Welcome/Announcements - Mark McLellan

- Nakaiya Stucki has been hired to take Erin’s former position. She will have the same departments that Erin had and will assist with the I-20s.
- No GPC meeting held in May. Monthly meetings will resume in June.
- Please remember to forward suggested topics for GPC meetings to dd.leonard@usu.edu.
- Graduate School Orientation is August 22, 1:00 – 2:15 p.m., in ESLC 130. OISS will release international students to attend. Orientation will be followed immediately by a Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) session, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. RCR is now required for all USDA grants for both faculty and students. For more information on RCR go to http://rgs.usu.edu/studentresearch/hmt/skills-and-resources/responsible-conduct-of-research.
- We are boosting Research Week events to benefit students and faculty.
- Graduate Council is scheduled for April 10. One topic of discussion will be regarding graduate faculty. Volunteers from the GC will work with Richard Inouye on a graduate faculty taskforce.
- Please remind faculty that the mid review of the 5-yr program review is coming.

April Fawson

- Pre-OPT is an option for international students. Their course work has to be completed with only the defense and dissertation/thesis to finish. It is intended to help international students who have job offers, thus allowing them to start employment and still be able to finish their degree. Departments are required to approve Pre-OPT. OISS would like to identify the departments who would be willing to approve pre-OPT and the departments who will not allow. Please contact april.fawson@usu.edu with this information.

- Utah House Bill 118 removes the non-resident portion of tuition for a student who is lawfully admitted in the U.S., who attended a Utah high school for at least three years and graduated from a Utah high school. If there are further questions regarding this bill, contact idena.ward@usu.edu.
Mark McLellan
- We continue to have questions regarding tuition awards. Remember that tuition award money is block granted out to colleges from one pot of money. Colleges make the decisions as to who receives tuition awards and whether to use the money for instate or out-of-state tuition. To the best of our knowledge, the recent waiver bill passed by the Legislature will apply to undergraduates only.

- USU received $3 million in one-time money from the Legislature to be used for graduate education. Half of that sum is being banked for next year. The other half will be used this year. Deans will work together to decide the best way to utilize the money. STEM degree doctoral programs will be the emphasis.

- PLEASE remember that when a student is accepted conditionally, the student is still required to meet the Graduate School admission standards. We are going to be much stricter with allowing this in the future.

Joan Rudd
- Commencement deadlines were reviewed again. Refer to http://rgs.usu.edu/graduateschool/htm/degree/commencement/participation-requirements.

Jeff Broadbent
- Recruitment Workshop will be held during Research Week, April 9, 9:00 to 11:30 a.m., in ECC 303-305. The Qualtrics workshop follows immediately.

Derri Dee (DD) Leonard
- The increase in insurance premium will not be over 5% for next year.

Erin Anderson
- If a department requires additional admission materials, we are able to add that information to department folders. Departments will have to inform applicants to send the extra material to us.

- LSAT scores are not sent to USU electronically, but we will take copies of the scores as long as the department approves it. Graduate School will also accept other entrance exam scores if the department approves. Contact erin.anderson@usu.edu for specific questions.