



College of Arts & Letters

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

College Graduate Committee – January 14, 2021

Minutes: 1/14/2021 3:15-5pm via Zoom: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/97638045948> pwd: 974529

Attendance: Ben Lampe, Sean Valles, Justin Wigard, Suzanne Wagner, Laura Borchgrevink, Kristin Mahoney, Lynn Wolff, Gabriela Alfaraz, Laura Cloud (for Ben Van Dyke), Ben Lauren (for Danielle DeVoss), Shannon Schweitzer, Kiersten Latham, Danielle DeVoss, Bill Hart-Davidson, and Leann Dalimonte.

Guests: Sonja Fritzsche

Meeting started at 3:17pm

1. Approval of the Agenda – Agenda approved with addition.
 - a. Additions to Agenda
 - i. Update on extra GAships
2. Approval of 12/8/2020 Meeting Minutes - Sean motioned, Lynn seconded, minutes approved.
3. Associate Dean's Announcements
 - a. Grad School Guidance on In-Person Recruitment:
 - i. In person recruitment events are generally discouraged b/c travel rules right now rule out most meaningful in person activities (e.g. need for folks to quarantine, etc.). If folks are already here or an individual situation calls for a visit to the general area, etc., it won't necessarily be forbidden. But we should generally not expect to spend university funds for in-person recruitment.
 - b. Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) grant competition opening soon
 - i. DDRA Information Session for PhD Students: 1/21 at 4:00pm
 - ii. Update on SCRAM
 - Will be awarded even if not used for travel expenses
 - c. MLA Webinar notes shared via email – Danielle DeVoss
 - i. Post pandemic Graduate Education
 - Advice, key takeaways to bring back to your units
 - d. Reminder for UDF/UEF deadline – those extended to 1/15.
 - e. SIS Modernization Phase 4 Implementation Update
 - i. GradPlan functionality now live and accessible
 - MA and PhD students graduating in SS or US 21 should use legacy GradPlan and final cert process
 - a. Graduating by August
 - ii. Campus Engagement Webinar on 1/28 at 8:30am
 - Self-paced [training documents](#)
 - f. Mott Fellowship 2021-2022
 - i. C.S. Mott Pre-doctoral Fellowships in Sustainable Agriculture



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- ii. Intended for students beginning a Ph.D. program in the 2021-2022 academic year and engaging in research relevant to sustainable agriculture and food systems, broadly defined.
 - g. Graduate student reflection on Fall 2020
 - h. GA Hiring Updates – Sonja Fritzsche
 - i. CHR updated their policy from last summer
 - Checked with AHR to confirm
 - ii. Summer funding can be included in award letters
 - iii. Anyone who teaches and all graduate students who are working (example: RAs, TEs) in the spring can automatically be hired into summer
 - Breaks in service would put students in the hiring pool for summer teaching
 - Graduate students who teach in the fall, and do not teach in the spring, can teach in the summer without the pool as long as the total # does not exceed 25
4. Discussion Items
- a. GOF supplemental/Grad & CAL Contingency Budget Planning
 - i. Update: Two questions we need to monitor closely as things develop in the Spring:
 - Where are the greatest student needs for Spring and Summer in this AY?
 - Where we have needs continuing into AY 21-22, where can we offset costs perhaps with money we can carry forward and ask the Grad School for immediate relief?
 - Extra GOF available for students this year
 - a. Summer support
 - i. Send full list in ranked order
 - b. If units have extra GOF they can combine that for summer support
 - c. The Graduate School may be making exceptions for summer support allowing students to receive the fellowship in spring semester while they're enrolled
 - Promise of matching funds from the Graduate School that can be utilized in multiple ways
 - a. GA line (possibly pair with DCF)
 - b. Post-Doc or employment position (student specific)
 - c. Other
 - If DCF is not possible it can be adjusted to a CAL Fellow
 - ii. Update: Two questions we need to monitor closely as things develop in the Spring:
 - Where are the greatest student needs for Spring and Summer in this AY?
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- b. Roundtable: report on applications and recruitment trends.
 - i. RCS – not recruiting for Fall 2021
 - ii. AAHD – pool is down by about 20 applications, but still have strong applicants and making decisions soon
 - iii. Linguistics – has strong applicants and will be putting some towards university fellowships, list of strong applicants possibly due to our peer institutions not recruiting for the fall
 - iv. WRAC – pools were smaller but strong, MA and PhD decisions made earlier this week. Had a sustainability approach after



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discussions with students: 3PhD accepted, all up for university fellowships, and 4 MAs accepted, 3 of which are up for AAGA.

- v. English – similar number of applicants, but accepting a smaller number of students. Put 4 applicants up for university fellowships.
- vi. SLS – Pool of about 95 (still strong showing of international applicants, but from different countries of origin than in the past), more than usual, but are interviewing 10 applicants. Discussion across the languages and with ELC and CeLTA surrounding needs and available assistantships.
- vii. German – good number of applicants and didn't want to minimize recruitment efforts. All applicants attended virtual graduate seminars in the fall which allowed for a real look into the program, also resulted in the strength of the applications.
- viii. ACM & MUSM – Trying to make a mentorship approach, deadline is not until 2/1/21. Currently sitting at 13 applicants, 5 completed.
- ix. PHL – applicant pool is larger and inclusive of strong applicants. Shift in unit and faculty strengths that affect international rep and student recruitment.
- x. Theatre – Vetting 200 auditions as a part of a collaborative applicant process within the nation. About 10-15 applicants will apply/interview with MSU compared to a few other regional peer institutions.

5. Roundtable/Other Business

- a. Bill shared his appreciation for everyone's work during this time

Meeting adjourned at 4:52pm