

Graduate Chairs/Coordinators/Directors and Administrative Staff Meeting

May 14, 2020

0) Intro – David

These weekly Graduate Chair meetings are scheduled through August. We may change to biweekly if the information slows.

1) Online Graduate Appointment Process for Expected Graduate Term issues – Lisa Poston

The expected graduation term (EGT) was added last year to the Online Graduate Appointment (OGA) system. This was added to meet federal financial aid requirements. Departments cannot make appointments for those graduate students who did not complete their degrees and had an EGT date of spring 2020. Once the Office of the Registrar has denied the degree conferral, please reach out to the Graduate College to change the EGT in the OGA system, then departments can enter the appointment in OGA. As an alternative method, the Graduate College can term activate a graduate student for summer registration. This activation process will automatically change the EGT date.

2) Communications on fall start with prospective students – David Koonce

Students have lots of questions about fall.

It is still unclear what the road forward will be.

Because admitted students are trying to make their decisions and are asking questions, David shared language to be used as talking points when students ask.

It is our desire and intention to resume face to face operations in the fall. As we prepare, we must consider the health and safety of our students and our communities. Across the University, we are working to imagine — and plan for — a new normal in light of the pandemic. This includes possible strategies to reduce density in classrooms and common spaces.

These plans are pending further guidance from the state and Ohio's Inter-University Council, as well as the impact of the pandemic as it continues to unfold in Athens, in Ohio, and beyond.

3) Deferral Process – Katie Tadlock

Admitted students are asking to defer their admission due to current circumstances. We want to simplify this process as well as capture the reason why they are asking for a deferral. Instead of asking admitted students to submit a new application, the Graduate College is working to revise the change of term form. Using this process instead bypasses the reapplication fee. We are updating and enhancing the change of term information in the student portal. The admitted student will complete this revised form and GC staff will work to change info in PeopleSoft. Once this form is modified, the Graduate College will send out instructions for completion.

Please note, departments will need to readmit any students seeking a change in term.

The Graduate College hopes this process will be available soon. The target date is **June 1st**.

If the whole cohort is moving to another term, let the Graduate College know so we can assist with this.

4) Q&A – All

- There were several questions about the process for international students. They include the following:
 - If deferred, will admitted international students need a new I-20? Yes.
 - Can International students teach online classes until they get here? No, because of tax implications, OHIO University cannot pay TAs if they are outside the United States.
 - Are there still I-20s to process? Yes, the International Team is working as quickly as possible.
- Has the Graduate College communicated with incoming graduate students? No, however, based on this group's recommendation, the Graduate College will work on a template for departments/programs to use when communicating with those admitted to their program.
- Funding for TAs, can we extend for fall only? Talk with your college leadership