

Graduate Council
2018-19 End-of-Year Report

The following report includes the period from May 2018 through March 2019, including the summer months of June and July.

Summary of Tasks Completed:

1. 57 faculty applications for graduate faculty status were processed.
2. 39 student appeals or requests for time extension were processed.
3. Policy on Graduate Assistant Work Absence (March 2019)
4. Graduate Assistant Remuneration from External Funds Policy (March 2019)
5. Minor Revision to Evaluation and Reappointment of Graduate Assistants Policy (March 2019)
6. Standing Subcommittee on Policy Appointed (January 2019)
7. Graduate Faculty Appointments Policy (Revised January 2019)
8. Graduate Assistant Workload Policy (May 2018)

The council has had a very productive year, continuing its agenda of improving policies and procedures that have helped to facilitate smoother processing of appeals as well as the functioning of the Graduate School and the council itself.

The Council experienced significant change in membership due to some members removing themselves to fulfill other commitments on campus. Jana Giles continued in her second term as chair. Leigh Hersey was elected as secretary, following the withdrawal of Patti Calk from the Council. Please see the other memorandum regarding Graduate Council replacements (confidential).

The Graduate Faculty Appointments Policy entered its second year of debate and revision and was finalized in December 2018 after taking into account changes in the qualifications of graduate faculty emerging from SACSOC, ULM's accrediting agency. The primary effect of these changes is to relax requirements for graduate teaching, mainly to meet the demand for faculty especially in professional, rather than academic, programs. The long-term consequences of this change remain to be seen.

The chair formed a Standing Subcommittee on Policy to work with the Graduate Dean and the Council in formulating new policy and updating existing policy. Members for 2018-19 are: Georgios Matthiaolampakis (chair, Pharmacy), Kioh Kim (Education), Debra Craighead (Nursing), and Leigh Hersey (Political Science). The subcommittee fulfilled its remit for the spring in proposing new policies relating to graduate assistants as the need arose over the past year.

While the council will meet in May during the regular semester and after the semester has ended to accommodate student appeals that must be considered for students to continue, an

interim chair will need to be established for any special meetings during June-July 2016. Historically, most members are willing to meet even if they are not under contract and thus further the work of the council, but some are not, and it is important to note that they are not legally required to meet if they are not under contract.