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Faculty Senate Chronicle for February 9, 2017

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FEBRUARY 9, 2017

11 pages

SENATE ACTIONS

- Approved resolutions from Graduate Council.

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MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2017

This special meeting of the Faculty Senate took place Thursday, February 9, 2017 in room 201 of the Buckingham Center for Continuing Education. Vice Chair Linda Saliga called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

Of the current roster of 56 senators, 31 attended the meeting. Senators Budd, Howley, Miller and Rich were absent with notice. Senators Coffey, Cole, Fant, Gandee, Gatzia, Hariharan, Hreno, Joy, Matejkovic, Mitchell, Osorio, Otterstetter, Quinn, Samangy and Willits were absent without notice.

I. Resolutions from the Graduate Council

The Senate took up resolutions from the Graduate Council first brought forward at the regular meeting of February 2, 2017. Participants included Vice Chair Saliga; Senators Allen, Elliott, Klein, Blackledge, Soucek, Hajjafar, Cutright, Quinn, Barrett, Makki, Hallett, Braun, Hausknecht, Randby, Nofziger, Sterns, Clark, Schulze; Deans Midha and Beneke; and Provost Ramsier (see Transcript).

The Senate passed the following resolutions:

1. The Graduate School should no longer fund stipends for new research assistantships.
2. For community industrial grants, the tuition waiver should not exceed the value of the stipend and these students will be considered as in-state tuition paying students.
3. Stipend and tuition waivers should not exceed the required number of credit hours. Exceptions will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. As full-time studies are required for graduate students on stipend, the full-time study requirements for graduate students should be modified to allow implementation of this policy.
4. Approximately 30% of the current funding should be maintained in support of a new model for terminal master's funding. This is subject to annual review of the funding. The MFA in Creative Writing and the MA in Arts Administration, as the highest degrees available in these disciplines, will not be subject to this reduction of funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Signed, Jon Miller, Secretary.

Questions and comments about the minutes can be emailed to mjon@uakron.edu or called in to x6202.

University's Transformation Plan

Graduate School Savings Focus Areas

Motions Approved by the Graduate Council, January 30, 2017

1. The Graduate School should no longer fund stipends for RAs.
2. For community/industrial grants, the tuition waiver should not exceed the value of the stipend and these students will be considered as in-state tuition paying students.
3. Stipend and tuition waivers should not exceed the required number of credit hours. Exceptions should be made on a case-by-case basis, and that the decisions whether to grant exceptions should be made individually rather than categorically, **and should not exceed 120 hours if full-time status during the summer is necessary.**
4. The Graduate Council recommends that approximately 30% of the current funding should be maintained in support of a new model for terminal MS funding. This is subject to annual review of the funding.
5. Hold for Further Discussion: When possible, grant writers should include tuition coverage.

**University's Transformation Plan
Graduate School Savings Focus Areas**

	FY 18		FY 19		
Focus Area	Stipends	Tuition Awards	Stipends	Tuition Awards	Total
Graduate Research Assistantships	\$1.4M	\$1M			\$2.4M
Tuition Charged to Grants		<i>Hold for Further Discussion</i>			<i>Hold for Further Discussion</i>
Restricting CH to Degree Requirements					Approximately \$2M
New Funding for Master's Students	\$0.75M	\$3.5M	\$0.75	\$3.5M	\$8.5M
Subtotals	\$2.15M	\$7.7M	\$0.75	\$3.5M	\$12.9M

**Motions Approved
by the Graduate Council,
January 30, 2017**

1. The Graduate School will no longer fund stipends for RAs.

University's Transformation Plan Graduate School Savings Focus Areas					
	FY 18		FY 19		
Focus Area	Stipends	Tuition Awards	Stipends	Tuition Awards	Total
Graduate Research Assistantships	\$1.4M	\$1M			\$2.4M
Tuition Charged to Grants		<i>Hold for Further Discussion</i>			<i>Hold for Further Discussion</i>
Restricting CH to Degree Requirements					Approximately \$2M
New Funding for Master's Students	\$0.75M	\$3.5M	\$0.75	\$3.5M	\$8.5M
Subtotals	\$2.15M	\$7.7M	\$0.75	\$3.5M	\$12.9M

Graduate Research Assistantships: As already discussed in the Graduate Council, the Graduate School is recommending to no longer fund stipends and tuition waivers for Research Assistants. This recommendation was presented to the Faculty Senate in December. (Savings: stipends = \$1.4M, tuition remission = \$1M).

**Motions Approved
by the Graduate Council,
January 30, 2017**

2. For Community/Industrial Grants the tuition waiver cannot exceed the value of the stipend and these students will be considered as in-state tuition paying students.

University's Transformation Plan Graduate School Savings Focus Areas					
	FY 18		FY 19		
Focus Area	Stipends	Tuition Awards	Stipends	Tuition Awards	Total
Graduate Research Assistantships	\$1.4M	\$1M			\$2.4M
Tuition Charged to Grants		<i>Hold for Further Discussion</i>			<i>Hold for Further Discussion</i>
Restricting CH to Degree Requirements					Approximately \$2M
New Funding for Master's Students	\$0.75M	\$3.5M	\$0.75	\$3.5M	\$8.5M
Subtotals	\$2.15M	\$7.7M	\$0.75	\$3.5M	\$12.9M

Tuition Waivers for Community/Industrial Graduate Assistants (CIGAs): Currently Community/Industrial Grant agreements do not include support for tuition. CIGA students are considered in-state tuition paying students.

