Graduate Council (GC)
August 31, 2017

Present: Professors Anstreicher, Banas, Fethke, Ganim, McLeod, Rakel, Varga, Weiner, Wesley, Wurster, Xiao; Graduate Students: Faith, White, Verniero; Grad College Personnel: Arbisi-Kelm, Campo, Chickering, Danger, Keller, Larsen, Teitle

Absent: Professors Figdor, Quelle; Graduate Student: Woll

The meeting was called to order by Dean John Keller @ 8:15 AM.

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Announcements Graduate College summer activities:
   a. Spring commencement was one of the largest to date and held in Carver Arena:
      i. Size is negatively impacting length of the Spring ceremony.
      ii. Fall commencement held at Hancher was found to be mobility-friendly facility for family audience such as grandparents and small children.
      iii. Graduate College is exploring ways to address length of Spring commencement such as multiple hooding lines or offering two ceremonies (PhD & Master, both in Hancher).
   b. Graduate College Annual Report was published to the web. Print versions were provided to Graduate Council members.
   c. Dean Keller worked to complete Academic Reorganization Taskforce 2020, phase one. Council of Deans provided annotated summary, Provost Curry advancing process to phase two.
   d. Associate Dean Larsen and Assistant Dean Teitle provided a leadership skills and career exploration opportunity trip to Chicago with NSF supplement funds.
   e. Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP) brought 27 underrepresented students to campus, with expanded partnering with the Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA)
   f. Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL) offered an associate certificate this summer, about 13 students completed the certificate in its inaugural year.
   g. Summer Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC) showcased the most talented undergraduate research (160 students, 46 departments, 8 colleges).
   h. Graduate College units turn 50 in 2017!
      i. School of Library and Information Science (SLIS)
      ii. International Writing Program (IWP)
   i. Orientation
      i. 750 new graduate students participated.
      ii. NEW in 2017 - Connecting Communities: Resources for Grad Students of Color; keynote speaker Lena Hill, Interim Chief Diversity Officer
   j. Graduate Program Coordinator workshop –Graduate College staff hosted half-day event at the College of Public Health.
   k. New fellowships were successful:
      i. Pre-comp fellowship for about ten underrepresented students
      ii. Twelve fellowships in Digital Humanities at the Studio
3. Professional Development (Teitle) - deadlines approaching for the new “Thesis In-Focus” image competition (October 2 submission) as well as the returning “3MT” three minute thesis competition (September 25th registration).
4. Reviewed Graduate Council duties and responsibilities per the Grad Manual.
5. Reviewed tentative agenda items for AY17-18
6. Graduate College website remaster (Kim Chickering) – designed to be mobile friendly with more visual content, ADA compliant. Please email Kim Chickering leads on student or alumni to profile. Kim welcomes feedback on the website and extended an offer to promote program events via the website, coordinator listserv and/or DGS Digest.

7. UI Grad Guide (Ian Faith) – website started for new graduate students. Third and fourth year graduate students crowdsourced the page by asking themselves, “what do I know now that I wish I knew my first year?”

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 AM.