Graduate School

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AGENDA, GRADUATE FACULTY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
Tuesday, April 12th, 2022
12:00 – 12:50, via Zoom (online)

1. Consent agenda (see Appendix 1)

2. Remaining Spring quarter GFGC meeting dates:
    - May 10th and June 7th

3. Provost/Executive VP for Academic Affairs search update – Craig Dunn

4. Next year's positions
    - Need Vice Chair (with assumption of moving into Chair 2023-24 AY)
    - If Faculty Senate does not approve our restructuring of terms
        - All college reps, except Woodring
        - Library rep
    - If Faculty Senate does approve our restructuring of terms
        - 4 college reps (TBD)
        - 2 at-large positions (TBD)

5. Items from the Dean/Associate Dean
    - Announcements
    - Commencement Ceremonies and Graduate School policies

6. Items from the floor

Appendix 1

Consent Agenda

1) Meeting minutes from 3/8/22
2) Committee updates
   a) Graduate School Curriculum Committee (GSCC)
      - No updates since last meeting
      - Will begin working on the Graduate School's policy and guidelines for course modality
   b) Graduate Program Review Committee (GPRC)
      - The anthropology program was reviewed in 2019. The report indicated the need for review in 2021-2022 because of concerns related to
        1. Course scheduling and coordination
        2. Consideration of climate issues described in the review
        3. Updates to laboratories and increased space for archeological collections
      - Mark reached out to the program and received a response from the current program director. (Please review attachment that was included with the agenda.)
      - Mark, Tammi, and Margaret read the program's response and recommend against further action by GFGC at this time.
   c) Graduate Student Support Committee (GSSC)
      - Continuing the work of gathering information about program-specific graduate student handbooks and policies programs have in place to support students.
      - Continuing to explore ways to support graduate students via an institutional manual and/or website.
      - Working with the GPRC in how to support programs and students when lack of support is found during the review.
3) Committee representation updates
   - STS along with AMSEC co-submitted a budget proposal to request six new TA lines (https://bfp.wwu.edu/current-operating-budget-proposals?check_logged_in=1 Proposal AA-29, currently open for comment). These TAs would work alongside permanent technical staff to assist other students and faculty with collecting and analyzing data on a particular instrument or group of related instruments. The TAs would receive advanced training from STS and AMSEC staff then apply their training in support of courses and other researchers.
   - Benefits of proposal AA-29 for graduate students
     - 97% of proposed budget for TA salary and tuition waivers, remainder for consumables related to increased instrument use
     - unique and valuable skills for the TAs who hold these positions
     - more timely access to instruments and instrument training for all STEM graduate students
     - increased competitiveness on future external grant proposals related to instrumentation