

PhD Leadership Meeting Agenda January 16th, 2019

Attendance: Abigail Lubin, Josh Acklin, Guha Arunkumar, Jim Duehr, Basil Hanss, Denise Jurczynszak, Allison Kann, Matthew O'Connell, Shikha Nayar, Nick Upright

Meeting start time: 16:05

PLM Business <5 mins

1. Trainee listserve
 - a. Matthew to query what this is and whether the student population should be aware of using this.

Updates from the Deans ~10 mins

1. Basil Hanss, Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Career Development
 - a. General updates
 - i. Graduate School support sessions from clinical social workers with regards to the passing of Essanna Gray → directed emails were sent to Microbiology trainees and members of SEOS this week. Next week all PhD and MD/PhD will receive this support.
2. Matthew O'Connell, Senior Associate Dean for Curriculum, Recruitment and Admissions
 - a. General updates
 - i. Next Thursday, admissions committee meets to review interviewee candidates. Marta then makes the final decisions and applicants are scheduled to hear around February 1st.
 - ii. Volunteer soliciting for current students' participation at interviews was good this year; timing-wise solicit volunteers before Christmas break next year.

Steering Committee- Jim Duehr, 5 mins

1. General updates
 - a. Have not met this year as a committee thus far.
 - b. Career Services, and issues from the end of 2018 will be focused on in the new year.

Curriculum Committee- Abigail Lubin, Guha Arunkumar, <5 mins

1. General updates; introductions to student body
 - a. Have not met this year as a committee thus far
 - b. Representatives have sent introductory emails to the student body explaining who they are, their roles, and interface with the student body. They will send out emails with courses that will be evaluated to get anecdotes for specific discussions.

Student Affairs- *Jesse Gelles, Allison Kann, 5-10 mins*

1. General updates
 - a. Student Affairs handbook chapter completed and will be integrated into the handbook.
 - b. Representatives will be meeting with Ellie to orchestrate events in the new year → student-desires and communication between her office and student body.
2. Communication with PhD students in the new year
 - a. Survey to be disseminated to PhD students (February). Students will be surveyed on student resources and organization, career and non-career development, student affairs, diversity and inclusion.
 - b. Communication with members of SEOS must occur to discuss a member sitting at PLM to represent diversity (Josh to communicate with Ezi Alibo re: this) and communicate back to Basil and rest of PLM.

Student Council- *Josh Acklin, Nick Upright, ~10 mins*

1. Housing update (Masters students)
 - a. Data is analyzed, working on the qualitative analysis now, and building the actual resource.
 - b. Roping in StuCo housing subcommittee to work on building this.
 - c. Still plan on having an internal website for student sublets.
2. Housing update (Aron Hall)
 - a. Student body has been surveyed. Data collected and will be discussed with Student Council steering; members of the administration (Phyllis Schnepf, other Deans etc.).
 - b. Next steps: formulate data and present at Student Council GBM in February. This will hopefully spur discussions in setting a future steering agenda re: Aron Hall and student housing.
3. Biostatistics
 - a. Addressed; Chris, the TA for biostats, has resolved the requirement of the textbook purchase. Relevant textbook material will be provided as a PDF to students to use in open book exams.
4. Town Hall
 - a. February 12th; This will be targeted to PhD and MD/PhD students. Topics will include housing, email fatigue, locking doors in Aron, and anything the student body brings up. 5 minute feature of Graduate School administration to introduce who does what.
 - b. Will try to have this recorded.

THAW- *Maggie Hung, Denise Jurczynszak, 10 mins*

1. Mental health steering committee
 - a. First meeting held. The representation at these meetings is by MD students, residents, PhD representatives, among Deans. Student representatives will be there on a quarterly basis.

- b. New psychiatrists have started working in STMH with increased diversity and specialization; evening hours will be started; unlimited care will be offered; there is a 24/7 emergency access hotline.
2. Update on PEERS program
 - a. Outline has been generated. This includes: objectives, modules, discussion groups for Graduate students and Postdocs (training will be starting in Fall 2019—opt in the pilot year).

Feedback from the student body 10 mins

1. Post Tax Situation: We are still in the 12% Tax bracket regardless of the increase in stipend. In the case that our stipend were to increase into the 22% bracket, only the money earned greater than the 12% cutoff will be taxed at 22%.
2. RCR refresher course: After 4 years, you need a refresher course. Grant officers will look for this in the yearly updates. In the future, administration will look for student availability prior to scheduling the RCR refresher course.
3. MOMA list of schools: This issue will be communicated to Randy, who will take care of getting Sinai added to the list of approved schools by the MOMA for the student discount.

Meeting Adjourned: 16:57

Next meeting: March 13th, 2019