennifer Mahoney, Kevin McCracken, Kyle Minor, Jennifer Piatt, Christine Picard, Zach Riley, Randall Roper, Anita Sale, Kelly Sumner, Lloyd Thomas Wilson, Yan Zhuang, Staff: Dezra Despain | |
| Guest: James Gladden, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor IU Indianapolis | |

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| **Minutes** | |
| 1:30 p.m. James Gladden, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor IU Indianapolis  EVC Gladden thanked Dr. Janice Blum for her service as she prepares for retirement. They are establishing a new position titled Associate Vice Chancellor, Vice Provost of Graduate Education, Undergraduate Education and International Affairs, and Dean of the IU Graduate School Indianapolis, reporting to Dr. Gladden. IU Indianapolis received Research 1 (R1) status this year. Part of the challenge for the new dean will be to ensure IU Indianapolis maintains the R1 status. An assessment for R1 status takes place every 3 years and we are at the beginning of the next cycle.  Dr. Gladden will look for someone who will be strategic about graduate programs, one who will think collaboratively with the deans on the inventory of programs to either help programs with potential growth or to eliminate those that are not growing, and to help develop new programs that put IU Indianapolis on the cutting edge.  A search committee is being formed and will look both nationally and internally.  The potential start date for the new position will be in the summer. Dr. Blum indicated she would be available to offer information and advice after retirement. |  |
| Approval of the Minutes for January 28, 2025 - approved | Blum |
| Dean's Report  Enrollment is up 20% in admission to graduate and professional programs for this time in the enrollment cycle.  The search for a graduate commencement speaker is underway. They are reviewing the submissions. Just a reminder that Commencement is just for IU students. Lingering Purdue students will have Commencement with Purdue.  The Queener award winners are Olivia Bednarski from Microbiology and the MD/PHD program in the School of Medicine and Sydney Powers who is in the Criminal Just and Public Safety program in the O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Science.  There have been several articles in the press about the current administration in Washington changing the tax laws to tax graduate student stipends and tuition funding. IU is collecting data to aid in understanding how many of our students are affected and how it will impact them. | Blum |
| Assistant Dean's Report  Dr. Hardy is on a taskforce looking into resources for student parents on campus and has developed a survey for student parents to assess their needs.  The *Grad Jag Writers Workshop* with University Writing Center will be Mondays 3-5 p.m. in the Grad Commons space on the 4th floor of University Library and 8-10 a.m. Thursday’s is hybrid.  *Getting you into IU Indianapolis* campus visit program will be held on April 8th-10th, with departmental visits occurring from 12-4pm April 9th. There are about 20 students that will be visiting the campus on these dates. Contact will be made with departments to set up tours.  Save the date:  *Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation week* is April 7-11, 2025, and will kick off April 7th with the Elite 50 Celebration. | Hardy |
| Graduate Mentoring Center  The IU Indianapolis Graduate Mentoring Center will have a limited number of sponsorships to help support appreciation events in schools or departments. Small groups may receive up to $250, Large groups up to $500.  The GMC is working with schools and departments to Improve mentoring. They have multiple trainings for graduate students and faculty. These sessions include 1, 2, and 8 hours of online and in person trainings.  *CAREing for our Community* will train faculty researchers in an online, evidence-based program on safe, and inclusive training environments. Four 1-hour webinars starting in February and March 2025. $150 gift card for participating, Digital badge, $10,000 Program Enhancement Grant program. | Roper |
| Graduate and Professional Student Government  Not in attendance | Brokaw |
| Graduate School Reports  Graduate admissions & academic advisors will be included on each [*Degrees and Majors*](https://indianapolis.iu.edu/academics/degrees-majors/?program_type=1|2|3|4|6|7|8|9&campus=indianapolis)program page on the IU Indianapolis website. The Grad School worked with schools to identify advisors. The UCM web strategy team will place the advisor links on the individual degree pages initially, starting March 10 after which it will be up to the program to keep it updated. Contact Kim Hannel ([khannel@iu.edu](mailto:khannel@iu.edu)) for self-service tool training, Anna Clark ([clark54@iu.edu](mailto:clark54@iu.edu)) for questions about this plan, and Jennifer Mahoney ([mahoney2@iu.edu](mailto:mahoney2@iu.edu)) for questions about advisors identified for programs. | Henry |
| Committee Reports |  |
| Fellowship Subcommittee Report  No report for March | Henry |
| Curriculum Subcommittee Report  The Curriculum Committee reviewed nine courses this month, all were new course requests. Of those, four were approved and five were approved with contingencies.  The next meeting is in March and the courses will need to be received in the Graduate School by Monday, March 3 for them to be considered for the March agenda. | Despain for Klemsz |
| Graduate Recruitment Council Report  The next GRC meeting will be held on April 16 from noon – 1 p.m. in University Library, Room 1116.  The Graduate School has the following upcoming events for prospective students:  “What about Graduate School?” Information Sessions on March 12: 12-12:45 p.m. and March 24: 3-3:45 p.m.  Accelerate Acceptance: The Secrets of Graduate Admissions Speed Sessions on March 26: 5-6:30 p.m.  Fast Track Your Future: Explore Accelerated Degrees (for current IU Indy undergrads) on April 1: 12-1 p.m.  The annual Graduate Recruiter’s Workshop will be held in June (exact date TBD). | Mahoney |
