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| **Graduate Affairs Committee**  **Minutes** | **Date: March 26, 2024**  **Time: 1:30 p.m.**  **Location: Zoom** |
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| Meeting called by: Dr. Janice Blum | |
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| Attendees: | |
| Janice Blum (Chair), Kyle Anderson, Keith Avin, Kathi Badertscher, Ryan Brewer, Erin Engels, Tabitha Hardy, Cleveland Hayes, Brittney-Shea Herbert, Dawn Holder, Marj Hovde, Thomas Hurley, Amelia Hurt, Kathleen Kent, Hea-Won Kim, Mike Klemsz, Kim Lewis, Jiliang Li, Sara Lowe, Suzann Lupton, Karl MacDorman, Jennifer Mahoney, Kyle Minor, AQ Quash-Scott, Zachary Riley, Randall Roper, Paul Salama, Anita Sale, Jeff Wilson; Staff: Dezra Despain | |
| Guests: Adam Maksl, Manager, eLearning Innovation; Laura Flak, Office of International Affairs; Andrea Copeland, Luddy School of Informatics, Computing & Engineering | |

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| **Minues** | |
| Approval of the Minutes for February 27, 2024 - approved | Blum |
| Dean's Report  Dean Blum introduced Dr. Keith Avin as the new associate dean of the Indianapolis Graduate School beginning on April 1. Dr. Avin is from the School of Health and Human Science and is a faculty member in the Physical Therapy program where he is an associate professor. He started his faculty position on campus in 2014 and has risen through the ranks. He has directed the DPT and has served for many years on the Fellowship committee. Dr. Avin has helped with programming that promotes holistic review. Dr. Avin will serve by helping schools launch micro-credentials. He will help develop a review process for micro-credentials.  Data on enrollment was distributed earlier this week. This document drilled down program-by-program because some mentioned they wanted to see data beneath the school level. Many applications have been submitted, so the committee is encouraged to be in touch with the applicants. We are slightly down in admissions from 2021, which could be attributed to the Engineering & Technology programs along with Computer Science moving to Purdue. Luddy is picking up applicants to Computer Science, but it is still below the level that it was under Purdue. This isn’t too surprising as CS is a new program for IU Indianapolis.  There are changes at the National Science Foundation that started about a year ago. They are calling for mentorship and promotion of inclusive spaces in research for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. They are requiring participation in mentoring training. | Blum |
| Assistant Dean's Report  Next week is Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week.  Writing in Community with University Writing Center will be online and in the Graduate Commons (hybrid) on Mondays 4-6. On Tuesday’s from 10am-12pm it will be in-person only in the Graduate Commons. This semester a student from GradGrants will be available for consultations in the grad commons space from 3-5 on Monday’s and Wednesday’s.  The dates of our Getting you into IU Indianapolis campus visit program are April 17th-19th. There are 17 students coming. Department visits are scheduled for April 18th from 12-4pm.  If students or post docs are looking for professional development opportunities and ways to build their resumes the PFFP program is free and only requires a short application and letter of recommendation to get started**.** | Hardy |
| Graduate Mentoring Center  Graduate Student Appreciation Week will be April 1-5. The Graduate Mentoring Center sponsored 15 awards to different units on campus.  Monthly Mentoring Dialogues: Effective Use of a Mentoring Team will be Tuesday, April 2, 3 pm UL 1126.  Faculty and Staff Mentoring Dialogues will be April 22-23 at 12pm - 4 pm each day on Zoom. Etta Ward and Randall Roper will be the facilitators.  Culturally Aware Mentor (CAM) Training will be May 16 8:30 am-5 pm in UL 1126. Etta Ward and Randall Roper, Will be the facilitators.  The GMC welcomes schools and/or departments to schedule mentor training or talk about how to include mentor training in a grant application with Dr. Roper. | Roper |
| Graduate and Professional Student Government  The director of programming and the director of communications are working on activities for Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week.  March 24 was the deadline for nominations for GPSG elections which will take place on March 28. | Quash-Scott |
| Graduate Office Reports  New Liaison (IU Graduate application vendor) contract was signed December 30, 2023, for 3 years vs. the previous contract that was for 5 years. Graduate/professional recruitment and admissions will likely be moving to SLATE. More details on the implementation plan and timeline coming soon. The work done in WebAdMIT and the Salesforce CRM will transition nicely into SLATE. | Henry |
| Committee Reports |  |
| Fellowship Subcommittee Report  University Fellowship/Diversity Fellowship responses to offers are due April 15  President’s Diversity Dissertation Fellowship at IU Indianapolis are due Friday, April 19  University Distinguished PhD Dissertation Award are due Monday, April 29 | Henry |
| Curriculum Subcommittee Report  The committee reviewed 44 courses this month,16 new courses and 28 course change requests, 32 were approved and will be on the upcoming remonstrance list, 11 were approved contingent upon minor revisions or updates, one was not approved.  For courses to be reviewed for April they will have to reach Dezra’s workflow by April 1st.  There are only two more months for course reviews before the committee goes on hiatus for the summer. | Klemsz |
| Graduate Recruitment Council Report  The Graduate Recruitment Council met on March 20 for networking and learning. Brandy Wood provided some tips from a previously recorded webinar called Making WebAdMIT Work for You. Recordings for this along with IU CAS Day are available.  The Graduate Recruiter’s Workshop will be held Thursday, June 27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Innovation Hall, Room 101. The approximate cost will be $50/person. Registration will open in late April.  Anyone interested in being on the GRC listserv and/or receiving meeting invitations should email Jennifer. | Mahoney |
