



March 31, 2016

7:30 - 9:00 AM 300 Park, Winder Boardroom

or

2:00 - 3:30 PM 300 Park, Winder Boardroom

Minutes

1. Welcome: Dean Dave Kieda
2. Award Announcements—Dave Kieda, Graduate School.
 - a. Fulbright awards. Fulbright awards were given this year to Matthew Kirkegaard (Political Science), Kate Mower (History), and Jessica Chamorro (Communications). Of the five applicants to the Fulbright, three were accepted and one was withdrawn with another being declined. This is an excellent track record for the Fulbright. If faculty or students are interested in applying for the Fulbright's next award cycle, they are encouraged to speak with Jolyn in the Fellowships and Benefits Office of the Graduate School.
 - i. Directors should note that there are a number of workshops available for the development of Fulbright applications this Spring. The Fulbright is an excellent opportunity for graduate students as well as undergraduates, and provides networking opportunities and lab experience opportunities, among other things.
 - b. Thomas J Stockham Medal for Conspicuously Effective Teaching. The Stockham award was given to Heather Stone, who studies with both the Communications and the Writing and Rhetoric departments.
 - c. Mariner S. Eccles Graduate Research Fellowship. The Eccles Fellowship has been awarded to Graham Slater (Education, Culture & Society) and Edward Greetis (Philosophy).
 - d. Garr-Cutler Energy Prize. The Garr-Cutler Price was awarded to Meaghan Mckasy of Communications.
 - e. NSF Graduate Research Fellowships. The NSF fellowships have been awarded and a list of those students receiving awards has been sent to the Directors via email. Directors are encouraged to ensure that current awarded students receive recognition, and to review the admissions information of any awarded student who is not a current student and perhaps encourage the student to attend through incentives or campus visits.
3. International Teaching Assistant Program agenda items—Dave Kieda, Graduate School.
 - a. Directors are reminded that registration in the ITAP opened on Wednesday March 30 for currently matriculated international graduate students who will need ITA Clearance for next academic year.
 - b. Registration for new students will open in May.

- c. Details have been sent to the mailing lists for DoGS, TBP Coordinators, and Graduate Advisors.
4. Resolution regarding graduate scholars, fellowships, trainees, and assistants—Dave Kieda, Graduate School. The resolution states that all offers of financial aid offered to graduate scholars, fellowship students, trainees, and assistants must remain available to students until April 15, during which time the student has the opportunity to accept or deny the offer. Language regarding this resolution should be included in offer letters. Directors are encouraged to report violations of this resolution at the U or in other institutions to the Dean of the Graduate School. More information can be found here: <http://cgsnet.org/april-15-resolution>
5. Information Item: WAGS participation. The Graduate School participated in the Western Association of Graduate School Conference this year. Araceli Frias of the Graduate School's Diversity Office and Associate Dean Donna White both gave presentations on national issues of graduate scholarship and administration.
6. Information Item: Changes to foreign language requirements as described in the Graduate Catalog. The Graduate Council recently voted to update several requirements to the foreign language requirements for certain graduate degrees. These changes were made to correct outdated language that recommended foreign-language that are no longer available. The new language empowers departments to use tests that reflect discipline-specific expectations. More information can be found here: <http://gradschool.utah.edu/graduate-catalog/language-requirements/>
7. Information item: Current discussions regarding English proficiency requirements for graduate school admission, including consideration of options to the TOEFL program.
 - a. The TOEFL test has competition with other tests of English proficiency, including the TOEIC, IELTS, PTE, and others. The administration of the Graduate and Undergraduate schools are exploring options to supplement the TOEFL, which is the only measure of English proficiency currently accepted by the University.
 - b. The administration is also exploring the possibility of bridge programs through the English Language Institute or other institutions that would be available to graduate students.
 - c. The Graduate School welcomes DoGS participation in the ongoing discussion about English proficiency requirements at the University of Utah. Directors are encouraged to contact Dave Kieda or Donna White of the Graduate School if they have questions, concerns, or suggestions.
8. Information Item: The Graduate School would like to thank all Directors and departmental contacts who took the time to fill out the unofficial graduate writing survey last month. The answers have helped guide the discussion surrounding graduate writing resources at the University, which will in turn guide the development of a plan to be proposed to SVPAA Ruth Watkins by the Ad Hoc Graduate Writing Committee.

Announcements

1. DoGS meeting minutes along with any supplemental materials will be posted by the Monday following the meeting. <http://gradschool.utah.edu/dogs-meeting-minutes/>.

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2. Please update DoGS contact information. There is a link to a form that allows for edits at the top of the page. <http://gradschool.utah.edu/directors-of-graduate-studies/dogs-contacts-by-department/>.