Graduate School Update

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Ensuring Graduate Program Quality at Michigan Tech
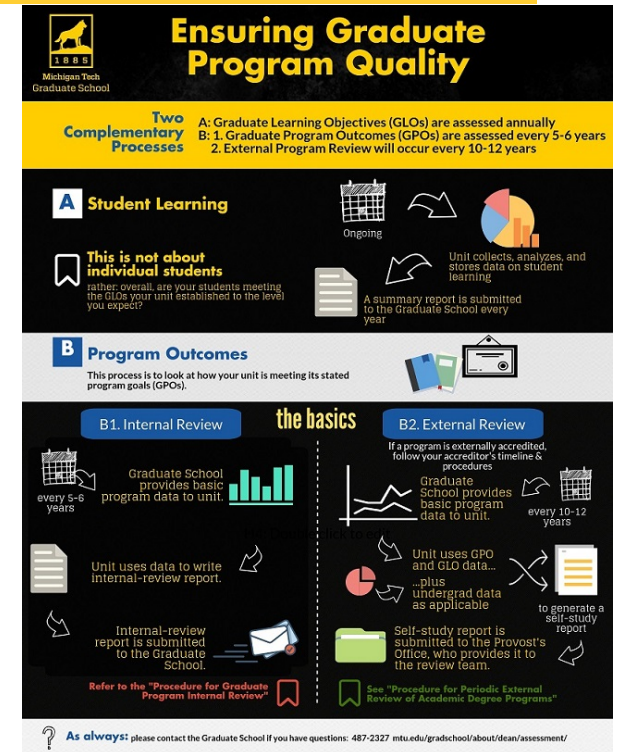

Two processes:

A. **Graduate Learning Objectives (GLOs)**

What are the learning objectives for MS and PhD students?

How do you assessing that the GLOs are being met by students?

B. **Graduate Program Outcomes (GPOs)**

To review graduate program outcomes (enrollment, time to degree, completion, attrition, publications, placement and other outcomes)

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Interim Report to HLC (July 2018)

GLOs

What are the learning objectives for MS and PhD students?

How do you assess that the GLOs are being met by students?

Demonstrate that the data is being used for continuous improvement?

✓ **All programs have developed GLOs (70+ programs!)**

GPOs

Are all graduate programs being reviewed on a regular schedule?

✓ **Do you have a schedule, including external review schedule, for all grad programs, especially those grad programs that are not accredited?**

✓ **Report preliminary findings based on the data collected and analyzed for the initial departments/programs (12 departments)**

✓ **Demonstrate the use of data for continuous improvement (MSE, CH, HU, SFRES)**

Report graduate program persistence, attrition and completion data

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Dissertation/thesis and report submission update

GFC had suggested formatting guidelines for thesis/dissertation in 2011

- Number of thesis/dissertations have doubled since 2009/10 to 250 in 2016/17
- Feedback to the format review and submission process from students and faculty
- Graduate School staff time for the process has increased significantly
- The deadline for graduation was pushed to 10th week

New steps implemented:

- Seminar on formatting at the beginning of each semester (please encourage students to attend)

- Provide templates (Word and LaTex) for the entire thesis

- Workshops where students can work one-on-one with trained staff

- Provide software (Adobe Acrobat) and guidance on how to check and correct the document before submission (format, page numbers, margins, figure placement, copyright material

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Professional Development Activities

Obtained funds from NSF to develop and offer a series of professional development activities – started in Jan 2017

Involved Colorado School of Mines in this initiative – join with us on-line

Targeted to PhD students and postdoctoral fellows

One a month since September 2017

Please encourage your students to attend

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Graduate School Emergency Fund Program

- **Graduate students with unexpected financial emergencies**

- **Established and funded by Graduate School, Alumni Board of Directors and Graduate Student Government (GSG)**

- **Short-term, interest-free, loans ($250-$1,000)**

- **Qualifying reasons: family reasons, health reasons, accidents, emergency travel, academic reasons**

- **Committee reviews requests from students**

- **Actively fundraising**

- **First awards made this semester!**

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Student transportation

GSG has been working on transportation for a number of years

Top three requests:

Bus from West Houghton Shopping district to stop at Daniell Heights on the way to MUB

Extend transportation to West Houghton Shopping district a few evenings during thee week

Add Saturday transportation to West Houghton Shopping district for living needs

Addressing growing pains!

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THANK YOU!

Questions??

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