

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 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.