HOLD FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Tuition Charged to Research Grants.

However, when possible, grant writers should include tuition coverage.

**Motions Approved
by the Graduate Council,
January 30, 2017**

3. Stipend and tuition waivers will not exceed the required number of credit hours. Exceptions will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

University's Transformation Plan Graduate School Savings Focus Areas					
	FY 18		FY 19		
Focus Area	Stipends	Tuition Awards	Stipends	Tuition Awards	Total
Graduate Research Assistantships	\$1.4M	\$1M			\$2.4M
Tuition Charged to Grants		<i>Hold for Further Discussion</i>			<i>Hold for Further Discussion</i>
Restricting CH to Degree Requirements					Approximately \$2M
New Funding for Master's Students	\$0.75M	\$3.5M	\$0.75	\$3.5M	\$8.5M
Subtotals	\$2.15M	\$7.7M	\$0.75	\$3.5M	\$12.9M

Restricting Credit Hours for Tuition Remission: A student admitted to a Master's program with 32 credit hours requirement would receive tuition remission award for 32 credit hours that they must use within four semesters. Similarly, a student admitted to a doctoral program that requires 90 credit hours will receive tuition remission for 90 credit hours that must be used within five years. Exceptions will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis ***and will not exceed 120 hours for doctoral students if full-time status during the summer is necessary.***

**Motions Approved
by the Graduate Council,
January 30, 2017**

4. The Graduate Council recommends that approximately 30% of the current funding will be maintained in support of a new model for terminal MS funding. This is subject to annual review of the funding.

University's Transformation Plan Graduate School Savings Focus Areas					
	FY 18		FY 19		
Focus Area	Stipends	Tuition Awards	Stipends	Tuition Awards	Total
Graduate Research Assistantships	\$1.4M	\$1M			\$2.4M
Tuition Charged to Grants		<i>Hold for Further Discussion</i>			<i>Hold for Further Discussion</i>
Restricting CH to Degree Requirements					Approximately \$2M
New Funding for Master's Students	\$0.75M	\$3.5M	\$0.75	\$3.5M	\$8.5M
Subtotals	\$2.15M	\$7.7M	\$0.75	\$3.5M	\$12.9M

New Funding Model for Master's Students: With a focus on increasing the number of self-paid students in our graduate programs, we suggest a new model for funding Master's students in the future. We currently fund Master's students in a manner that is similar to how Doctoral students are funded in other programs – we provide them full tuition waiver and a stipend. *In the future, similar awards can be made a to fewer number of highly selective students. In addition, we suggest the use of new models in which a student may be awarded only stipend and no tuition, only tuition or no stipend, partial stipend, partial tuition remission, etc.*

Fall 2016 Graduate Assistant Funding Comparison: Per Student Spending						7-Feb-16
	Graduate Students			GA Funding		Total Spent Per Student
Institution	Total	Full-time	Half-time	Stipends	Tuition Awards	
University of Akron (current)	3,247*	2,052	1,195	\$8.7 M	\$23 M	\$11,964.52
University of Akron (new model)	3,247*	2,052	1,195	\$5.8 M	\$14 M	\$7,473.11
Cleveland State University	4,135	1,876	2,259	\$3.9 M	\$5.6 M	\$3,160.87
Ohio University	5,188	2,079	3,109	\$14.3 M	\$18.4 M	\$8,999.59
University of Cincinnati	11,000	5,500	5,500	\$11 M	\$40 M	\$6,181.82
Wright State University	3,600 - 4,000			\$5.5 M	\$9 M	

* 1,283 Graduate Assistants

$(\text{Full-time Graduate Students}) \times x + (\text{Half-time Graduate Students} \times .5) \times x = \text{Stipends} + \text{Tuition Awards}$

$x = \text{Total Spent Per Student}$

Fall 2016 Graduate Assistant Funding Comparison: Average Tuition Awards						Updated 7-Feb-16
	Graduate Students			GA Funding		Approximate Average Tuition Awards
Institution	Total	Full-time	Half-time	Stipends	Tuition Awards	
University of Akron (current)	3,247*	2,052	1,195	\$8.7 M	\$23 M	\$7,083.46
University of Akron (new model)	3,247*	2,052	1,195	\$5.8 M	\$14 M	\$4311.67
Cleveland State University	4,135	1,876	2,259	\$3.9 M	\$5.6 M	\$1,354.29
Ohio University	5,188	2,079	3,109	\$14.3 M	\$18.4 M	\$3,546.65
University of Cincinnati	11,000	5,500	5,500	\$11 M	\$40 M	\$3,636.36
Wright State University	3,600 - 4,000			\$5.5 M	\$9 M	\$2,368.42

* 1,283 Graduate Assistants

Tuition Awards ÷ Graduate Students Total = Approximate Average Tuition Award