

Graduate committee members: Joseph Turner (chair F21), Frank Kelderman (chair F22), Andrea Olinger, Bronwyn Williams, Ian Stansel

Regular activities: The Graduate Committee had its usual slate of meetings and responsibilities this year: individual meetings (progress interviews) with all second-year PhD students, discussions of program guideline revisions, and MA and PhD admissions meetings. All meetings were conducted virtually.

Additionally, in their role as DGS, Joe and Frank organized (with Lisa Cox's help) and led the following events:

- Fall '21 orientation for incoming graduate students
- Spring '22 digital visitation day for all accepted PhD students (see more in admissions below)

Graduate Program Developments:

Program Assistant Lisa Cox continues to provide exemplary support to the program. Joe stepped down from DGS as of 1.1.22 when Frank Kelderman took over. Joe returned to the position as Acting DGS on 7.1.22 during Frank's Fall '22 sabbatical. Many thanks to Joe for his service.

Process Maps

The process maps that Joe and Lisa developed in '20-'21 were tremendously helpful in securing a smooth transition from Joe's to Frank's directorship. The process maps made the process and timing of the various administrative duties very transparent and easy to replicate.

Weekly Email Digest

During Spring '22, Frank sent out a weekly email to the English Graduate Student listserv, collating news, event announcements, and deadline reminders for MA and PhD students in the program.

Events and Workshops

During Spring '22, we held two in-person events (masked) for graduate students: a workshop with Megan Poole and Mark Mattes on "Conference Presentation Tips and Tricks" (2/17) and a workshop aimed at MA students about applying to PhD programs, with Simona Bertacco (3/25).

The graduate program also co-sponsored the Graduate Student Luncheon at the LCLC, with organizational assistance from Lisa.

Admission Details:

At the **PhD** level, the graduate program met its recruitment goals this year. There were 18 applications, and we were able to accept 8 PhD students, including 4 University Fellows. However, one international student has had to defer admission to next year, due to a lack of available visa spots at their embassy.

At the MA level, the graduate program did not meet its recruitment goals this year. There were 12 applications for the M.A. with a GTA position. We were able to recruit 6 MA/GTA students, including a current non-GTA student who accepted a GTA position for their second year in the

program. As a result, we had to return 5 MA lines to the College this year, up from 4 lines last year. MA recruitment will have to be a priority for our graduate program, especially with the goal of retaining staffing hours for the University Writing Center.

Latrica Best, then Associate Dean of Graduate Education, writes that she “will argue to keep the same number of lines for the next year” (i.e. 15 PhD lines and 20 MA).

RE: Question about MA and PhD lines: English

Best, Latrica Evette <latrica.best@louisville.edu>

Wed 4/6/2022 12:16 PM

To: Kelderman, Frank P <frank.kelderman@louisville.edu>

Hi Frank,

It was nice seeing you on Friday as well.

For clarification, how many MA lines will you be returning this year?

And, yes, I completely understand your enrollment situation, and will argue to keep the same number of lines for the next year.

Take care,

Latrica

From: Kelderman, Frank P <frank.kelderman@louisville.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 8:51 AM

To: Best, Latrica Evette <latrica.best@louisville.edu>

Subject: Re: Question about MA and PhD lines: English

Due to issues beyond the department’s control, a lot of the applicants’ dossiers were incomplete or slow to come through the application portal. Thanks to Lisa’s excellent coordination and attentiveness, we were able to finalize applications with minimal delay.

Incoming Cohorts

PhD: We have 4 incoming GTA students, 3 University Fellows, and 1 Diversity Scholar. However, one GTA students had to defer admission to 2023-24 due to visa availability issues.

MA: We have 5 incoming GTA students, and 1 second-year MA student who converted from non-GTA to GTA. We also have 2 incoming non-GTA students.

Applicant Pools and Recruiting

The application pool for PhD students is stable; the MA application pool is significantly down. seem stable although low.

PhD: We received 18 PhD applications (up from 13 last year and consistent with 19 the year before).

MA: We received 12 GTA applications (down from 16 last year and 18 the year before). Including non-GTA students, we received 17 applications.

Recruiting

Recruitment remains a priority, with a real need to boost recruitment for the MA program. The graduate committee has developed new recruitment materials, and Frank, Lisa, and Joe have worked on improving the “Admissions” webpages for the MA and PhD programs.

PhD Visitation Day

We held a virtual recruitment event again this year due to the pandemic. It went smoothly thanks to the coordination of Lisa Cox. Students seemed fine with the digital format. We were able to recruit 5 of the 7 students invited to the visitation day.

Graduation and Placement:

PhD: We graduated five PhD students in 2022. We have a 60% placement rating in full-time employment, a 60% placement rating in academic positions, and a 20% placement rating in TT jobs.

Names	Position in Fall 2022
Charlotte Asmuth	Assistant Professor of the Practice (non-TT), Duke University
John Chang	On the market
Joseph Sharp	Assistant Professor (TT), Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Walker Smith	On the market; PTL at UofL
Alex Way	Assistant Professor (non-TT), University of Utah

MA: The MA program graduated 7 students in 2022.

Names	Position in Fall 2022
Hays, Talmadge	
Hutto, Andrew	MFA program at ...
Ismail, Ayaat	PTL at UofL
Knegeris, Katherine	
Litzenberg, Zoe	
Schaper, Chelsea	PhD student in Rhet/Comp, UofL
Secrest, Spenser	PhD student in Rhet/Comp, UofL
Turner, Emma	

Awards

- Olalekan Adepoju won a Presidential Diversity Supplement Award from the GS.
- Olalekan Adepoju also won an award from the Graduate Network of Arts & Sciences (GNAS)
- Taylor Riley won a departmental Creative Writing Scholarship
- Brittany Smart Graduate Student Council (GSC) grant for her dissertation research
- Brittany Smart also won a Plattus Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching
- Walker Smith won the Department's Outstanding Graduate Student (PhD) award.
- Chelsea Shaper won the Department's Outstanding Graduate Student (MA) award.

Goals for next AY:

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