

BMS Graduate Program Committee Meeting

September 19, 2018

1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Meeting minutes

Present: Sheila Fleming, Liya Yin, Sam Crish, Priya Raman, Jesse Young, Emily Plyler and Nona Hose

Absent: Lisa Cooper

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1. Approval of prior meeting minutes by acclamation	Dr. Sam Crish called the meeting to order and asked for an approval of the meeting minutes from July. The minutes were approved unanimously.	
2. Equipment Purchase	<p>The committee voted to approve partial funding for a confocal thalmascope via email since the last meeting. The committee was tied on the vote and Dr. Crish provided the tie-breaking vote in favor the purchase as the chair of the committee. Dr. Crish asked the committee members who were opposed to the purchase to provide feedback. Are they opposed to purchasing equipment in general, or just this specific item?</p> <p>Committee members responded that they were against the concept of using BMS funds to purchase equipment. They could support the purchase of equipment that the whole university as opposed to specific students. The particular item purchased will be used by many students, so it was a good purchase.</p> <p>Other committee members pointed out that if the right equipment is available, the students will benefit, not just the faculty. If the equipment is not there, the research is not possible.</p>	
3. Two new students with NEOMED advisors.	<p>Dr. Crish shared that in the past if a faculty member was in good standing, the last committee chair would approve the students' form for a permanent academic advisor. Dr. Crish signed for two students to be able to choose permanent advisors. The PIs are in good standing, they have appropriate funding and only one or two students currently. The PI agreed to pay years 3-5 for the students.</p> <p>Is this practice still OK to continue or should it be done differently? Dr. Crish asked the committee members to think about it. Dr. Crish will email the committee as an FYI when these things come through in the future.</p> <p>Who would approve for Dr. Sam Crish and Dr. Christine Crish's students? The vice-chair of the committee would, currently Dr. Lisa Cooper.</p>	
4. Process for Junior Faculty to request a student.	Should the committee come up with a formalized process for Junior Faculty to use to request a student in their lab? Dr. Crish will put information together and have the committee vote at the next meeting.	Dr. Crish will put information together and have the committee vote at the next meeting.
5. Student update	<p>Dr. Crish informed the committee of a student who left a NEOMED advisor's lab and transferred to KSU. This student had issues with several advisors and is now being co-advised Dr. Kim at KSU and Dr. Safadi. Dr. Safadi's role is unofficial, there is no paperwork required for the committee.</p> <p>Dr. Yin suggested the committee should create a policy to address these issues in the future. Dr. Crish shared that the situation will be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting of the BMS program at KSU.</p>	

6. New policy: Health insurance Premium Reimbursement for NEOMED-based BMS students	A draft of the new policy was reviewed by the committee. It was reviewed and unanimously approved by the committee.	Nona to send the new policy to General Counsel for review.
7. Meeting date/time change	Nona will conduct a Doodle Poll to establish a new meeting date and time for 2019.	
8. New cohort of BMS students to NEOMED for a visit	The newest cohort of BMS students need to be invited to NEOMED sooner than later. Dr. Crish will work to determine days/structure of the visit.	
Additional item	Dr. Young asked the committee to review the draft of webpage content and provide edits.	Nona will send out the draft of the webpage to committee members.
Agenda items for discussion at future meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a policy regarding funding requests • Courses offered twice a year, TAs teach twice or have double TAs? 	
	The meeting was adjourned.	