Directors –

I hope you are all doing well. Below are a few updates before we meet again next week.

To watch a recording of the Oct 21 meeting, please visit this link: https://uicapture.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?tid=9a8c0ecc-928e-4707-93b0-ac5b01716c6e. If you were unable to attend and have questions after reviewing the recording and attached information, please reach out to Steve Varga.

Learning Outcomes and Assessment Reminder:

Thank you, again, to programs that have already returned a completed Learning Outcomes and Assessment Template! In an effort to give as much time as we can to complete the template, we have extended the deadline to 5 p.m. CST on April 2, 2021.

The Graduate College requests that each graduate program fill out and return the attached Learning Outcomes and Assessment Template to Steve Varga. Additionally, if you have concerns that your program may not be able to complete the template by the required deadline, please reach out to Steve.

Our upcoming December 16, 2020, DGS Meeting will be centered on providing additional information and guidance on completing the templates. We will also provide examples of completed templates in the near future.

Additional information:

- The Goldrush: Tech Equity for Grad Students campaign (link not supported in Internet Explorer) has been extended to Nov 7. We would greatly appreciate everyone spreading the word. We have received over 150 student requests—the need for tech support is great. Eligible students were sent a workflow link to submit requests with a deadline of 11:59 p.m. on November 4, 2020.
- Professor Venise Berry is announcing a new Spring 2021 course available to graduate students: Advanced Readings in African American Culture: Classic and Contemporary Debates. Please distribute this to your departments, as appropriate.
- The Three Minute Thesis 2020 virtual competition comprised forty-two participants in the preliminary rounds and currently fifteen final student competitors. The 3MT Winner Announcement & Q&A Zoom Event is scheduled for November 06, 2020.
- Please continue to send any collegiate/departmental success blurbs to Katie McKibben for inclusion in the Provost’s bi-weekly email to campus deans.
- The Graduate College fall 2020 doctoral and masters virtual commencement ceremonies will be held on December 18. The deadline for student registration is December 01. Please note student registration is to be completed through the MyUI web portal (Degrees/Graduation > Commencement Attendance). The last day to rent apparel is November 23 and apparel is not required for photos the students submit for their personal slide. For the planned ceremony, the college would like to receive candid photographs of participating degree candidates to combine in a montage for the virtual event.
The next DGS Meeting will be at 4 pm on Wednesday, November 4. Dr. Tracey Benson from the University of North Carolina in Charlotte will be speaking on addressing systemic racism and unconscious bias in graduate education.

If you have any questions between now and then, please don’t hesitate to contact me. Have a great weekend!

Best,

Steve