

March 07, 2008

MEMORANDUM

To: University Graduate Council
From: University Graduate Council Agenda Committee
Subject: **Agenda** for the Meeting of the University Graduate Council on **March 24, 2008, 3:00 p.m., 113 Linton Hall**

AGENDA

1. Approval of Agenda.
2. Approval of February 25 Minutes. (Attachment)
3. Remarks from the Chairperson. (Noel)

Faculty Voice 1

ECAC copyright task force
4. Remarks from the Graduate School. (Klomprens)

FYI - *Request to change the Option in Management of Information Technology to a Graduate Specialization in Management of Information Technology. (February Meeting)
5. Remarks from the COGS Representative. (Morrice)
6. *Request to change the requirements for the **Master of Arts** degree in **Communication** in the Department of Communication.
7. *Request to phase out and discontinue the **Master of Arts** degree in **History of Art** in the Department of Art and Art History.
8. Reports of the University Graduate Council Subcommittees.

Curriculum and Program Review Committee

Academic Research Policy Subcommittee

Gail Dummer update on MSU misconduct procedure

Graduate Instruction, Employment, Mentoring Subcommittee

*As members of the University Graduate Council we value the contributions made by graduate research assistants (RAs) and graduate teaching-excluded assistants (TEs) to the intellectual environment and scholarly work of MSU. For this reason, we recommend increasing stipends for RA and TE

*Action Items

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appointments by 2% or the percent increase recommended for faculty, whichever is higher.

In addition, we would like to address the historical discrepancy between the increase in the minimum monthly stipends awarded from levels 1 to 2, and from levels 2 to 3. For example, in 2007-08, advancing from level 1 to 2 in a half-time position resulted in an increase in minimum stipend of \$127, while moving from level 2 to level 3 resulted in a gain of only \$64.

Since changes made last year, graduate students with seniority and experience are required to pass their comprehensive exams in order to qualify for level 3 positions. We consider this an appropriate time to recommend increasing the change in minimum stipend from level 2 to level 3 to match (\$127 in the example above), in addition to a percentage increase in stipends across the board for RAs and TEs.

9. UCC and UGC curricular review general discussion (Klomprens)
10. Roundtable
11. Adjournment.