

Graduate Chairs Meeting Summary

November 5, 2020

- David introduced new Graduate College staff members.
 - Luanne Weisenbach is a new records manager and filled the vacant position after Betty Kincade's retirement.
 - Jan Harmon is our new student services administrator and filled the vacant position after Pamela Gordon's retirement.
 - Please welcome them both.
- Katie announced that the Graduate College will continue to process automatic deferrals for fall 2020 funded students who could not enroll. We will process upon request deferrals to fall 2021 (and spring/summer 2021, if appropriate for the department). Refer the students to Katie Tadlock (tadlockk@ohio.edu) or contact Katie on the student's behalf. *Please note the following:*
 - There will be no automatic deferrals for students who initially applied for spring.
 - Deferred applicants will need a new funding offer for new I20's.
 - If deferred applicants need to defer beyond fall 2021, they will need to go through the regular deferral process.
- Per Andy Ray, expect most students in Ghana to defer to the fall 2021 semester. This will likely result in more students needing funding offers for the fall 2021 than expected normally.
- The international team is accepting banking information for I-20s up until November 15, 2021. This has been extended to accommodate some people who might be able to get a visa but have been delayed by COVID. After Nov. 15, students and departments are encouraged consider a fall 2021 deferral. Direct any questions to Andy Ray (raya@ohio.edu).
- Because of the adjustment to the spring calendar, all new international students must be re-issued their Certificate of Eligibility (I20's). The Graduate College international team will be working on this immediately.
- According to David, there is no update on merit scholarships. The Graduate College is in consultation with the Office of Legal Affairs and will update this group if there are changes.
- The modification of Thesis and Dissertation (TAD) requirements due to COVID-19, where students did not need to register to complete their capstone or thesis/dissertation, will end this term. Direct any questions to Cynthia Tindongan (tindonga@ohio.edu).
- The Graduate College is in the process of developing professional development workshops for spring semester. It is likely all will continue in a virtual capacity including the annual Three-Minute Thesis (3MT) competition. Look for more information soon from Becky Bushey-Miller.
- Because of the Human Resources (HR) and International Student & Faculty Services (ISFS) questions asked during the meeting, the Graduate College will extend an invitation to representatives of both offices to attend upcoming meetings.