UW-Milwaukee
Graduate Faculty Committee
Graduate Fellowship Subcommittee
September 4, 2014
4:00-5:00 p.m.
143 Union

Minutes

Present: Simone Ferro, Laretta Henderson, Jerry Kaster, Karen Morin (Chair), Laura Otto-Salaj, Kristin Pitt, Greg Thomson
Absent: Anthony Azenabor, Naira Campbell-Kyureghyan, Aaron Schutz, Peter Tonellato
Guest: Vicky Everson

Call to Order
Karen Morin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Announcements
Vicky Everson reminded the Subcommittee members of the Graduate Student Fellowship Celebration on September 18 from 4:00-6:00 in the Library 4th floor Conference Center. Subcommittee members recommended that photos be taken and that Skype be available for fellowship recipients who cannot attend.

Vicky stated that the October 29, 2014, Graduate Program Reps meeting will focus on the 2015-16 fellowship competition process. The chair of the Subcommittee or a designee should attend that meeting. An outstanding recommendation letter written on behalf of a fellowship nominee will be shared with the grad reps.

Vicky shared the fellowship handout that was prepared for and distributed at the New Graduate Student Orientation held on August 28, 2014.

Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska, Dean of the Graduate School, asked that this group reply to a request from Phyllis King regarding an update on your school/college’s strategies for scholarship distribution for recruitment and retention including all forms of scholarships. Discussion followed. The Subcommittee determined that this request is one for departments and/or programs. It is true that some Distinguished Graduate Student Fellowship (DGSF) awards are offered to new students and viewed as recruitment tools. However, the Subcommittee decides on award offers based on the merit of the nominations, not on which students should be recruited.

Approval of the minutes from the April 22, 2014, and March 13, 2014, meetings
Simone Ferro moved to approve the minutes and Greg Thomson seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Editorial recommendations were made with regard to the April 22 minutes. Punctuation and capitalization recommendations were made to the March 13 minutes. The motion was approved with the amendments that were recommended. One Subcommittee member abstained from voting.
Review 2014-15 timeline and competition process
The recommended timeline was reviewed and the Chair emphasized that the work of the Subcommittee takes place during a four-week period in February and March. She indicated the purposes of the meetings that are held during the academic year and stressed the importance of each Subcommittee member’s contribution to the review/rating process.

Election of Chair of Subcommittee for 2014-15
Jerry Kaster was nominated as Chair of the Subcommittee for 2014-15. He was elected by acclamation.

Other business
The Subcommittee members indicated an interest in looking at the history of the fellowship award offers. Discussion was held regarding tracks and/or specializations being allowed to submit nominations in addition to the graduate program.

Discussion occurred regarding the recommendation that two faculty members from L&S be added to the Subcommittee’s membership. The purpose is for each division in L&S to have representation on the Subcommittee due to the size of L&S and the fact that the majority of fellowship nominations come from L&S. In order to change the composition of the Subcommittee, the GFC charter may need to be revised. Laretta Henderson made the motion to add two L&S faculty members to the Subcommittee so that each division from L&S is represented. Kristin Pitt seconded the motion. It passed though one member abstained from voting.

Karen Morin thanked the Subcommittee members for their work during the past academic year.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.