

Graduate Faculty Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 22, 2021
9 a.m., Zoom

I. Call to Order

Kelleher called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

II. Minutes from 12/11/20

The minutes from the 12/11/20 meeting were approved.

III. Announcement

Kelleher announced that Jody Hedge will be leaving her position at the end of the summer after 30 ½ years at UF, 29 of those in CJC.

IV. Awards

Kelleher announced the winners of the CJC awards—

- a. Julie Dodd Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher: Moritz Cleve
- b. Outstanding Master's Student: Noura Ibrahim
- c. Graduate Student Research Award: Amanda Kastrinos
- d. UF Doctoral Mentoring Award: Linda Hon
- e. CJC nomination for UF Excellence Award for Assistant Professors: Jay Hmielowski
- f. CJC Faculty Research Award: Kun Xu

V. Degree certifications, graduation with distinction

Kelleher distributed the list of students graduating, including those who applied for Graduation with Distinction. Graduate Committee had approved the list prior to this meeting. The list will now go to the full faculty for final approval.

VI. Proposed concentrations and catalog language for MAMC

Kelleher reviewed the list of proposed concentrations that will be sent through Academic Approval to become part of the Master's program. There are eight concentrations in the distance program and four in the on-campus program included in the proposal.

Hutchens made a motion to approve the current changes. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved 45 votes yes, 1 vote no.

VII. Other business

H. Lowe asked about the recruitment, enrollment, and retention of students of color, particularly African-Americans in the doctoral program.

Kelleher said that a relatively large number of offers for funding and admission to the Ph.D. program this year were made to African or African-American applicants. (Numbers were still tentative as of this meeting, but as of April 22, eight offers had been made to Black or African American students, with four of those offers accepted or expected to be accepted out of a total incoming class size of 12-14.) We are making progress but we have a way to go. We hope to be able to recruit more students in the future because that's where it all begins. They are the next generation of faculty and it's our obligation to recruit and graduate them. Issues with retention are being addressed.

H. Lowe asked if things are going as well as, or worse than, other UF colleges or peer institutions.

Kelleher replied that he does believe we are doing better than most programs. He plans to call the students who declined to find out the reasoning for their decisions.

H. Lowe asked what is considered the greatest challenge with retention with respect to African-American doctoral students and what would you like to see happen over the next year as a path to solving that.

Kelleher discussed the issue of mentoring students. Who do students go to other than their initial chair/supervisor? This conversation needs to keep going because it seems we've just started scratching the surface. It will be a slow change but if we change our own composition in terms of our recruiting classes and our faculty, it will continue to help.

Lowe asked if the students are leaving here with what they came for and he said that is what we are responsible for.

VIII. Adjourn

Kelleher adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.