

## PhD Leadership Meeting Agenda February 10th, 2021

### Updates from the Deans *10 mins*

1. Introduction to Matthew Cipriano, Director of Student and Postdoctoral Affairs
  - a. Input for lab coat ceremony
    - i. Needs feedback
2. Basil Hanss, Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Career Development
  - a. Work going on with the advisory group – almost done with a code of conduct (implementing for all elements of graduate education) → included section on obligations to our community, equity, anti-racism. Section for educators, students, clinical responsibilities, research/research integrity
  - b. Piloting wellness advisory program in the GC program
  - c. 2<sup>nd</sup> iteration of PEERS curriculum has begun
  - d. Course evaluations – Additional questions have been approved – restructuring of the process has been approved. Looking to operationalize the newly approved system.
    - i. Holding on an announcement until the new structure of review process is decided
3. Matthew O'Connell, Senior Associate Dean for Curriculum, Recruitment and Admissions
  - a. Halfway through the interviews
    - i. 117 completed
  - b. Interviews begin again tomorrow morning
  - c. Dania: Can we start to prospectively record the number of URISM students that interview by MTA?
  - d. Interview logistical problems:
    - i. Can we do more advertisement of the trivia flyer?
    - ii. Contradictions for EST vs local time have been issues
    - iii. Updated coffee chats times
4. Bradley Gano, Associate Dean of the Graduate School
  - a. Labcoat ceremony updates: Delayed until this spring to hopefully hold in person – not going to happen in person. Now is being planned for virtual attendance.
  - b. Planning with Matt Cipriano – need thoughts on how to make the virtual ceremony a meaningful one
  - c. Marta is worried about the timing of a virtual ceremony for the spring

### Curriculum Committee- *Abigail Lubin 10 mins*

- 6 Course evaluations
  - Zoom fatigue in coursework → becoming more difficult to keep people engaged
    - Marisa: Try to make the class more engaging to address fatigue, could otherwise become an equity issue for students with disability
  - Should we require students to keep cameras on? More interactive? Etc

- Organization – lack of consistency between lecturers – this course will be readjusted to be in modules as a strategy for advanced coursework
- Matlab concerns – giving people extra lectures on this would help
  - Sindhura: Having a second screen is helpful for learning coding – with the library closed, how can we obtain these resources? Do we know about equipment distribution from the library?
  - Most courses with a coding component qualified for a free datacamp license
- Students wanting individual feedback on homework assignments
- Sindhura: Could the curriculum committee put out a directive to all directors to include one interaction per lecture or something like that? Abby – this is not how the committee is presently structured. Matthew to send something like this with assistance from Abby and Marisa

**Steering Committee- Katherine Meckel, 5 mins**

- General updates
  - Meeting was pretty short last month and no meeting in February
  - IP compliance issues were discussed
  - Student feedback expressing concerns regarding Marta and Eric's vaccines email
  - Student feedback on rioting email was also discussed

**Student Affairs- Sindhura Gopinath, Chris Guevara, 5 mins**

- International Student Affairs Updates
  - Want to begin to put together a list of fellowship resources
  - Shikha had a resource – Sindhura got this and is asking for PLM to update the list
- Surveying students on experiences with the IPO
  - IPO reaching out to the student interactions ranging to being able to get visa appointments, identifying information for moving to the US, what to do once here, etc
  - Will ask PLM for feedback
  - Is there any issue administratively for surveying about an office? No direct problem – try to coordinate with Matt Cipriano

**Student Council- Daisy Hoagland, Camille Goldman, 5 mins**

- February GBM 2/10, Steering 2/16: Basic Science for Med School
  1. Not very applicable to PhD concerns this month
- Comprehensive Survey funding
  1. Very difficult to get students to fill this out (it takes 45+ minutes). Usually, the sushi party is what gets people to do this
    1. Can we reallocate the funding from sushi party to do something like 10\$ seamless giftcards to students that fill out the survey?
      1. Daisy to ask Brad formally in an email

- Interview logistics for Thurs/Fri: Trivia Night, Coffee Chats, Student Interviews, Interview Timezones
  1. See Dean updates
- Multiple PI options for proposal forms
  1. Many forms are only equipped for single PIs – can we update the forms for co-PIships?

**URISM** – *Dania Figueroa Acosta, Marisa Goff, 5 mins*

- Upstander workshop
  - How do you identify racism throughout the grad school? Can we assist students so they know what to do when you are in the situation where you do recognize a source of racism or bias
    - Planning with an external organization to hold an educational workshop on how to engage when you're a bystander and power structures are in play?
- Proposal for compensation on anti-racism work: Being sent out this week to Marta

**THAW**- *Lauren Vetere and Madeline O'Brien 10 mins*

- Burnout panel + proposal for seminar series about failure in academia
  - Happening at the end of the month!
  - Now incorporating a social worker, a few postdocs, URISM representation and international representation
  - Moderated by a grad student and a postdoc
  - Form went out to collect questions (please boost this)
- Mental health resources flow chart
  - Flow chart – how are you feeling and what resource should you use?
- Collaboration with IcahnBeWell for valentine's day
  - Give out goodies for Vday this Friday
- PEERS 2021 kickoff
  - New curriculum just started, reflection sessions are happening this week
  - Plans are in place to assess efficacy of this program
- DIA subcommittee of student council working with THAW to have a seminar series on failure in academia
  - Working on ways for the grad school to support this initiative

**Infection Prevention Updates** – *Josh Acklin, 10 mins*

- Mediation Committee
  - Officially approved, in the process of getting nominations
  - Really need PhD and masters nominations!
- Student Pledge
  - Lots of negative feedback – students felt that administration needed to do this a year ago, and that there needs to be consequences for bad behavior
  - Josh met with Matt Cipriano to talk about strategizing for grad communications on this
- Student Mental Health survey

- In coordination with THAW – trying to identify mental health stressors from the pandemic, educational structure and IP policies as well as how well students know about different mental health resources.
- Aron Policies
  - Talks about re-opening first floor resources to non aron residents

**Feedback from the student body** *Camille Goldman 10 mins*

- 1) *Guest policy – see above*
- 2) *Pledge – see above*
- 3) *Student events – we need more structured support for students via events. What happened to the student council budget for boat cruise, etc and can we funnel it to organizations hosting mental health focused events like THAW?*
- 4) *Salary – Can we make salaries public for postdocs and faculty?*