| 2:00 pm Laura Flak, Office of International Affairs – International student summer and fall registration  OIA has four international student advisors: Laura Flak, Shushan Baumann, Hannah Min, and Martin Miles.  Students were sent an email to remind them of registration requirements for summer. The government requires that students maintain a full course load of enrollment every term. This does not include summer term since the two main terms recognized by IU and the government is Fall and Spring. For graduate students, a full course load is 8 credit hours. If they are in an SAA position, the credit hour requirement is 6. Students are contacted within the first 30 days to make sure they are meeting that requirement and that they are also onboarding well by getting connected to campus as new students and getting support through their programs.  OIA is involved with the full life cycle of students, from admission to graduation, and beyond if work authorizations are needed.  OIA is working with Purdue to make the transition to Purdue as smoothly as possible. This will include the field representative for the government agency that oversees all of this.  If it’s the student’s last term of enrollment and they don’t have enough credit to fill out a full course load for the semester, have them contact OIA so that it is captured in the IU system and with the government. International students are dealing with a lot, from moving to a new country, to dealing with government and legal status requirements that other students don’t have to navigate.  OIA hosts daily drop-in advising Monday – Thursday from 3 – 4 p.m. They also will set up individual appointments if needed.  Other comments:   * Summer registration is required if the student is on a fellowship that requires it. For immigration purposes, though, they do not need to be registered, but that will not supersede what is required by fellowships. * Students have expressed an interest in more collaboration between the departments and offices. * 17% of our grad and professional students are international students. |  |
| 2:15 pm Adam Maksl, Manager, eLearning Innovation will present IU Microcredential Task Force Creates Comprehensive Framework  There has been confusion about the definition of microcredentials so a task force was created to study this issue. Microcredential definitions and strategies generally fall into three categories.   1. *Non-credit continuing education*. Smaller than traditional credentials, not for credit but rigorous and assessed. Re-skilling and up-skilling. Professionally focused 2. *Pathway to credit programs.* Non-credit continuing education with prescribed pathways into traditional degree programs 3. *Showcasing value of traditional degrees*. Emphasizing the skills, competencies, and experiences gained through traditional educational pathways.   Microcredentials can help with retention, as incremental credentialing helps promote persistence and completion; it can help with recruitment because smaller, standalone credentials are more attractive to adult learners; it helps with equity by helping students whose life circumstance and finances force delays to see they’re accumulating more than debt; and it helps with workforce development by partnering with businesses to help employees up-skill, reskill, and adapt to a dynamic economy.  The task force that was created recommended a common yet adaptable foundation through creating a consistent framework including foundational definitions for microcredential and digital badge and by dividing alternative credentials into assessed and non-assessed categories.  Assessed learning would include:  Microcredentials: A focused collection of demonstrated and valuable knowledge, skills, or competencies assessed or verified by Indiana University. The source of these learning achievements or outcomes can be for-credit, non-credit, or some combination thereof. Generally, less than a standalone certificate; more than a three-credit class or equivalent  And Verified Skill: A single skill, focused set of knowledge, or competencythat is a building block of a microcredential. A verified skill can be formally recognized as part of any assessed learning activity (i.e., either for-credit or non-credit).  Non-assessed learning would be learning activities that are non-assessed but there exists a desire for them to be recognized, such as participation, simple completion of a task, membership within a group, etc.  The framework recommendations are to recognize these credentials through issuing a digital badge that would have specific design specs, such as the use of the IU trident. The microcredentials would be recorded in the student record. Campuses would decide if they would want to award “Verified Skill” badges. And non-assessed badges would not require approval but would not be allowed to use IU branding.  The technical working group within the task force is working on templates for digital badges, mechanisms for recording and reporting completion of these credentials, technical processes to facilitate campus academic approval, etc.  The task force discussed the size of a microcredential, both in how big and how small they could be but were unable to come to a resolution. Ultimately campuses need to figure some of that out and make recommendations – faculty would be key in making these decisions.  The approval process for microcredentials is not yet codified, but it could follow the approval process afforded to minors – the approval stops at the campus level, which will mean the GAC will be the final approvers.  The new graduate school’s associate dean, Keith Avin, will be working with microcredentialing and can be a resource. |  |
| Program Review   * New Ph.D. in Information Science in the department of Library and Information Science in the Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, & Engineering - approved   Consent Agenda   * Changes to the M.S. in Human-Computer Interaction’s plan of study in the Luddy School of Informatics, Computing & Engineering - approved * Changes to the PhD in Urban Education’s plan of study in the School of Education - approved | Blum |
| Informational Items:  The following graduate certificates in the Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, & Engineering have been submitted for elimination:   * Graduate Certificate in Omics Technology and Precision Medicine, on-campus * Graduate Certificate in Health Information Systems Architecture, on-campus * Graduate Certificate in Health Information Management and Exchange, on-campus only * Graduate Certificate in Clinical Informatics, on-campus only * Graduate Certificate in Biomedical Informatics, on-campus |  |

Next Meeting and Adjournment (**April 30, 1:30 pm, Zoom**)