

Present: Brandy Randall (*Chair*), Kris Condic (*Ex Officio*), Meghan Harris (*Co-Chair*), Lisa Hawley, Joanne Lipson Freed, Zissimos Mourelatos, Robert Noiva, Linda Pavonetti, Claire Rammel (*Ex Officio*), Mohammad-Reza Siadat, Meir Shillor, Kris Thompson

Not Present: Seong Cho

Staff: Celia Knobelsdorf (Secretary)

The meeting held remotely

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Zissimos Mourelatos moved to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2021 Graduate Council Meeting as written. Meir Shillor seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

- **Interviews of Dean of College of Arts & Science (CAS):** At this time two candidates have been interviewed with three candidates remaining. Brandy encouraged the Council members to take part in the candidate open forums, as each candidate brings different perspectives.
- **President's Chief of Staff:** The Chief of Staff for the President is requesting Key Performance Indicators (KPI) for each School. This will include enrollment management and Goals for the next five years. A focus for the Graduate School will be Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in recruitment and retention. Steve Meyer in the Graduate School is currently reviewing number for the past ten years.
- **3 Minute Thesis (3MT) & Graduate Student Showcase (GSS):** Notification for the conference has been sent to students. Kelly Brault and a Graduate School Advisory Board member are currently assisting in recruiting judges from the community.
- **Graduate Student Research Conference (GSRC):** The 2021 Conference will be held on Friday, May 7, 2021. Oral presentation will be filmed ahead of time. Committee is working out the details for poster presentations.

NEW BUSINESS

A. New Certificate – Graduate Fin Tech Certificate Program

Joanne Lipson-Freed agreed to review this new certificate. The Council had requested clarification from Dr. Robert Uptegraff at the December 16, 2020 meeting. Council reviewed Dr. Uptegraff's response and after careful discussion found the modification have clear articulation of goals.

Joanne Lipson-Freed made the motion to approve the New Graduate Fin Tech Certificate Program. Kris Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award:** After careful deliberation the Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award Subcommittee narrowed the candidates to three nominees. After discussion, the Council voted to present the Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award to Dr. Albert Meehan.
- **Professional Advisor & Graduate Council (*Ex Officio position*):** Brandy has been meeting regularly with the Association Deans. It was suggested at one meeting that an individual be added to the Graduate Council in an *Ex Officio* position.
- **Transfer Credits:** Currently Oakland University only accepts 9 credits from another institution. In recent months faculty being recruited by OU have requested that members of their research team (graduate students) be allowed to transfer to OU. At the current time OU does not have a policy for situations such as this. Brandy has been working with Academic Affairs and the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Brandy research other institutions general guidelines/models and draft a policies for review by Council.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- N/A

GOOD AND WELFARE

- Invitation to Provost: Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis has accepted the Council's invitation and will attend the February 17, 2021 Graduate Council Meeting. She will be introduced to the Council and be given an overview

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:24 p.m.