PHD COMMITTEE MEETING, 10/7/19

Members in attendance: Williams, Lucero, Pianko, C. Yang; Non-voting members: Kim, Alhadeff

Members missing: Curran, Novetzke

Grad Students in Attendance: Megan Ward, Hayim Katsman, Ryan Zielonka, Lucas Olson

OPEN SESSION

Updates:

1. Student funding
   a. Everyone who requested a TA position was offered one
   b. Travel funding of $400/student was renewed for 2019-2020 academic year
   c. Students continue to receive outside fellowships, including Kelsey Gilman who received a Fulbright

2. Offices & Lounge space
   a. M.A. & Ph.D. student lounge now in basement, they have been allocated $5,000 to furnish
   b. Current issue that there is no refrigerator and it is necessary in the interim period
   c. Offices in Savery can be used to meet with students

3. Communication – Rebecca is rolling out monthly newsletter and setting up monthly meetings with all graduate students to address non-academic issues

4. Graduate Student Council (GSC)
   a. In the process of restarting the GSC and will include Ph.D. students on council
   b. Discussion of 2 year terms to ensure continuity
   c. Ph.D. students requested presence on Ph.D. committee – see discussion in Executive session below
   d. Ph.D. students requested presence at Faculty meetings – Williams will discuss at Faculty Meeting

5. TA Training Conducted by Tony Lucero
   a. Discussed includes: tricks of the trade, faculty understanding of their responsibilities towards TAs, Union representatives attended
   b. Consensus between Lucero and Ward that it went well
   c. Discussed possibility of longer session or more sessions, but concluded that would add too large of a burden on graduate students
   d. Also discussed heavy workload for TAs, sometimes in excess of allocated 20 hours/week. Ph.D. committee will discuss this this further later in the year.

6. Non-academic Career Support
   a. Will be conducted by Alison Wattles and Katherine Kim out of OAS
   b. JSIS 578E: Careers & Professional Development course is relevant to Ph.D. students. Even if students are unable to take the class, they should come to as many sessions as they would like
   c. Alumni networking is crucial

7. Updated Handbook
   a. Handbook has been shortened to approximately 20 pages and made interactive on the Ph.D. website.
b. Handbook stayed the same, except for one policy clarification: Per Graduate School rules, students must complete Ph.D. curriculum before they receive candidacy.

c. Ph.D. students and committee members will review handbook to ensure correctness

8. Committee Chairs/Member Meeting
   a. Williams will set up meetings for Committee Chairs and Members to discuss their responsibilities this quarter

New business tabled for next meeting on November 4th.