

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

657th Meeting

February 1, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bond, Arado, Bateni, Balcerzak, Burchfield, Camic, Chomentowski, Duffrin, Furr, Gallaher, Groves, Hanley, Jaekel, Johnson, Kelly, Klonoski, Mantzke, Moghimi, Narayanan, Ogundipe, Onder, Osorio, Ryzhov, Steciuch, Wasonga, Werstler, Wu, Xia, and Zheng

OTHERS PRESENT: Barshinger (Secretary), Elish-Piper (Dean of COE), Halverson (Catalog Editor/Curriculum Coordinator), Klaper (Ombudsperson), Matuszewich (Associate Dean of CLAS), Peterson (Dean of CEET), Walker (Associate Dean of COE), and Beth Wilkins (Coordinator of Graduate Career and Professional Development).

Dean Bond called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Osorio moved to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2020 meeting. Arado seconded. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

Old Business

Graduate Assistants Stipends

Dean Bond announced that the stipend memo being proposed today is different than what was proposed at last month's meeting (memo attached). The minimum stipends for ¾- and ½-time assistantships only include a 3% raise. Full-time assistantship stipends are unchanged from the prior proposed memo. He stated, that the memo suggests that all hiring units need to prepare for next year to make the proportional changes on a pro-rata basis. Hanley made a motion to accept the graduate assistantship stipend changes for AY22. Balcerzak seconded. Motion passed.

New Business

Career and Professional Programming Presentation: Elizabeth Wilkins

Dr. Wilkins gave a presentation on the opportunities that are available to faculty and students through the Graduate School's Career and Professional Development program <https://www.niu.edu/grad/professional-development/index.shtml>. Several departments have already taken advantage of the opportunity available to them. Dr. Wilkins asked the Council to continue to share this information with your students and colleagues.

Announcements

The Graduate School dean's search has closed. Over 70 applicants applied for the position. The search committee will interview a number of candidates and conduct virtual on-campus interviews to ensure that the finalist will have an opportunity to interact with a variety of constituencies on campus.

Adjournment

Jaekel made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Burchfield seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.



Northern Illinois University
The Graduate School

January 29, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Offices that Appoint Graduate Assistants

FROM: Bradley G. Bond *BSAR*
Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Vice President

RE: **Graduate Assistantship (GA) Stipends for AY 22 (2021-22)**

The *Academic Policies and Procedures Manual* empowers the Graduate Council to set minimum stipend rates for all graduate assistants.

Effective in Fall 2019, the university established the minimum stipend for .5 FTE graduate assistants at \$750 per pay period, and the university transferred supplemental funding to cover the increase to those stipends. Since then, graduate assistants received a 3% salary increase. The rate for 20-hour assistants established below reflects that increase over the previously established base of \$750 per pay period.

A similar supplement was not provided to less than .5 FTE appointments. Although such assistants should be paid a pro-rata stipend immediately, the Graduate Council establishes the minima listed below for AY 22. Hiring units are notified that they should immediately begin to plan to pay pro-rata stipends in AY 23 (August 2022-August 2023) to all assistants hired at less than .5 FTE.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP STIPENDS

	<u>Full-time</u> (.5 FTE)	<u>3/4 time</u> (.375 FTE)	<u>1/2 time</u> (.25 FTE)
Official University Minimum:	\$772.50	\$375.00	\$250.00
	semi-monthly	semi-monthly	semi-monthly

Also, please be reminded that applicable Board and University policies preclude a graduate assistant from working more than 20 hours per week.

xc: Vice Presidents
Council of Deans
Associate Deans
Graduate Council
Sponsored Program Administration
Graduate Assistantship Employment, HRS