

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
(GPRC) Graduate Program Review Committee

Monday, March 8, 2021
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting
+1 414-253-8850 US, Milwaukee (Toll)
Conference ID: 802 665 03#

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Called to order at 11:02 a.m.

Present:

(Committee Members): Suzanne Boyd, Woonsup Choi, Madhusudan Dey, David DiValerio, Lingqian Hu, Sunwoong Kim, Susan Mcroy, Stuart Moulthrop, Timothy O'Brien, Bo Zhang

(Non-Committee Members): Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska (*Ex Officio*), Tiffany Nation (Graduate Programs Coordinator), Jason Puskar (*Ex-Officio*)

Absent: Alexander Arnold, Maria Gillespie, Alessandra Gillen (Graduate School)

Guests: Jeb Willenbring, Craig Guilbault, Yi Ming Zou, Richard Stockbridge

II. Announcements

There were no announcements.

III. Approve Minutes from the **February 8, 2021**

The minutes were approved, motioned, and passed unanimously.

IV. Mathematics MS/PhD Program Review Report

GPRC Doc. No. 1786

David DiValerio and Timothy O'Brien served as internal reviewers. Both were in attendance to present the internal report to the committee.

David DiValerio reported that the program review was held in October 2020 and based on the external report, the program in some sense is in great shape and on the right track. At the same time, the program is experiencing the same challenges as other programs such as loss of faculty, underpaid and overworked grad students which creates roadblocks to completing programs and the diversity of the student body. He reported that there were no major recommendations or suggested changes made by the external reviewers however there were a few minor small fixes.

He advised that the program's review received a B rating which was at the higher range of the B rating. He reported that this was the first virtual program review site visit due to the COVID pandemic.

Timothy O'Brien agree with David DiValerio's detailed summary of the external report.

David DiValerio, GPRC Chair opened the floor to the program.

Jeb Willenbring, Associate Chair for the Graduate Program, reported that on behalf of the program that he would like to mention the point of issues of resources specifically on grad salaries and TA

workloads. He reported that the program would like to improve the diversity among TAs, low stipends, and high workload which affects the program's ability to improve student diversity.

Craig Guilbault, reported further on these issues. He reported that this problem is growing and growing. The program has always been good at diversity in attracting women however the issues are affecting the program's ability to recruit underrepresented groups. It's embarrassing for the program to send small offer letters. He reported that the issue of low stipends is affecting all campus programs. He also reported that Chapman Hall doesn't understand that this diversity issues is not just a program issue but a campus as a whole issue.

Richard Stockbridge, Distinguished Professor reported that the TA workload is much higher than the program's competitors and is a problem when recruiting and this is not being addressed by UWM.

Jason Puskar, Associate Dean of the Graduate School informed the program that the GFC gathering information to put together a proposal /cross campus letter this spring to present to Chapman Hall on the TA stipends issues.

Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska, Graduate School Dean reported that the Grad School is working with the Office of Research and GFC and she would strongly recommend that the GPRC make a decision if you will to be included in on signing a letter to the Provost and Chancellor on the TA stipends issues. She stated that adding yourself (the GPRC) would be powerful. She asked the GPRC Chair David DiValerio if he would bring this appeal to the GFC and he agreed.

Additional discussion followed. There was no further discussion.

Recommendation for continuation of the graduate program for the next 10 years was motioned, seconded, and approved unanimously.

V. Discussion Only:

Updating of GFC Doc. No. 951 (Faculty Doc. No. 3197) Track Changes

The committee further discussed pages 1 – 7. Further discussion will take place on pages 8 – 19 at the next scheduled meeting.

VI. Other Business

There was no other business.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.