The Graduate Council—Graduate School Partnership: Advancing graduate education at MSU

Introduction: Purpose of the GC and TGS

The Graduate Council is the faculty representation of shared governance on graduate education on our campus. The council is not a part of the Senate; it is independently charged. We keep the Senate informed of our proceedings and conversations, but it works as an independent body. The Council's work focuses on three main areas: graduate curriculum; graduate policy; and strategic conversations and initiatives.

The Graduate School oversees the standards and quality of all post-baccalaureate education at the University, and functions as a centralized office to administer the life cycle of graduate students, from their first point of contact with the institution to graduation. TGS maintains maintain equitable standards for graduate education across all academic disciplines, serves as an advocate for graduate education and graduate students and faculty, and works with the Graduate Council to set policy and standards for all aspects of graduate education.

Advancing Graduate Education at MSU: Strategic Topics 2029-2021

The partnership between the GC and TGS is crucial for the quality and standards of graduate education at MSU. In the recent period, this partnership has evolved to also include purposeful conversations and action plans to advance graduate education and promote innovation in graduate programs.

Strategic Topics 2019-2020:

- Admissions: holistic reviews, standardized scores as predictors of success, best practices
- Program innovation: interdisciplinary approaches, inter-institutional partnerships, online/digital programming
- Professional Development for graduate students and alumni
- Program assessment: career outcomes, alumni success
- International students

Strategic Topics 2020-2021:

- Graduate students' engagement and well being
- Continuing to focus on quality of education and support
- Provide professional development opportunities
- Innovation in program development. Examples: dual degree programs, stackable programs

For conversation: Click here to offer your input

Which strategic topics do you think are important for the GC/TGS to focus on for the next couple of years?

How can the GC/TGS partnership help you in developing innovative approaches to graduate education?