

BMS Graduate Program Committee Meeting

July 23, 2020

Meeting minutes

Present: Sam Crish, Alex Galazyuk, Jesse Young, Charles Thodeti, Takhar Kasumov, Priya Raman, and Nona Hose

Absent: Emily Simons

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1. Approval of prior meeting minutes	The meeting minutes from the June 2020 meeting were approved by acclamation.	
2. Student Lab Assignment for Dr. Oyewumi	<p>Dr. Young shared with the committee that Dr. Oyewumi will not be joining the meeting to present the information required by the committee in order to determine if BMS student, Pratyusha Ghanta, is able to join his lab. Dr. Crish explained that because of conversations that have taken place outside of this meeting, he will excuse himself from this agenda item.</p> <p>Dr. Young believes there is a misunderstanding regarding the information that is being asked of Dr. Oyewumi in regard to his lab's ability to fund the student. Dr. Oyewumi's lab currently has philanthropic funding. He does not have federal funding at this time but the Pharm Sci department will fund the student if he does not have it by Fall of 2021. As the chair of the department, this scenario presents a perceived conflict of interest.</p> <p>Dr. Galazyuk stated he doesn't see this situation as a conflict of interest at all. No one is guaranteeing funds, but rather letter of support for the student if needed. Dr. Oyewumi has an active lab to support students. He has support for his research and he has a student who will be defending in September of 2020.</p> <p>Dr. Thodeti and Dr. Kasumov agree with Dr. Galazyuk. If the department chair is the advisor, it is OK.</p> <p>Dr. Raman shared that she too had spoken to Dr. Oyewumi and explained that the committee just needs assurance that the student will be supported after year three.</p> <p>Dr. Young will draft an email to Dr. Oyewumi requesting a letter form him as the department chair stating the student will be supported beyond year three.</p>	Committee will vote electronically once the letter is received from Dr. Oyewumi.
3. Teaching Assistant Assignments	<p>Currently we do not have enough students to fill all of the requests from course directors for the new academic year.</p> <p>Dr. Kasumov said that PDPK only needs 1 TA. He will also ask Dr. Oyewumi if the College of Pharmacy or the department has plans to support teaching assistants.</p> <p>Dr. Raman thinks that Drs. Crish, Young, Raman and Smith should meet to discuss TA support for IPM and BMS students. Dr. Crish suggested a phased in approach be used.</p>	

	<p>Dr. Crish will meet with Darcie Flower in the College of Medicine. Then he along with Drs. Young, Raman, Smith and Nona will meet together to get a game plan to take to Drs. Schmidt and Ritter.</p> <p>Dr. Galazyuk mentioned that Dr. Lu is not 100% guaranteed there will be labs yet.</p>	
4. New Student Orientation	The committee agreed that we could do something electronically. Dr. Crish, Dr. Young and Nona will meet and discuss and get a plan together.	
5. Cost sharing funding model	Dr. Crish shared with the committee that it has been determined that PI's cannot use grant funding to pay TA stipends. Given that information, he thinks the colleges should pay for the students and use indirect costs to do it. 80% of indirect costs go into a central fund. A suggestion was made to use Research Incentive Program awards to pay for students. Another suggestion is to do half TA and half RA positions as a last resort. Cost share is no longer an option.	
6. Health insurance premium reimbursement	<p>Dr. Crish informed the committee that two students have questions regarding their healthcare reimbursement. Nicole Siegel who is currently off campus writing her dissertation and Lucy Coughlin who has returned after being off on a LOA for over a year.</p> <p>Dr. Young stated that the committee needs to better define who is covered and a stipulation that the student cannot have other insurance available for them to utilize.</p> <p>Dr. Galazyuk suggested there be a time limit of one year from the ir departure from campus with the possibility of petitioning for an additional year.</p> <p>The committee decided to change "are conducting research" to "actively working on their thesis/dissertation project"</p> <p>Dr. Galazyuk made a motion to approve the revision to the policy. Dr./ Raman seconded the motion. The policy revision was approved.</p>	
TA's for graduate courses	Requests for TAs have come from Drs. Julie Aultman and Merri Rosen for their courses. The concern is that TAs cannot teach or grade other graduate students.	
	The meeting was adjourned.	
Agenda items for discussion at future meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses offered twice a year, TAs teach twice or have double TAs? (IPM has changed their policy regarding TA's) • Student Forums 	