

Graduate Council
January 23, 2020

Present: Professors: Butali, Cwiertny, Gfeller, Greyser, Hribar, Kang, McLeod, O'Shaughnessy, Rakel, Quelle, Wesely; Graduate Students: Bako, Gabriele, Waldstein, White; Grad College Personnel: Arbisi-Kelm, Campo, Danger, Keller, McKibben, Teitle, Varga.

Absent: Professors: Doucette, Huber

The meeting was called to order by Dean John Keller @ 8:18 AM.

1. Minutes from the November 21, 2019, meeting was approved.
2. Announcements and updates:
 - The Graduate College administrative and academic affairs offices moved to the second floor of Calvin Hall over the winter break. The anticipated return to Gilmore Hall is summer 2020.
 - Fall commencement was near capacity due to increasing participation by students, especially master degree recipients. Therefore, the Graduate College will conduct two ceremonies in Fall 2020 at Hancher Auditorium, one for the doctoral graduates and another for the masters graduates. The Spring doctoral ceremony will continue to be a ticketed event.
 - The Digital Studio Summer, URM pre-comp, and MFA Summer fellowships are open. By next week the fellowships associated with recruitment will be open.
 - The University of Iowa is a signatory to the Council of Graduate Schools April 15th resolution that says recruitment offers of financial aid cannot force a prospect to make a decision prior to April 15th. Should you hear that other institutions are pressuring applicants in advance of this date, please inform Dean Keller. He will discuss with the graduate dean at the accused institution.
 - Office of Vice President for Research has hung the Dare to Discover banners downtown. They are bringing Melissa Marshall to campus to conduct a workshop on grant writing.
 - Recent Graduate Student Senate agenda items include Graduate College strategic planning. Going forward a decision was made to suspend the Spring 2020 Jakobsen conference. Officers of GSS are reaching out to an associate dean in the Tippie College of Business to discuss member governance (e.g. senatorship).
3. Dean Keller led a discussion on the proposal to change the name of an academic unit within the Graduate College. The proposal was to change the School of Urban and Regional Planning to School of Planning and Public Affairs. No concerns were expressed by Council, thereby endorsing the name change to School of Planning and Public Affairs.
4. Dean Keller introduced Professor David Cwiertny, co-chair of the Graduate College strategic planning committee. The purpose of today's discussion was to re-engage with Graduate Council before the draft strategic plan was sent to the dean and the provost. The committee is planning revisions with a particular focus on how indicators of success can be reasonably achieved given the financial and human capital available to the Graduate College. After discussion Council was reminded that additional comments can be emailed directly to the co-chairs of the committee. Dean Keller thanked the entire strategic planning committee for their work in developing the SWOT analysis and the draft strategic plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 AM.