

Graduate Studies Committee Report - September 24, 2021

The Graduate Studies Committee met on Friday, September 24, 2021.

The meeting began at 11:30 AM with a discussion on the focus group conducted by Lipmann Hearne with group members on the marketing of graduate programs. Committee participants were over all pleased with the focus group and felt heard. The group identified potential marketing strategies, but also some of the structural problems that impede graduate student recruitment. The Committee hopes that the concerns identified during the focus group are relayed to the decision-makers involved with graduate education at Seton Hall, and that these concerns are considered.

The GSC is working with the Senate Admissions Committee to identify areas of mutual concern and areas to work together. One such area, following up on work begun in the Dual-Degree Strategic Plan Sub-Committee to assess 3-2/4-1 programs, might be such a project and will be considered.

The GSC considered the Senate's invitation to submit a motion regarding the APSA process. While the Committee maintains strong concerns regarding the way in which the APSA process played out last year, at which time Graduate programs were inordinately impacted, the expansion of APSA's impact has essentially moved the issue from a Grad Studies concern to an all University concern. It is believed that the Program Review Committee is reviewing the APSA process, and the GSC looks forward to their review and recommendations.

Committee members report considerable difficulties with operations in the Registrar's Office. The GSC strongly supports the redirection of resources to the Registrar to help resolve these concerns, specifically as they relate to Graduate Programs in the form of a Registrar for Graduate students.

The Committee also has strong concerns with a backlog of unpaid work for contracted professional employees. This issue is being brought to the Compensation and Welfare Committee, and the Grad Studies Committee supports their efforts to quickly resolve this matter before permanent damage is done to relationships with these crucial community partners.

The Chair again invited nominations to serve as Co-Chair of the GSC.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matt Corrigan, GSC Chair