

BMS Graduate Program Committee Meeting

June 25, 2020

Meeting minutes

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

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1. Approval of prior meeting minutes	The meeting minutes from the May 2020 meeting were approved by acclamation.	
2. BMS Funds policy	The committee had no further comments or edits regarding this policy. Dr. Thodeti made a motion to approve the policy. Dr. Kasumov seconded the motion. The policy was approved. The first call will likely go out in September.	
3. Student Lab Assignments policy	<p>Dr. Raman's student lab assignment request was approved by the committee by an electronic vote. Dr. Thodeti reminded the committee that the lab assignment form needs to be signed and returned to KSU. Dr. Crish will sign the lab assignment request form.</p> <p>Dr. Galazyuk stated he didn't think the last line in the purpose statement was necessary, but it can stay if the committee thinks it needs to. He also stated there needs to be a link to the student funding policy and the term "PI" needs to be changed to advisor throughout the document.</p> <p>Dr. Thodeti made a motion to approve the policy pending the aforementioned changes. Dr. Raman seconded the motion. The policy was approved.</p>	
4. Teaching Assistants for 2020-2021	<p>The college of medicine has determined how many teaching assistants they will need for the new curriculum.</p> <p>Nona will send the course directors in COM a TA request form for their courses.</p>	
5. TA Support from Colleges	<p>Dr. Crish informed the committee that discussions have begun regarding the COM providing funding for TAs who teach in the courses. He met with Dr. Mowad and Darcie Flower and discussed this.</p> <p>There is an issue with the 2014 cost share policy in that funding from grants are being used for students who are teaching. Dr. Crish met with Rebecca Hayes and Marissa Shepherd from Sponsored Programs and Grants Accounting and they have strong concerns. Teaching Assistants are compensated 100% for the TA, not research.</p> <p>Dr. Galazyuk stated that the students are TA-ing 20 hours a week, so 50% of their stipend is for the TA and 50% is research. If the students are funded 100% by a grant they do not teach.</p> <p>Dr. Thodeti pointed out that students are trainees and not employees.</p> <p>Dr. Crish shared that the colleges need to pay for half of the stipend. The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and Grants Accounting have a problem with using federal funds to subsidize any effort that is not related to the grant.</p>	

	<p>Dr. Young stated that a student can be a TA or an RA, but not both.</p> <p>Dr. Crish pointed out that TAs are 0.5 FTE so 100% of their salary is actually or their teaching.</p> <p>Dr. Raman stated that first and second year students are getting all of their time paid as an assistantship. She is worried that if the colleges have to pick up the salaries they will decide they don't need TA's. There needs to be a distinction between 100% TAs versus those on the cost share.</p> <p>Dr. Galazyuk reiterated that if students are receiving full support from the program it is OK for them to TA. If the students are on grant support they should not TA but be an RA instead.</p> <p>Dr. Young asked if there was a way that students could go back and forth – TA in the Fall and RA in the Spring?</p> <p>Dr. Galazyuk shared that he had told the colleges if they want TAs the students cannot be funded from their grant; otherwise they need to hire faculty to teach.</p> <p>Dr. Crish said the BMS program may have to over the costs. KSU doesn't charge faculty for their students.</p> <p>Dr. Raman asked if Dr. Mowad and Darcie Flower have anything to say about funding students. Dr. Crish examined the focus of the conversation was the process for obtaining and selecting them.</p> <p>The committee decided they need to find out what other universities are doing. Dr. Young suggested Dr Schmidt talk with other Vice Presidents of Research at other universities and stated that we need to be involved in the budgeting process for COM and COP from the beginning. Dr. Schmidt should know when the budget meetings are.</p> <p>Dr. Crish shared there will be a follow up meeting with himself, Dr. Young, Rebecca Hayes, Marissa Shepherd, Dr. Ritter and Dr Schmidt.</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 	