

UA Little Rock Graduate Council  
April 14, 2021, 3:00 p.m.  
Zoom Virtual Meeting

## **Minutes**

**Members Present:** Chelsea Bradley, Roger Dorsey, Nancy Hamilton, Heidi Harris, Sung-Kwan Kim, John Nichols, Donna Rose, Laura Ruhl-Whittle, Jerry Stevenson, Carolyn Turturro, Lynne Larsen, Natalie Snow, Robert Lytle, Mariya Khodakovskaya, Kamran Iqbal

**Members Absent:** Tracy Cook, David Manry, Jennifer Holtz

**Others Present:** Paula Baker, Brian Berry, Nicole Godfrey, Karen Kuralt, Dana Steele

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Meeting called to order at **3:02 p.m.**

### **Welcome and Introductions**

### **Old Business**

- Approved minutes from March 31, 2021 meeting.

### **New Business**

- **Report of the Curriculum Committee**

21-1038	Ph.D. Bioinformatics <b>APPROVED</b>	Changes to Catalog Copy
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- **Report of the Policy and Personnel Committee**

- **Applications for Graduate Faculty Affiliate Status:**

Timothy McCarthy <b>APPROVED</b>	Doctorate	Harvard University	CHASSE
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Benjamin Babst <b>APPROVED</b>	Doctorate	University of Arkansas at Monticello	DCSTEM
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Joseph Yacura  
**APPROVED**

Master's

International  
Association of Data  
Quality,  
Governance and  
Analytics

DCSTEM

Said Abushamleh  
**APPROVED**

Doctorate

Indiana Institute of  
Technology

DCSTEM

### **International Graduate Student Onboarding Process Statement**

- Finding ways to help international GA's to pay for fees and health insurance.
  - Eliminating the drop list emails for these students.
  - Helping students understand the process for their application in order for them to have a good understanding of the timeline for which things take place.
  - Statement revised and approved.
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- **Dr. Berry:**
    - Suggested solutions for establishing a timeline.
    - Depends on programs, when they apply, etc.
    - Offer letters in early spring - budgets are estimated and need to be approved though.
    - Establishing internal deadlines to get offers to students earlier.
    - Eliminating drop list emails, but this might be a difficult process.
    - Bursar's office will need a list in order to not send the email to those students.
    - Make a diagram/flowchart of the application process in order to help students "see" the process to have a better understanding.
    - Finding funding to help with some of these students potential fees - if needed.

### **Dean's Report**

- Enrollment - 50% up in applicants, 20% up in enrolled applicants.
- Overall enrollment - up 6.3%
- Get Your Feet Wet Scholarship - \$25,000 to award to first-time graduate students.

- Some of it might be used to solidify the deal with Philander Smith College.

### **Dr. Kuralt**

- Holding 4 separate commencement ceremonies - May 11, 12, 13, 14. All ceremonies will begin at 6 p.m.
  - May 11 - CHASSE
  - May 12 - School of Social Work
  - May 13 - DCSTEM
  - May 14 - College of Business, Health, and Human Services
- Seating chart will be set up for everyone.
  - Social distancing and masks are required.
  - Events will be live streamed and recorded.
  - Friday, April 23 will be the last day for students to RSVP to the event.

### **Open Forum**

- Thesis and Dissertation deadline - May 3rd.
- Admissions Processor positions open.
- Graduate Student Association - taking nominations for open positions
  - Information is on the website and an email with more information will be sent out next week.
  - Nominations due April 30th.
  - Elections will be on May 6th.

Meeting adjourned at **4:01 p.m.**