| Discussion:   * Reminder – Use of Principles of Graduate and Professional Student Learning – tabled until the next meeting * Stellic – To implement Stellic, the UGS bulletin must be accurate. This may increase consent agenda items for the committee in the coming months. Dr. Avin is ensuring each school's website matches the GAC-vetted information. Any discrepancies will be addressed and approved accordingly. * Addiction Neuroscience PhD minors – Questions have arisen about the proposed 6-credit minors in the School of Science. Minors are valued for providing diverse perspectives and supporting research. However, housing a minor within the same department as the PhD limits this diversity. Restricting minors to specific programs can be problematic.   Changes to the Addiction Neuroscience PhD is on today’s consent agenda. The proposal limits the available minors for their PhD students to two specific minors.  The GAC discussed this. Dr. Kyle Minor and Dr. Christine Picard from the School of Science indicated that allowing students select between the two minors mentioned in the proposal was not what was intended.  Dr. Blum requested that the proposal be modified and asked the committee to vote on the following: “The Addictions Neuroscience program will modify the proposal for their PhD program plan to remove the mention of any specific minors and indicate that students can select any minor as part of their studies in consultation with their graduate faculty mentor.”  A vote was proposed to approve this modification. It was seconded and the committee approved the proposal with modifications.  Additional discussion on doctoral student minors  In 2023, the committee approved to allow the School of Science to offer 6-credit minors for doctoral students, piloting this for 5 years. The question has come up, "Is there an interest to expand the 6-credit minor option to other programs?" Currently, only the School of Science offers 6-credit minors, while most programs have 12-credit minors, with some professional schools offering 9-credit minors.  The rationale for 12-credit minors includes:   * Providing sufficient expertise on transcripts to be valuable to employers. * Helping students hone interests in their fields. * Assisting in finding dissertation committee members, as not all schools have enough faculty for each PhD student.   Concerns from the School of Science include budget issues and accreditation requirements limiting course options.  A national survey showed that universities like Arizona, Wisconsin-Madison, and Nebraska require minors ranging from 9 to 15 credit hours. The 12-credit minor is common and adds an interdisciplinary component.  The committee requested time to discuss with deans and faculty expanding the 6-credit minor option.   * Timely Topics   Several institutions have paused fall PhD admissions due to potential federal funding changes, which could impact grants. The University of Pittsburgh has frozen admissions, and Ohio State faces a $48 million deficit. IU is cautious but proceeding as normal for now. If the campus cuts the budget to the Graduate School, then less money will be distributed via fellowships and grants, including Block Grants. The student fellowships will be prioritized. Not admitting PhD students could jeopardize IU Indy’s R1 status due to insufficient PhD students graduating.  There’s a lot of uncertainty due to the cuts in funding. Deans are concerned about how to continue to support students and are being resourceful. The Graduate School will do all they can to help. | Blum & Avin |
| Consent Agenda   * New Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry PhD minor in the School of Science – approved * New Molecular Biosciences PhD minor in the School of Science – approved * Change to the plan of study in the Addiction Neuroscience PhD program (and the non-terminal MS) in the School of Science – approved with modifications mentioned above under Addiction Neuroscience PhD minors. * Change to the plan of study in the Clinical Psychology PhD program (and the non-terminal MS) in the School of Science – approved * Change to the plan of study for the following concentrations in the MPH program from Fairbanks School of Public Health – all approved   + Epidemiology   + Health Policy & Management   + Interdisciplinary Public Health Studies   + Social and Behavioral Sciences * Change to the plan of study in the MS Global Health and Sustainable Development program from Fairbanks School of Public Health – approved * Name change for the following programs in the School of Nursing: – all approved  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Formal Name** | **New Formal Name** | | Post-MSN Grad Cert in Family Nurse Practitioner | Post-master’s Graduate Certificate in Family Nurse Practitioner | | Post-MSN Grad Cert in Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care | Post-master’s Graduate Certificate in Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner | | Post-MSN Grad Cert in Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner | Post-master’s Graduate Certificate in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner | | Post-Master in Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist (IU)/Post-Master in Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist | Post-master’s Graduate Certificate in Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist | | Post-Master in Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist | Post-master’s Graduate Certificate in Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist | | Post-MS in Nursing Graduate Certificate Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (Acute Care) | Post-master’s Graduate Certificate in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner | | Avin |
| Informational Items:   * The Graduate Affairs Committee approved the Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering from the Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering at Indianapolis via an electronic vote on February 5, 2025. * The PhD minor in Environmental Health Science to be removed from the University Graduate School Bulletin. | |

Next Meeting and Adjournment (**March 25, 2025, 1:30 pm, Zoom**)