CLA Graduate Education Task Force

Chair: Marifran Mattson
Members: Mady Henry, Rosie Clawson, Harry Bulow

Mission and Goals

The CLA graduate education task force is charged with developing recommendations on strengthening graduate student support to help ensure CLA's graduate programs remain vibrant, nationally recognized, and positioned to advance the research mission of the College.

To this end, the task force will address the following questions:

1) What is the appropriate size and scale of graduate education in the College to ensure competitive stipends and student financial support?

2) How should the College move towards a model of graduate education which reduces teaching responsibilities for graduate students, so they can focus more on being mentored into developing an independent record of scholarship and/or creative activity?

3) Should the College consider a more decentralized model of graduate student support in which departments/schools have more control over how student financial support is allocated?

4) What are ways the College might offset fewer graduate student instructors? For example, the number of courses being offered in the College might be scaled-back to take advantage of lower student enrollments, faculty might expect fewer course releases, and/or efforts might be made to hire more specialized full-time faculty with more teaching obligations.

Process

The task force will gather and analyze relevant information from peer institutions, while also collecting data from Purdue and input from CLA faculty and graduate students. A brief draft report will be submitted in writing by September 15, 2015 for discussion among all department and school heads.

Feedback from this discussion will be used to revise the report and a final draft will be presented to the Dean by October 15, 2015.