Meeting called to order at 3:31 PM by John Keller, Graduate College Dean.

1. Associate Dean Sarah Larsen presented to the Graduate Faculty a proposal to close Master of Arts in Urban and Regional Planning, thesis and non-thesis. Graduate Faculty approved the program closure by unanimous vote.
2. Graduate College Dean John Keller presented Graduate College activities that foster the intellectual and academic climate at the University of Iowa.
   a. Graduate College website revamp helps reach our web audiences with greater ease.
   b. Starting strong. The Graduate College orchestrated a new orientation for underrepresented minority graduate students - Connecting Communities: Resources for Grad Students of Color. Also, the general graduate student orientation saw record numbers in August.
   c. Establishing a culture of application to prestigious external fellowships. Professional Development Office in conjunction with the Graduate Faculty mentors saw an increase in complete application submissions. This year campus submitted 78 complete applications. Announced awardees include: one Ford Foundation fellow, six National Research Scholarship Fund fellows as well as two honorable mentions. Decisions are pending from Fulbright and National Institutes of Health fellowship programs.
   d. Interest in communicating research has grown. Our Three Minute Thesis is a popular platform to develop research communication skills. The annual Jakobsen Conference continues to be a campus-wide opportunity for students to present their research. At the Hawkeye Caucus in March the Graduate College took a panel of students to share their graduate research with Iowa legislators.
   e. Professional training of teaching assistants took place in our Center for Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL) office. Both the winter and summer certificate programs are reaching a larger audience with the expanded online course innovations and opportunities.
   f. Advancing the mission of the Graduate College through engagement with alumni and friends. The Graduate College External Advisory Board met on campus twice this year. This diverse panel of stakeholders advises the Dean on the future directions of the College. One Day for Iowa, an internal philanthropic campaign, yielded a larger number of donors and larger total amount gifted. Graduate student ran conferences on campus are co-sponsored by the Graduate College using philanthropic dollars.
   g. Exploring graduate student career opportunities at the Open Doors Conference. A panel of alumni discuss transferrable skills and other helpful tips for exploring academic and alternative careers.
   h. Leading national discussions on graduate education administration. In March a well-attended workshop, Beyond the PDF, focused on issues relevant to the future of the dissertation deposit. As the academic work of graduate students takes new forms, institutions must plan for new ways to catalog the dissertation deposit. The workshop was a joint effort between the Graduate College and University Libraries. Sponsorship was provided by ProQuest.
   i. Fostering student success through internal scholarships and fellowships. The revised Iowa Recruitment Fellowships had 52 nominations and 26 awards. Lulu Merle Johnson Fellowships recruited five underrepresented minority students. Pre-comprehensive Research Awards and the ACT fellowship engage faculty early in the research of students. Thirty MFA students were named as Iowa Arts fellowships to pursue their creative works.
Ballard Seashore Dissertation Fellowships provided protected research time for thirty-six doctoral students. Fourteen students will pursue development of their digital scholarly skills using the wildly successful Digital Arts Scholarships. Graduate Student Senate Travel Funds off-set the expense of travel for at least 125 students presenting their research at conferences this year.

3. Sharon Idiga, Pharmacology doctoral student, presented her award-winning three minute thesis to the Graduate Faculty. A brief question and answer session followed the presentation.

Immediately following the Graduate Faculty & Directors of Graduate Studies meeting adjournment, the Graduate College Outstanding Faculty and Postdoctoral Faculty Mentor Awards were presented to the following faculty:

Professor Kathleen Sluka, Department of Physical Therapy, was honored with the Postdoctoral Faculty Mentor Award. Prakash Doddapattar and Ruth Chimenti presented the award to Professor Sluka.

Professor Joshua Weiner, Department of Biology, received the Graduate College Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award in Biological and Life Sciences for 2017-18.

Professor James Giblin, Department of History, received the Graduate College Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award in Humanities and Fine Arts for 2017-18.