#### CGPSA- Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs April 24, 2024 3:30-5:00 GLC Conference Room 238 or Zoom

https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/85740318770

Meeting ID: 857 4031 8770

**Present:** Adams, Ranald; Austin, Janice; De Jager, Caroline; Gazar, Amir; Hoopes, Barbara; Kinnaman, Alex; Mieses, Kassidy; Ortiz, Gonzalo; Rice, Karl; Saint-Preux, Carlos; Shupe, Sally; Surface, Lauren; Surprenant, Aimée

## Absent with Notice: Learman, Lee

**Absent:** Hearne, Lindy; Hefny, Mohamed; Holloway, Kendall; Sydnor, Shaka; Thomas, Eric; Towsif, Sami; Walters, Tyler

Guests: Maizel, Rachel

Ranald called the meeting to order at 3:32. There was no quorum, so the dean gave her report.

#### 1. Adoption of Agenda-Ranald Adams

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda once quorum was met. The motion carried.

## 2. Adoption of Minutes from April 10, 2024-Ranald Adams

A motion was made and seconded to approve the April 10, 2024 minutes. The motion carried.

#### 3. Member Reports

## a. Graduate School Updates—Dean Surprenant

- **1.** Innovation Campus Potomac Yard  $\rightarrow$  classes will start January 21<sup>st</sup> in the new building.
- **2.** Updates on course-based programs:

\*The Ad Hoc Committee looked at policies and procedures for non-thesis and course-based plans \*Bulk submission of exam scheduling (allowing someone from the department or the student to schedule the exam) This reduces confusion for the students and adds ease for faculty \*Committee composition–policy is default of 1

\*Transcripts (official vs. unofficial) Origin of the transcript matters

\*Applications and requirements (items that are relevant)

3. IDPs-→ starting May 24, if you are substantially supported on an NSF grant, each individual must have an Individual Development Plan, which is updated annually, that maps the educational goals, career exploration, and professional development of the individual. NIH has had this requirement for a while. The Graduate School will be doing workshops on IDPs in the summer/fall. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1R1MgvSoT v9aV03kbb4mOezWUTudhZUWQCuanQ89uVU/edit

**4**. Mentoring Road Show for graduate students—scenario and discussion based. Request visits from Dr. Kevin Edgar (<u>kjedgar@vt.edu</u>) and Dr. Bill Huckle (wrhuckle@vt.edu)

- **5.** PSA: Zoom phones transition at the Graduate School on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> 11:00-1:30 phone service out
- 6. Nominate your faculty member for a Mentor of the Month Award

**7.** Commencement deadlines—PhD students' deadline for final exam is May 1. <u>https://graduateschool.vt.edu/academics/what-you-need-to-graduate/commencement.html</u>

# b. Senate Updates-

# \*GPSS-Ranald Adams

\*Other departments would like the climate survey presentation.

# \*Faculty/Senate-Alex Kinnaman

\*Statement on Palestine was brought for endorsement. There will be no endorsement; no working group. \*Vote to send to University Council responded and recommended that President Sands make a university neutrality statement

\*Administrative and Professional Senate- Gonzalo Ortiz \*None

\*Staff Senate-Sally Shupe \*None

# \*USS-Karl Rice

# 4. General Orders/Discussion Topics-Ranald Adams

• Look at current resolutions in governance—Dean Surprenant

\*The current resolutions in governance are posted in Share Point. The dean shared them to see if any discussion is needed from this commission before moving on in the process. None needed extra discussion, but others will be shared at future meetings.

• DRAFT: Working Group on Graduate Student Climate and Success—Dean Surprenant

\*Start with a small group to see how much research there is to be done and then size up

\*There is a strong recommendation for mostly graduate students to be in the group.

\*Look at a timeline, or phased timelines

\*Question: since the students will be working on this over the summer, is there a potential for compensation? Dean Surprenant will look into that.

## 5. Announcements-

Reminder that this is the last CGPSA meeting until fall semester.

## 6. Adjournment-

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:51.