

**Pathway Goal:** Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity  
**Action Item #** 2-5

**Report:** Mid-Year: December 2017

**Action Item Description:**

Graduate Faculty & Student Support

**Submitted By:**

Name	Department
Peter Gray	Anthropology

**Working Group Members:**

Name	Department
Peter Gray	Anthropology
Kendall Hartley	Graduate College
Kate Korgan	Graduate College
Valarie Burke	Graduate College
Anne Stevens	English
Jaci Batista	Civil & Envr Eng & Construction
Josue Epane	Health Care Admin & Policy
Toni Repetti	Hospitality
James Mah	Dentistry
Hasan Deniz	College of Education
Aya McDonald	Art
Seong Park	Criminal Justice

**Process and Timeline: Provide a brief summary of the year-long process for your working group.**

- Participate in GA issues/projects as needed; continue to work on realizing Top Tier GA goals.
- Collaborate on development of financial training, resources, and support for graduate students.
- Continue development of faculty and career development and faculty mentorship efforts.
- Collaborate with new Faculty Development Institute (when established).
- Help implement new minimum credentials requirements and updated Graduate Faculty Status guidelines to ensure quality.
- Collaborate with graduate Success Institute to develop strategic professional development programs.

**Describe what has been accomplished so far this year.**

The committee has met three times in fall 2017. At the first of these meetings, the committee primarily discussed graduate student financial resources and faculty career development and mentorship support. The summary points of that meeting were: Sub-committee will remain alert to potential involvement in the roll-out of SALT or other financial literacy programming. Sub-committee might consider surveying online scholarship resources for grad students that apply widely to ensure current and helpful as a central resource possibly on Grad College website, in addition to including links to specific programs where unit-specific funding sources are noted online. Consider how faculty development program changes in process align with sub-committee mandate. Consider what online and other training for faculty development might look like.

Discussion at the second meeting focused on remote defenses and teacher training for graduate students. Both positives (e.g., recognizing potential financial burdens of requiring a graduate student to visit campus for an in-person defense if have moved elsewhere) and negatives (e.g., technology demands) of remote defense were debated.

In a third meeting devoted primarily to remote defenses but also touching on departmental external funding resources and consideration of new 2016-2017 Oklahoma State graduate student stipend data, the committee's work and recommendations can be summarized as follows. The committee recommends that UNLV Graduate College policy allow remote defenses in principle. To constrain how these are structured and how frequently they are employed, the committee suggests allowing at most two remote connections (e.g., a student and a committee member would count as those two maximum remote connections) for a defense. A Grad College representative must be present. The committee also recommends a form be created that specifies who will be involved remotely in a defense, provide a compelling rationale for remote involvement, and give details how (e.g., technology, location) the defense will take place. Signatures from a departmental and higher unit (e.g., Grad College) representative must be obtained.

What about emergencies vs. planned remote defenses? What if someone can't make a defense in person due to an emergency? The committee discussed some need for emergency, last-second flexibility for unexpected circumstances that don't have signed approval, but did not have specific guidance.

The committee suggests that departments lacking such departmental-specific information might consider adding this information to their websites or perhaps some other equivalent source of information to help provide further support to grad students seeking external scholarships, internships, and jobs.

The committee did not reach any consensus views about possible feedback or recommendations based on looking at the newer OK State data.

The committee's recommendations from last year regarding Graduate Faculty Status, graduate advisory committee roles, and teaching qualifications has moved through the GC executive committee and the Council. Changes will be implemented beginning in the spring semester.

The Graduate College is undertaking a graduate coordinator survey regarding 4 top tier issues, including GA needs. This committee will analyze and summarize this GA data and make recommendations regarding campus GA needs and priorities.

### Identify next steps.

The Committee will next be reviewing summer 2018 doctoral graduate student research fellows' applications and making award recommendations.

The committee will review the GA needs data & graduate student and faculty professional development needs assessment from the graduate coordinator survey and make recommendations regarding campus-wide needs and priorities.

The committee will present language regarding best practices for remote defenses.

### What will your final product be at the end of the year? Such as, what metrics which will be used to assess your progress/achievement, will a report be generated, etc?

The Committee will seek to provide additional guidance and recommendations that address the scope of its mandate. This will include at least the following: 1) appointment of summer doctoral research fellows; 2) recommendations for campus GA needs and priorities; 3) recommendations for graduate student and faculty mentorship and professional development needs; and 4) the committee will provide remote defense recommendations for campus implementation.

### You may have reference material to attach to this report. Select from the list.

No additional reference material

**OR**

Any material generated by this working group (if completed at this time)

### Additional information to include (optional).

Please find notes enclosed for each of the fall 2017 committee meetings.

---

**End of Mid-Year Report**  
**Remainder of the report will be completed in May.**

---

**Year-End**

**This portion is to be completed in May.**

### 2017-18 Accomplishments.

--

### SWOT Analysis: Determine the strengths, weakness, opportunities, and threats presented in the data.

Strength(s)	
Weakness(es)	
Opportunity(ies)	
Threat(s)	

### 2018-19 recommendations and next steps

- **What does the SWOT analysis reveal?**
- **What should the goals / activities be for the subcommittee?**
- **Who should be responsible?**

--

### You may have reference material to attach to this report. Select from the list.

<input type="checkbox"/> No additional reference material
<b>OR</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Any material generated by this working group

### Additional information to include (optional).

--

**End of Report**