Graduate Roundtable

Virtual: Tuesday, November 7, 2023, 3:30pm–5:00pm, go.uncg.edu/gpd-meeting

In person: Wednesday, November 8, 2023, 3:30pm–5:00pm, EUC Dogwood

1. Welcome – Brief updates
   a. 3MT Results
      i. First place: Farhat Chowdhury, Economics - Faculty Mentor: Dora Gicheva
      ii. Second place: Tamera Jones, Chemistry & Biochemistry - Faculty Mentor: Maia Popova
      iii. People’s Choice: Panesun Tukur, Nanoscience - Faculty Mentor: Jianjun Wei
   b. Tuition and Fees
      i. Committee recommended 3% increase to OS tuition (UG & GR)
         1. Amounts to $300± per semester for full-time OS tuition
         2. Effective Fall 2024
      ii. Committee recommended 3% increase to fees
         1. Amounts to $48± per semester for full-time students
         2. Effective Fall 2024
      iii. OS tuition waivers will compensate for this increase
   c. Meetings/communication with graduate students
      i. Updates on https://innovation.uncg.edu/
      ii. Video message from Greg Bell
   d. Spring GTA Training and Cohort
      i. Spring 2024 GTAs will be invited to an in-person training that includes lunch Friday, Jan. 5
         1. Check in at 8 a.m., Training and lunch 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
         2. If students need to be added, contact Greg or Stephanie Guzman in UTLC
      ii. Haven’t usually held this training in spring.
   e. Commencement reminders
      i. Dec. 8 - Graduate ceremony at 3:30 p.m., undergraduate will be at 11 a.m.
      ii. The Master’s and Doctoral Commencement Ceremony will have reserved faculty seating, but no graduate faculty processional.

2. Awards & Fellowships
   a. UNCG Graduate Mentoring Award
      i. Now open; due 1/12/24
         1. Requires application letter
   b. UNCG Outstanding Thesis/Dissertation Awards
      i. Open 11/13/23
         1. Eligible students: May, Aug, or Dec 2023 graduates.
ii. Due 2/16/24

c. Graduate School **Fellowships**
   i. Opening soon.
   ii. Changes coming:
      1. Consider later deadlines for some awards
      2. Considering specific prompts and information on each award

3. 2024 Recruitment
   a. Program **targets** and enrollment **dashboard**
      i. Can see all target enrollments and daily headcount in dashboards
   b. Fall 24 admissions pause for most programs (until February 1)
      i. Only affects Fall 2024 admissions.
      ii. Programs/departments can enter decisions as usual, but the Graduate School will not communicate those decisions until February 1.
      iii. The only decisions that will be processed before February 1 are programs that meet both criteria:
         1. Application deadline before February 1; and
         2. Overall APR rubric rating of ≥2.50.
      iv. Unit deans can request admissions continue as normal for programs that do not meet these criteria.
   c. Update on waiver awards
      i. Greg met with deans and associate deans, provided data, and sought feedback.
      ii. Decisions forthcoming after another round of meetings with these groups in November.

4. Admissions
   a. Deferral process changing
      i. Deferrals currently create errors for us – students will still be able to defer but will be managed in a new way. Working with Graduate Council on this and should be approved next week.
      ii. Students will create a new application (no fee) to update their file while using all of their current materials, so it will better reflect who will be attending in the next semester. Questions/concerns contact Kelly Meris.
      iii. Old system gave inflated intent to enroll in the next application cycle, providing false sense of end results.
      iv. Does not affect deferral period of 1 year
   b. Change of term process
      i. If an applicant needs to make changes, they will be able to change:
         1. Concentration
         2. Method of delivery
         3. Term
      ii. This is just so we have “cleaner” data as we move forward. Students will not be able to change their program as some have different requirements.
      iii. Students must submit final transcripts once accepted into a program, but may use unofficial to apply, especially based on early deadlines.

5. Assistantship Process
   a. Modifications based on feedback we received
      i. Working on improving I-9 process.

6. Enrolled Students Updates
   a. Degree Works
      i. Undergoing an upgrade in spring 2024 – for master's and certificates for Fall 2024, PhD students will still need to submit plan of study
         1. New dashboard will be available in February
            a. Will be more mobile friendly
            b. Degree works will be based on the current catalogue year
         2. Legacy interface will continue to be available until June.
         3. Training and resources coming early 2024.
      ii. Still on track for Fall 2024. Looking for volunteers to test.
         1. Contact Maria Hayden.
   b. Updates to forms and processes
      i. Paired forms to one branching form
      ii. Right now, one form per request
      iii. Approval process will be MUCH simpler. It will go to GPD or Admin
           1. Details of request will be in an email that is just “approved”
           2. Instructor and dept. chair must approve independent study (will review if GPD can approve)
           3. New request forms look like an external request (so please be aware of this- we have not implemented this process yet, but are hopeful for spring semester)
           4. Confirmation of form processing request – feedback to approver (i.e. “your request was submitted”)

7. New Business, Q&A

8. From the Graduate Program Director Timeline: November
   a. Continue to make admissions decisions
   b. Degree audits
   c. Graduate Faculty Meeting
   d. Funding continuing students
   e. Review students’ progress to degree.