

## Graduate Council Meeting No. 540 April 19, 2021 via Zoom | Minutes

Council Members Present: James Agostinucci, Gabriel DePace, Jesse Duroha, Shingo Goto, Steven Gregory, Rabia Hos, Kathy Hutchinson, Aaron Ley, Mary MacDonald, Mary Moen, Colleen Mouw, Fred Vetter, Travis Williams, Jing Jian Xiao, Mehmet Gökhan Yalcin

Council Members Absent: Feruz Ganikhano, Nisa Ghonem

Graduate School Present: Brenton DeBoef, Alycia Mosley Austin, Cara Mitnick, Corinne Kulesh, Jessica Martinez

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### I. Call to order

- The meeting was called to order at 2:02 PM by Chair Colleen Mouw

### II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting Number 539, April 5, 2021

- ★ A motion to approve the Graduate Council Meeting minutes of April 5, 2020 was made, seconded, and approved.

### III. Conferral of May Degrees (*DeBoef*)

- ★ Motion to recommend to the University of Rhode Island Board of Governors approval of the candidates for the award of Graduate degrees whose names were certified by the Faculty Senate, the Graduate Council, and the Graduate School for May 2021 graduation.
  - Approved

### IV. Announcements

#### A. Fellowship & Scholarships update (*Mosley Austin*)

1. Associate Dean Mosely Austin announced that there were ten Tuition Scholarships, five Dean's Fellowships, and four Dean's Diversity Fellowship awardees. All recipients were notified of their award. The Graduate School is waiting on a couple of responses for acceptance.

#### B. Professional Development Upcoming Events (*Mitnick*)

1. Director Mitnick informed the council of upcoming sessions and also stated that the Graduate Writing Center, Academic Skills Consultation and Professional Development services are available to graduate students through the last day of the last summer session.

### V. New Business

#### A. EGRA Discussion; (1)Timing – Earlier announcement and deadline, (2) Allow for group proposals, (3) Increasing award amount (*DeBoef & Mosley Austin*)

1. Dean DeBoef and Associate Dean Mosley Austin discussed the issues with students not using the EGRA funds within the allotted time and proposing to accept group proposals.
2. The Council agreed to have group proposals. The council suggested providing additional details on the purchase procedure/policy to students, developing a mechanism to allow for survey incentives like gift cards, allowing for an extension for the length of the award, and analyzing the unspent funds to see if there is a pattern.

- a) Council members mentioned they use Amazon gift cards as an incentive to participants. At the end of the survey, the participant can enter their email address and the gift card is sent electronically. A report can be produced of the recipients.
- b) Infoready has the ability to enable a progress feature to allow students to upload receipts and also provide notice if they are unable to use the funds awarded.

**VI. New Graduate Programs & Notice of Change (See Google Drive for New Program Proposals) (Mosley Austin)**

**ABM in Supply Chain and Applied Analytics**

- ★ Motion to approve the new program proposal for ABM in Supply Chain and Applied Analytics
  - Approved
    - 2 council members abstained

**ABM in Sustainable Food Systems**

- ★ Motion to approve the new program proposal for ABM in Sustainable Food Systems
  - Approved

**ABM in Labor Relations and Human Resources**

- ★ Motion to approve the notice of change for ABM Labor Relations and Human Resources in current form except for the new language pertaining to the certificate proposal.
  - Approved

**VII. Adjournment & Recognition of Service**

- Chairperson Mouw asked for a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Graduate Council on September 13, 2021

  
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Brenton DeBoef, Dean of the Graduate School

9-13-21  
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Date