

**BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY**

**THE GRADUATE COUNCIL- MEETING MINUTES**

**February 28, 2022**

**3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**PLACE:** Zoom / Couper Administration, AD-148

**PRESIDING:** Gretchen Mahler, Interim Dean of the Graduate School

**MEMBERS:** Christopher Bartlette, Jeremy Blackburn, Rory Eckardt, Ann Fronczek, Jeroen Gerrits, Yetrib Hathout, Kristina Lambright, Les Lander, Patrick Madden, Loretta Mason-Williams, Erin E. Mccurdy (rep. GSO President), Andreas Pape, Thomas Powell, Nicole Rouhana, Julia Rumsey, Hiroki Sayama, Chenqing Song, Nathan Tumey, David Werner, Junghyun Cho, Bogum Yoon

**EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:** Ellen Tilden

**EXCUSED/ABSENT:** Grace Babalola, Niyazi Bodur, Joshua Reno, James Galbraith, Michael Jacobson, Ana Sanchez-Bachman, Christopher Wright (GSO President), Carl Lipo, Kanneboyina Nagaraju, Gale Spencer, Scott Craver, Danielle Dunne,

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Dean Mahler called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

**II. Minutes from the November 29, 2021 meeting**

The minutes from the November 29, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

Nicole Rouhana made the motion and Lucky Mason-Williams second the motion.

**III. New Graduate School Staff:**

Nicole Smith joined the Graduate School on December 23, 2021.

**IV. Committees**

**Diversity Committee** – This committee met on February 14, 2022. Andreas Pape provided an update on the Clark Applications. He noted that the first round of nominations was reviewed, and 13 offers were made and 4 students are deposit/enrolls. The funding has expanded, so we are expected to have a total

of 15 Clark fellowship openings for fall 2022. The second and final round of nominations are due tomorrow, Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

Andreas noted The Graduate School needed to draft a diversity and inclusion statement. Andreas read the statement: "The Graduate School is committed to providing a diverse and inclusive educational environment for all graduate students at Binghamton University. We welcome to our backgrounds, including races ages ethnicities genders, sexual orientation, socio-economic statuses, disabilities, religions and geographic origins." Andreas asked for discussion about the statement. Some comments and concerns were brought forward and addressed. Andreas asked for a vote. Hiroki Sayama second the vote. 19 voted to approve the statement and none opposed.

Andreas would like to change the Clark fellowship language. The current language was discussed and many edits were made. Gretchen suggested to table the statement and bring back at the next Graduate Council Meeting.

**Professional Development Committee** – This committee met on February 23, 2022. Andreas provided an update on Coding, Programming, and Writing Assistance for the Graduate Students Working Groups. He briefly discussed two writing consultants were hired, as well as two coding and two statistical consultants. The consultants serve about 20 hours a week. Students sign up on the webpage and ask for specific assistance. Then the student could meet face to face or through Zoom to get assistance.

Andreas then discussed the idea of offering micro-credentials through the Graduate School. He explained that there are two types of micro-credentials, non-credit bearing micro-credentials which are workshops students can attend ie. Python. Credit-bearing micro-credentials are courses students can take to earn the micro-credentials.

**Student Affairs/Budget Advisory Committee** – This committee has not met.

**Academic Standards Committee** – The committee met on February 7, 2022 to discuss the Graduate School Mission Statement. The language is not ready yet for a vote.

## **V. New Business**

New fee scholarship for doctoral students. Students need to be registered full time and have a full tuition scholarship in order to qualify. The President's office is paying the fees this year, moving forward the fees will be part of the University budget. Gretchen suggested to contact the Graduate School with any questions since the program was just implemented this year.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

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Minutes recorded by Nicole Smith  
Administrative Assistant to the Dean