Meeting Location: via Zoom

GFGC Chair Beth Boland called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m., welcoming a total of 17 attendees. Members introduced themselves and welcomed new members to the council.

Information Items:

Meeting minutes of 06-01-2021 were approved (consent agenda)

Items from the Dean:
Dean Dave Patrick shared several graphs outlining trends of applicants, admissions, confirmed attendees in the graduate program over the past multiple years. The trend shows gradual declines in all categories; (however, applications for this fall ticked up to approximately 1000 applicants). The Dean indicated two possible reasons for the downward trend at WWU: 1) New programs haven't matched the number of programs that closed, 2) Current programs haven't grown much in size. Dave noted that programs offered now look very much like they did 10-20 years ago.

Also included in the Dean's announcements:

- Applications are coming in for Dayna Patterson's position. Michael Barr reported interviews to begin very soon.
- The Graduate School hired Allie Spikes to help with the marketing graduate programs
- TA stipends are currently $14,858, an increase of $3,000 over the past three years and on the way to the target figure of $16,000 a year.

GSAC report:
Megan Spiegel reported the hiring of three different 0.5 FTE individuals to the Graduate School, two of whom are serving on the council (see roster). Jaimie Baxter shared updates on priorities for GSAC this year: 1) student wellbeing, 2) resource utilization, 3) visibility and engagement, 4) inclusivity, connectivity, and collaboration. GSAC will meet on Zoom allowing those in and out of Bellingham to participate.

Membership and potential Term Changes:
Chair Boland proposed term changes to allow for staggered entry and exit from GFGC. The result would be four college representatives remaining on the current term (2020-2022) while 3 move to extending their term to 2023. At-large members would also stagger exits, with a request for 3 members in this category to extend their term to 2024. After the adjustments, the council will return to the typical two-year term. Kristi Lemm voiced supported for moving forward. This would include approaching Faculty Senate to secure this temporary adjustment and asking for volunteers to adjust their current term limit. Stan Goto moved and Kristi Lemm seconded. Vote: 12 approve, 1 abstention.

Committee updates:
Chair Boland reviewed subcommittee assignments for the Graduate Program Review Committee (GPRC), Graduate School Curriculum Committee (GSCC), and Graduate Student Support Committee (GSSC). Mark indicated he is stepping down as chair of GPRC, with Margaret and Tammi assuming co-chair responsibilities. This committee will add Stan. Kristi will convene GSCC,

Mark will convene GPRC, and Christina will convene GSSC. Student members will be added to a committee later.

Policies from GFGC:
Chair Boland suggested a review of policies established last year, and suggested committees consider future actions.

Items from the Floor:
Craig Dunn mentioned the 'shout out' from the President at this years' convocation and expressed the need to have a voice in the dean searches scheduled for this year. He advocated for 'having a place at the table' as these searches commence.

Meeting adjourned at 12:57 p.m.

GRADUATE FACULTY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL – ROSTER 2021-2022

VOTING ATTENDEES				NON-VOTING ATTENDEES	
College Representatives				**Student Members**	
Robert Mitchell	Geology (CSE)			Jaimie Baxter (Environmental Studies)	P
Linda Keeler	Health and Human Development (CHSS)	P		Samia Quidwai (AudD)	
Chris Loar	English (CHSS)	P		Gabby Wilson (Experimental Psychology)	P
Patty Bourne (Vice Chair)	Music (CFPA)	P		AS student member (vacant)	
Mark Staton	Finance & Mktg (CBE)	P		**Ex Officio Members**	
Tammi Laninga	Urban and Environmental Planning & Policy (HCE)	P		David Patrick, *Dean, Graduate School*	P
Stan Goto	Health and Community Studies (WCE)	P		Michael Barr, *Associate Dean, Graduate School*	P
Gabe Gossett	Library	P		**Recorder**	
At-Large Members				(vacant)	
Elizabeth Boland (Chair)	Health and Community Studies (WCE)	P		**Guests**	
Christina Byrne	Humanities and Sciences (CHSS)	P		Megan Spiegel, *Graduate School*	P
Craig Dunn	Management (CBE)	P			
Joseph Hunter	Special Education and Education Leadership (WCE)			**Voting attendees**	12
Kristi Lemm	Psychology (CHSS)	P		**Non-voting attendees**	5
Margaret Scheuermann	Chemistry (CSE)	P		**TOTAL ATTENDEES**	17