

The Graduate School

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c. The Professional Development Committee met on September 23 and its main focus was on adding components to better serve our post-doctoral students. Dr. Erica Sausner, Professional Development Specialist in the Graduate School, who serves on the committee, is assisting in developing a survey to determine ways in which we can best serve our graduate students, particularly post-doctoral research, through travel grants. Proposals are in process and will be presented to the committee for approval.

3. Travel Awards and Clark Fellowship Nominations: Update on Electronic Forms

Dr. Pape reported that the Graduate School is in the process of developing a Qualtrics model to automate the process for Travel Grant applications and Clark Fellowship nominations. Historically, these have been manual and labor intensive. A streamlined process will be rolled out with the next round of Travel Grants with the deadline of November 1. All admitted students will be invited to apply.

4. Clark Fellowship Assessment

Dr. Deak noted that one of the most important functions of the Graduate School is the Clark Fellowship program. The recent Supreme Court decision was discussed and strategies for compliance were considered. Clark Fellowship applications were previously processed through Slate, but will now be available on the website for the Graduate School, which would allow it to be used as a recruitment tool after applicants have been admitted. The goal is to spend the majority of the Clark Fellowship funds for new students to start in the fall and to make more offers and be more aggressive in recruiting. In addition, Clark funds will be directed toward relieving PhD students of teaching obligations.

Dr. Deak asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A member made a motion, and another member seconded the motion. All were in favor and none were opposed. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

*****Next Meeting: Monday, November 4, 2024 ~ 3:30-4:30 p.m. ~ AD-148*****