MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING  
February 22, 2022  
Hybrid: Houchens, room 105 and Teams

**Convene** – The meeting convened at 3:00 P.M. by Dr. Beth Boehm, Dean.

**Ex-Officio**: Dr. Beth Boehm, Dean and Dr. Paul DeMarco, Associate Dean

**Members Present**: Simona Bertacco, Liza Creel, Lindsay Della, Natalie DuPre, Lidiya Grote, Jafar Hadizadeh, Frances Hardin-Fanning, Daniel Holt, Mary Hums, Michele Kosiewicz, Michael McIntyre, Matthew Nelson, Meghan Pifer, Michele Pisano, Patrick Possel, Joe Steffen, Anya Trell, Monica Wendel, Gerold Willing

**Members Absent**: Gina Bertocci, Geoffrey Clark, Andy Frey, Daniel Nguyen, Christopher Ryan, Tamara Sluss, Monica Wendel

**Guests:**  Karunarathna Kulasekera

**Update from Graduate Student Council –** Anya Trell (President of Graduate Student Council) provided the following updates:

* **Research Conference (March 24th and 25th)**
  + GSC is looking for faculty judges
  + Graduate Council members are encouraged to participate

**Action Items:**

1. **Approval of minutes from October 26, 2021**

* Dr. Boehm asked for review and approval of the council minutes from October 26, 2021. **MOTION** by Frances Hardin-Fanning. **SECOND** by Michele Kosiewicz. Unanimously **APPROVED.**

1. **Approve Revised Minimum Guidelines for Graduate Education (Mary Hums presented motion)**
   * Approved by 2021-22 Academic Affairs Committee on 11/30/2021
2. School of Dentistry
   * + Automatically seconded. 13 approve. 1 abstain. **APPROVED**.
3. Speed School of Engineering
   * + Automatically seconded. Unanimously **APPROVED.**

* Guidelines to be approved by Academic Affairs (3/22/2022)

1. School of Music (will be reviewed by Joe Steffen)
2. College of Business (will be reviewed by Gina Bertocci)
3. Kent School of Social Work (will be reviewed by Mary Hums)
4. **Motion to present to Graduate Council: Duolingo scores of 105 as a substitute for TOEFL or IELTS scores for international applicants (Shabeer Amirali)**

* Duolingo is less expensive for international students ($65)
* All ACC schools accept Duolingo except Georgia Tech
  + - Automatically seconded. 13 approve. 1 abstain. **APPROVED**.

**Information Items:**

**Discussion Items:**

* + **GTA Excellence in Teaching Award**
    1. One award of $500
    2. Recognizes GTAs who have distinguished themselves by the care they have given and the excellence they have shown in meeting their instructional responsibilities
    3. To be given each Spring by the Graduate School, beginning in 2023
    4. Students must have taught for at least two semesters to receive an award
    5. Units may not nominate more than 4 GTAs per cycle, and no more than 10% of total number of GTAs
  + **Dashboards and Stipend Study (K.B. Kulasekera)**
    1. Admissions dashboard is ready to send out (a link will come from Chandler soon)
    2. Doctoral monthly stipends were analyzed from 13 institutions and compared to UofL
    3. UofL’s median stipend was below the 25th percentile in every discipline examined
    4. Our stipends have not increased since 2006
    5. Our goal is to shift our current line to the median. If we want to be competitive, we want to shift to the third quartile
    6. It is in the budget to get an increase
    7. Stipend study has been reviewed by Provost and Dan Durbin
       1. 80% of our stipends will be increased ($500,000 will be distributed equally the first year)

**Recommendations:** none

**Announcements**: none

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted 2/23/2022  
Reilly Brown, Administrative Associate*

*Approved Graduate Council Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*