

BMS Graduate Program Committee Meeting

December 2, 2020

Meeting minutes

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

Guests: Christian Ritter

Absent: Sam Crish

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1. Approval of prior meeting minutes	The meeting minutes from the October 2020 meeting were approved by acclamation.	
2. TA Funding update	<p>Dr. Crish shared with the committee that course directors will budget \$6,000 per TA per course for the COM courses. It is assumed at this point that the same will be true for COP courses.</p> <p>Dr. Ritter inquired about the amount, why \$6,000. Dr. Crish shared that Phil Jenkinson indicated it was the amount needed to balance the average deficit owed to KSU at the end of the fiscal year.</p> <p>Dr. Raman shared that she also was told \$6,000 per TA per course for IPM students, but there was no explanation as to how the amount was decided.</p> <p>Dr. Ritter commented that it would be beneficial to have a statement of logic and develop a policy to refer to moving forward. He will follow up with Dr. Schmidt, Phil Jenkinson and Mary Taylor regarding these things.</p> <p>Dr. Raman also shared that she had asked if Administration would have any oversight as to the number of TAs allowed per course. Phil Jenkinson said there would not, however, course directors need to provide justification for the number of TAs they are requesting.</p> <p>Dr. Galazyuk suggested meeting with Rebecca Hayes and Marissa Shepherd as well. He believes there is a misunderstanding where funding TAs on grants is concerned. Dr. Young stated that he, Dr. Crish and Dr. Galazyuk should talk to ensure they are all on the same page.</p>	
3. BMS Committee member election update	Nona Hose reported that she has received three nominations for the two open faculty seat on the committee and three nominations for the one open student seat. The nominations are, for faculty, Drs. Priya Raman, Christine Crish and Jeff Mellott. Student nominees are Pratyusha Ghanta, Lia Gavazzi and Gabbie Frame. Nona will send an email to all NEOMED-based faculty and students with the nominees' statements of interest after this meeting. The election results will be reported at the December BMS Committee meeting.	
4. Website update	<p>Emily Plyler shared with the committee that Dr. Freeman at KSU is having BMS students update and redesign the KSU BMS website.</p> <p>Nona Hose shared the updates that have been implemented to the NEOMED BMS program page.</p>	

5. BMS students' exam fees	Dr. Young shared that there is an exam fee for students who are taking the HAC-Anatomy course.	
6. BMS Associate Director stipend	<p>Dr. Crish excused himself for the last agenda item.</p> <p>Dr. Ritter explained that the Graduate Faculty Council voted to approve \$12,500 stipends for program directors for the time and effort they give to the COGS. He also shared with the committee where the funds came from to support this decision. The BMS Associate Director was not included as a part of this decision. This committee needs to decide if they feel the Associate Director of the BMS program at NEOMED and the Vice-Chair of the committee should also receive a stipend, how much it should be and if the program is able to fund it.</p> <p>Dr. Galazyuk stated that the amount may be too much but if we are going to pay, then it should be the same amount. He believes if the dean of the college is going to pay for others, he should also pay for BMS. He does not feel the position should be compensated. In the future the program directors should be funded through the University's plan if it is compensation for the faculty. The department/program should allocate the funds to the University to compensate the associate director. However, for this year, the committee should pay it to be fair, but it should be split between the associate director and the vice-chair of the committee with the understanding that it is not compensation for the effort, but for the title.</p> <p>Dr. Young shared that he is OK with covering up for the oversight, but does not feel as though the vice-chair is enough work to justify a stipend. The committee needs to decide this, so if the decision does include him as the vice-chair then he will excuse himself from the vote.</p> <p>Dr. Raman shared that she doesn't believe the BMS Associate Director has the same workload as a NEOMED program director.</p> <p>Dr. Young advised the committee to vote on the coverage of this past year only. The committee can decide future stipends at a later date.</p> <p>Dr. Thodeti suggested the split to be \$7,500 to the associate director and \$5,000 to the vice-chair.</p> <p>Dr. Raman made a motion for 2020, the BMS associate director and vice-chair be provided a stipend in the amount of \$7,500 and \$5,000 respectively. Dr. Thodeti seconded the motion. The stipends were approved.</p>	
	The meeting was adjourned.	
Agenda items for discussion at future meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future stipends for BMS Associate Director and Vice-Chair 	