



AD-HOC GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING

March 25, 2020 @ 12-1:30pm via Webex

Minutes

Attendees: Keala Kiko, Christian Jensen, Christine Bergman, Dana Bickmore, Janet Dufek, Dong Chan-Lee, Doug Unger, Greg Moody, Alyssa Crittenden, Anjala Krishen, Sara Jordan, Jayce Farmer, Pramen Shrestha, Jennifer Guthrie, Jennifer Rennels, Henry Selvaraj, Kelly Mays, Sean Clark, Joe Morgan, Joel Snyder, Helen Wing, Hui Zhao, Jim Busser, James Navalta, Jared Lau, Jennifer Pharr, Jichin Li, Josh Vermillion, Kenny Varner, Kim Charron, Laura Kruskall, Laxmi Gewali, Mary-Ann Overcamp Martini, Michael Nicholl, Norma Saldivar, Paul Thomas Clement, Peter Gray, Toni Repetti, Alona Angosta, Richard Miller, Sam Song, Simon Gottschalk, Steen Madsen, Tamara Herold, Wendy Kveck, Billy Bauer

- I. Wellness in the time of Coronavirus
- II. Welcome to our new virtual space
 - A. Webex Resources
 1. [Webex General Guides: Guide for the Host](#) and [Guide for Attendees](#).
 2. Guides for Oral Defenses: ([Novice Webex Users](#); [Advanced Webex Users](#))
 - a) **All defenses must be virtual until further notice -- oral exams, thesis/diss defenses, etc. Defenses should continue, though, to support student progress.**
 - b) **Alternately, you may opt to use Zoom on a personal account, but UNLV OIT cannot provide support.**
 - B. Grad Council, Council Committees & Grad College Meetings will continue as usual via Webex
 1. Awards Committees 1 & 2-Completed for the academic year; GAC 2 will likely be tapped to adjudicate WAGS awards in Aug. 2020
 2. Curriculum
 3. Catalog and Handbooks due April 1st or please contact gradcurriculum@unlv.edu
 4. **New proposals, etc. not necessarily on hold, but there's a possibility of delays in approving or rolling-out new programs when they get further up the chain in the approvals stage (eg. Provost & Regents) depending on the budget situation.**
- III. COVID-19 updates, information, and accommodations already in place
 - A. Uncharted territory, so let our values guide us: our North Star: Support Grad Students & Faculty and provide transparency.

- B. Our GC [COVID-19 website](#) & emails
- C. UNLV talking points: [March 24](#) and [March 18](#)
- D. Spring commencement & summer semesters
 - 1. Online - **completely**
 - 2. S/U - **see below**
 - 3. Alt Commencement plan
 - a) **Commencement postponed, no date decided yet**
- E. GC priorities
 - 1. Graduating students
 - 2. Student support & progression
 - 3. Emergency student support
 - 4. Faculty & staff support
 - 5. Transparency & over-communicating
 - 6. Documentation of [decisions](#)
 - a) **Spreadsheet of the decisions we make during this semester**
 - 7. **New: S/U -- need guidelines**
 - a) **Consensus B- or higher = S, anything under = U**
 - b) **Prefer the UNR proposal and consensus of 6 credits**
- F. Financial Implications

IV. GC Unit Updates

A. R2PC

- 1. Recruitment & Admissions
 - a) Welcome Dr. Dave Beasley, new Recruitment & Admissions Specialist: [Letter & information from Dave](#)
 - b) [Online recruitment offerings](#)
 - c) English proficiency, foreign credential evaluations, transcripts
 - d) Departmental admissions requirements
 - (1) **Can make changes in your department for this semester, but MUST document via email**
 - e) ETS online options for GRE and TOEFL
 - f) [GMAT online proctored option](#) coming in mid-April
- 2. RPC
 - a) Extended graduation-related deadlines for spring 2020
 - (1) **All thesis/dissertation deadlines for spring 2020 graduation have been extended and are on our [website](#)**
 - (2) **The deadline for students who are NOT completing a thesis or dissertation to submit their culminating experience results form to the Graduate College is May 4th**
 - b) Incomplete grades for spring 2020
 - (1) **Not encouraging incompletes, unless it really makes sense to support a specific student situation**
 - (2) **S/U grading option for spring 2020**

B. Grad Financial Services & Development

- 1. Emergency Retention Awards (SOS shout-out)
 - a) **Form moved online**
- 2. External newsletter & outreach: Graduate Student Emergency Fund

3. Loaner laptops, WiFi hotspots, and software
 - a) **Limited supply - send email to graduate.dean@unlv.edu with Computer Needed in title and we'll get you the google form to give to the student**
 4. Recruitment awards extended from May 1st to June 1st
 5. Scholarships & Fellowships going out this week, denials next
 6. Discussion & recommendations
 - a) Access: Summer Doctoral Research Fellows & Finishing Fellows
 - b) GAs: state GAs, TTDGRAs, IGAs
 - c) **Hiring Freeze - full stop on all GA appointments until further notice from Chancellor & President**

(1) Please don't panic! We are awaiting for information.
- C. Systems & Data & Communications
1. COVID-19 communications & updates to MC letters & message
 2. Coronavirus tracking
 3. Exam form
 4. Forms guide page
- D. Student Services
1. [Join us for virtual Yoga!](#)
 2. Professional Development [Workshops](#) on WebEX
 3. Program and Certification [deadlines](#): April 8th
- V. What else is on your mind? Worrying you or your students? Needs to be addressed? Great ideas?

Laura Kruskall - we need a policy for grad students in hospital clinical rotations. those in place say undergrads

***Would prefer same policy for grad students**

Alyssa Crittenden - Also, we need a policy for research experiments and interviews that extend to face to face interactions. Some groups on campus are still collecting data from/with participants.

***Students should not be conducting face-to-face research in labs**

Kelly Mays: GAs have asked (especially those on payment plans) whether there is any chance of fee remissions of any kind, particularly given that some fees pay for services not accessible to them now?

***No tuition remission at this time, the fees still go to health services, CAPs, etc. and we are not charging for anything to go completely online and access to software remotely**

Helen Wing: Are scholarship decisions still being made even if funding is uncertain? STEM scholarship Doctoral finishing fellowship?

***Yes, they are still being made since these come from different pools of money**

Gregory Moody: For my program, one current difficulty is for international students graduating, they usually have only a certain number of days to get

employment, on OPT, before they need to go home. Given the current job climate, has there been any extension on this front by the Fed gov?

***Checking on this**