

MS Criminology and Criminal Justice Program
Graduate Faculty Committee Meeting
September 7, 2021, 12:30-1:30pm
Zoom

In attendance

John Brent
Bill McClanahan
Kristie Blevins
Judah Schept (technical difficulties experienced)
Victoria Collins

GPC Reports:

Finance/Budget Report:

Budget amount communicated - \$12,132.47 for this fiscal year

Summary of Activities Report:

Monies for the following items have been spent:

- Business cards for the program administrative assistant Melinda Jones \$45
- Printing of colored flyer for recruitment and upcoming Grad Blitz \$44.70
- Banner for advertising program for recruitment events \$138
- Student orientation refreshments \$14.83

Jumped to the item listed under new business about providing students and faculty enrolled/teaching CRJ 808 SPSS for their laptops. The benefits of this were discussed and the committee decided that these could be charged to the graduate budget (quote was approximately \$36 per student package and up to \$200 for the graduate faculty package).

Committee discussed the benefits of students having the SPSS package on personal devices opposed to computer lab machines. The former was decided to be most appropriate.

Admissions:

Fall admission for 2021 were improved over this time last year with seven new students. With returning students we have 14 in the program. However, compared to pre-pandemic enrollments we are still down. One new student confirmed for the Spring 2022 semester.

Graduate Assistants Allocations:

One funded student is set to graduate, and we have one confirmed for the Spring 2022 who is eligible for funding.

Enrollments:

Are good.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- Courses planned for spring 2022 semester:
 - The proposed course schedule was circulated prior to the meeting. The committee decided that three core classes (CRJ 808, CRJ 870 and CRJ

898), plus two electives would ensure good enrollment for the Fall. The four possible electives discussed included CRJ 890 Visual Criminology, CRJ 862 Race and Policing, CRJ 875 Crime and Public Policy, and CRJ 840 Punishment in Society. It was decided that 890 and 862 would be most appropriate as none of the students had taken these courses before. All efforts will be made for the classes to circulate next Fall so that faculty that missed out this time can teach them.

- GRE for admission criteria
 - The committee considered the possibility of removing the GRE requirement from the admissions. Pandemic conditions have made scheduling it difficult for students. The faculty voted and agreed this would be the best course of action. This issue will be taken to the wider graduate faculty for vote.
- Grad Blitz
 - Is scheduled in-person for the 16th of September between 11-2pm – Melinda is attending.
- Grad Cave printer and computers
 - The computers provided for the graduate students in the Graduate Cave are dated and no longer of use. As they were purchased with graduate program funds the University will not replace them. The benefit of replacing two or three of them with the graduate budget, as well as providing docking for personal devices were discussed. The committee agreed that the computers should be priced, and a proposal should be drawn up. The same goes for printing/purchasing a printer. The GPC will bring the proposal and pricing to the next meeting.
- CRJ Stats for the Spring 2022
 - See prior discussion in GPC reports.

Adjourn:

Next Meeting: TBD