



The University
of Vermont

Graduate College

Graduate Faculty Meeting November 17, 2015

presented by
Dr. Cynthia Forehand
Dean of the Graduate College

uvm.edu/graduate



AGENDA

- Welcome
- Approval of the April 2, 2015 Fall Faculty Meeting Minutes
- Dean's Report – Strategic Initiatives
- Admissions Report – Sydnee Viray
- Graduate Executive Committee Actions
- Information Updates
- Discussion of FY17 Assistantship Stipends, Health Insurance and Tuition Scholarships
- New Business



Dean's Report Strategic Initiatives

- Strategic initiative – growing graduate student population
 - See Graduate College Homepage for 2015 BOT Presentation
 - See May BOT book for Graduate Education and (Provost's) Strategic Goal 8 reports
 - See also April 2, 2015 Graduate Faculty Meeting presentation & minutes
- Student support initiatives
 - Ombudsperson Office in Place Summer 2015
 - Working with CTL interface to provide TA training and general teacher development
 - Rex Forehand chairing a committee to look broadly at what we do now and what is most need at UVM for next steps in professional development
 - Graduate tutoring for writing center in place for spring 2016



**The Graduate College
& UVM Writing Center
come together to
bring the...**

UVM Graduate Writing Center

Graduate students can:

- work with a tutor at any stage of the writing process, from first draft to final edits
- consult with a tutor for free
- find a tutor in different disciplines

**Look for announcements
in early spring about:**

- Making appointments
- Weekend Writing Retreats
- Dissertation Boot Camp and Thesis Boot Camp

**For more information:
Nancy Welch
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go.uvm.edu/gradtutor**



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Admissions & Enrollment Management Fall 2015 Update

presented by

Sydnee Viray, M.Ed.

Director of Admissions & Enrollment Management

University of Vermont Graduate College

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Admissions Process Enhancements

