

Graduate Academic Board

September 14, 2018

Director's Report:

- As you may be aware, Dr. Helena Wisniewski is no longer graduate school dean. The Graduate School has been administratively moved from the Office of Research and is currently reporting directly to the Interim Provost.
- The INDS catalog rewording passed Faculty Senate on April 6, but has yet to be uploaded in the 2018-2019 catalog. We are looking into the lag in publishing.
- Graduate Faculty policy was approved by the Provost and Chancellor on April 13. We are working on a letter of invitation so that programs can nominate faculty for the designation for the 2018-2019 academic year.
- **Deadline to submit graduate assistants or WWAMI health insurance enrollment is Monday, September 17 at 5:00 pm.**
- The Western Regional Graduate Programs (WRGP), a subgroup of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) has changed their criteria for graduate program participation. Now WRGP allows masters, graduate certificate, and doctoral students who are residents of the WICHE member states to enroll in public institutions outside of their home state *and pay resident tuition*. Provost Stalvey has approved all graduate degree programs at UAA to participate. This will have two immediate benefits:
 1. It is a passive and inexpensive method to recruit new graduate students;
 2. Students from WICHE states pay resident tuition at UAA thereby resolving the out-of-state tuition issue for graduate assistants NOT from Alaska but from WICHE states.
- The 2018-2019 Thesis Formatting Handbook is available on the GS website. I encourage all programs with a thesis option to contact me to arrange for individualized thesis formatting workshops for their students projected to submit theses/dissertations this year.
- The student's thesis or dissertation title is now being printed on their official transcript.
- **FYI: Deadline for thesis submission for all is Friday, November 30.** There are NO deadline extensions for fall semester.
- For summer graduation, the Graduate School received 10 theses (same number as spring semester):
 - Biology – 2
 - Civil Engineering – 4
 - English – 2
 - Creative Writing – 1
 - Psychology – 1There were 16 theses in the queue for summer, but only 10 submitted.

There are currently 20 theses in the queue for fall, 11 from Creative Writing. One fall psychology dissertation was approved last week.

- The Graduate Health Insurance contract was finally approved by the State of Alaska in early August. As expected, last year's annual premiums (\$2437) were reduced to \$2399, a reduction of 1.57%. Good news for the budget.