

BMS Graduate Program Committee
August 17, 2016
Room #330 in the RGEB
2:30 p.m.

Present: Alexander Galazyuk, Lisa Cooper, Sam Crish, Yanqiao Zhang, Gary Meszaros, Margaret Weakland (support) and guest Dr. Steven Schmidt.

Meeting called to order.

Alex Galazyuk welcomed Dr. Steven Schmidt to our meeting today; as interim vice president for research and dean of the college of graduate studies, Steve is here to observe and be part of this meeting; brief introductions were made around the table.

Alex Galazyuk asked for motion to approve the June 15, 2016 and July 20, 2016 meeting minutes. Sam Crish motioned to approve and was seconded by Gary Meszaros; all in favor; unanimous approval. June 15, 2016 and July 20, 2016 meeting minutes are approved.

Alex discussed the current travel award we have for our students and that after looking at our account he presented the idea of increasing the current \$ 500 travel award that our students get for presenting at conferences to \$ 1000 per student per fiscal year using NEOMED BMS program funds. Sam agreed and motioned to approve, Lisa Cooper seconded; all in favor. Notification will be send to students to let them know.

Discussed policy for teaching assistants that are receiving fellowship during academic year. Fellows in the Medical Neuroscience course are NOT teaching. Example was give that if student is on a NRSA grant from March to July that student (fellow) will not be able to teach because of the time-frame of his/her grant and then would be on grant (NRSA) from July to February, for example. Lucy Coughlin commented that the incentive of having a NRSA is to not teach. NRSA grant is approximately \$ 30,000 per student. A question was asked; when you submit for a NRSA and get funded, are you able to request the start date? This is something to consider and may help this discussion and potential TA issue.

Alex Galazyuk shared that after reconciling the BMS dollars with KSU; we owe them about \$ 3,000 and accounting will pay with our index dollars. Dr. Steven Schmidt agreed after Alex Galazyuk had a meeting with him a few days earlier.

Miscellaneous:

Nazar Hussein, PhD student starting January 2017 in Dr. Fayez Safadi's lab. Will he be paid for his Ph.D. from his government funds? Nuzar is not listed on TA list; okay for him to teach at KSU; yes. A couple questions we have on student, Nazar; does Fayez have grant dollars; how many students are in his lab and how are they funded; need a funding plan for Nuzar from Fayez. Margaret Weakland will request this info from Dr. Safadi.

Meeting adjourned.