Phase I: Build and Implement ADMIT to manage application materials

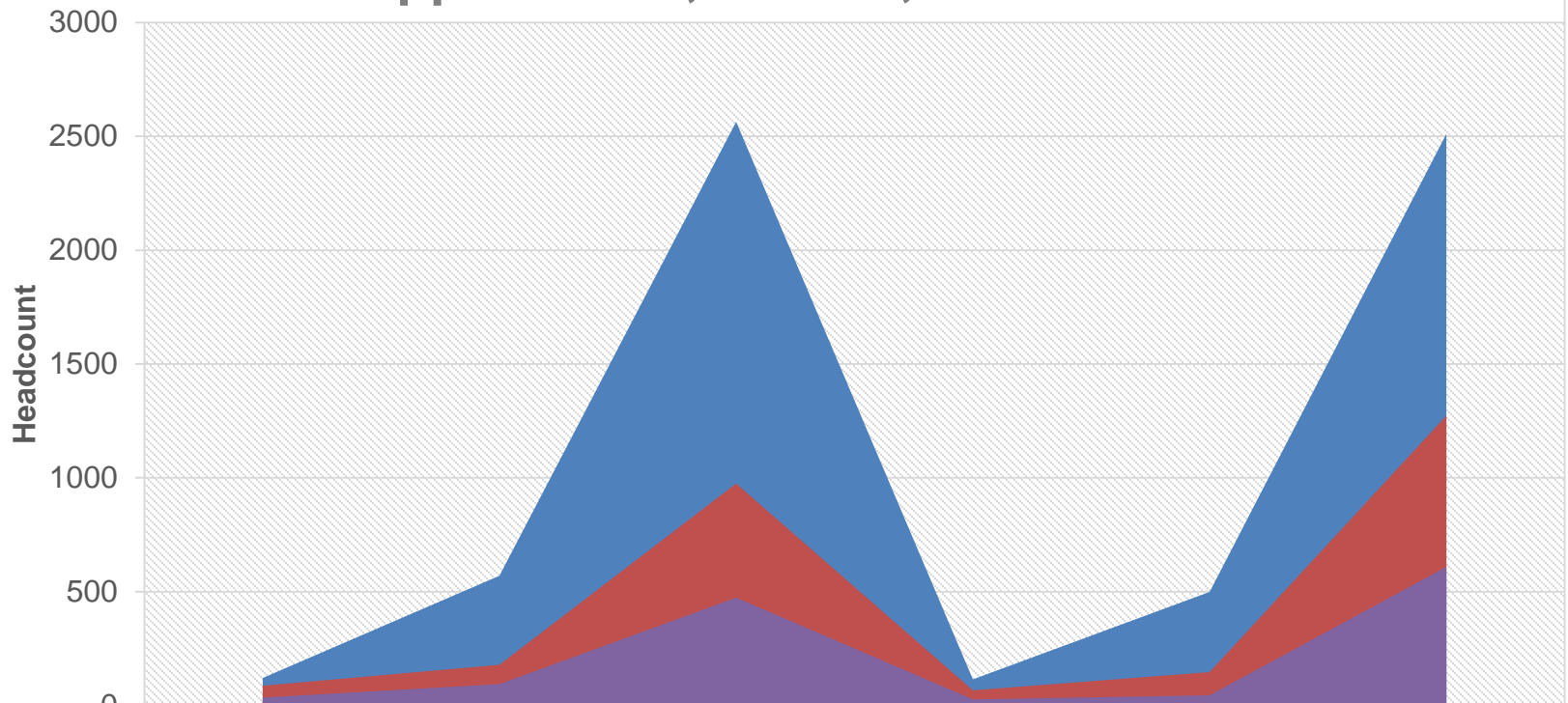
Phase II: Revamp the Application

Phase III: Assist with Recruitment Efforts to meet program targets



Enrollment Comparisons

Applications, Admits, Enrolls



| | Spring 2014 | Summer 2014 | Fall 2014 | Spring 2015 | Summer 2015 | Fall 2015 |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| ■ Applications | 121 | 570 | 2564 | 115 | 499 | 2511 |
| ■ Admits | 87 | 179 | 975 | 67 | 147 | 1273 |
| ■ Enroll | 35 | 94 | 474 | 27 | 45 | 609 |

Semesters



Application to Decision Time Savers



International Transcripts

- Internal official review of materials



Application Materials Applicant Upload

- Uploads happening within the application of Transcripts and supplemental materials



Letters of Recommendations

- Can now have recommender upload not just cut and paste



Accelerated Master's Program Recruitment

- Presenting across campus to recruit into AMPs



Graduate Executive Committee Actions

- 6 meetings subsequent to last Graduate Faculty meeting
- Reviewed
 - 7 new or significant change course proposals
 - 10 minimal change, deactivation delete course proposals
 - 17 graduate faculty applicants
- Approved
 - Certificate of Graduate Study in Epidemiology
 - Accelerated Master's in Chemistry
 - Variable Tuition Requests for VMI, SEMBA and Public Health programs



- Discussed/Approved
 - Request for reduced tuition (\$1100/credit) for out of state students in the Sustainable Entrepreneurship MBA (SEMBA)
 - Request for reduced tuition (\$611/credit) for out of state students in VMI affiliated MST in Math and MEd in Curriculum and Instruction
 - Approved recommendation to pay 100% of the single student health insurance premium for full time graduate assistants (GA, GTA, GRA). Resourced by an increase of the benefit rate on their stipends
 - Approved change to [Graduate College Constitution](#) – **Graduate Faculty VOTE** required



- Constitution Change - Rationale for change
- An increasing number of UVM graduate programs (currently all at master's level) are online programs or residential programs that don't involve research or clinical practica. To ensure oversight of these (and all) graduate programs by the Graduate Faculty, the Graduate College requires that the faculty program leader of any graduate program be a member of the Graduate Faculty. This change reflects current practice and codifies this requirement within the Graduate College constitution



- Constitution Change -Revised text (change in red):

- F. Graduate Faculty Membership Privileges

1. Any member of the Graduate Faculty may serve as a member of a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation committee.
2. Only a Regular or Emeritus Member of the Graduate Faculty:
 - a. shall be entitled to one vote on all matters presented to the graduate faculty;
 - b. shall serve as the Chair of a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation defense committee;
 - c. shall be the primary advisor for a doctoral dissertation.
 - d. shall serve as a graduate program director/coordinator (required faculty leader of the program).
3. An Adjunct Member of the Graduate Faculty may serve as the primary Co-Advisor for a doctoral dissertation or master's thesis in conjunction with a Co-Advisor who is a Regular Member of the Graduate Faculty.



- Sale of affiliated and family housing properties



- ACA and Graduate Student Insurance
 - ACA mandate – Student Health Insurance Policy is compliant
 - Employer mandate – compliant because assistantship position is 0.5FTE (20 hrs/week)
 - No need to be on UVM faculty/staff insurance unless 0.75FTE
 - Remember that effort student applies to credited research (391, 491, 901-3 etc.) is different from the effort for which they are compensated on their assistantship
 - Each hour of research or continuous registration credit has an expected 3-4 hours of associated effort



Fair labor standards and postdoctoral appointments

- Proposed change to the minimum salary required to be an exempt employee would raise the minimum to slightly over \$50K/year. This would affect many post-docs, changing their status from exempt to non-exempt, with a consequence being that they would have to be paid overtime if working > 40 hrs/week. Or they could stay exempt with salary increase to new standard.
- This proposed change was published by the US Dept of Labor in July, and a final rule is expected in late 2015 or 2016, with changes taking effect in mid-2016.
- National Postdoctoral Association Response
http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.nationalpostdoc.org/resource/resmgr/Docs/NPA_Overtime_Response_-_08.2.pdf?hhSearchTerms=%22fair+and+labor+and+standards%22
- More to come...



Discussion: FY 17 Graduate Stipend Health Insurance and Tuition scholarship recommendations

- Process to determine recommendation for stipend levels
- Consideration of student health insurance premium coverage
- Discussion of comprehensive fee coverage
- Tuition scholarship
- Issue with tuition on grant process
 - How to book the \$6111 charge for fulltime 12 month GRA
 - FT/HT 6111/3055 (as we have it now)
 - Charged as compensated effort times \$6111



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New Business?