

January 31 BFC SAA Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

9:00am-10:00am

In-attendance: Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, David Taylor, Eli Beaton, Matthew Jackson, Deborah Snaddon, Jessica Lester, Mike McCarthy

- 1) Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- 2) Average Stipend Report Conversation
- 3) COAS Announcement Restricting Graduate Funding for Later Years
 - a. Adding restrictions on graduate funding for students past 9th yr in F25, 8th yr in F26.
 - b. Discussion of impact for students who can't complete program requirements for external reasons
 - i. Students that take long times to complete their degree often don't have control over why their degree has been slow.
 - c. Time to degree clarifications
 - d. Department merit scholarships don't pause guaranteed funding
 - e. More transparency is good
 - f. Later year students hold up funding from newer students
- 4) Minimum Stipend Increase
- 5) Any raise is appreciated, but it merely keeps pace with cost of living in many cases. Many graduate students have had rent increases equal to or greater than the adjusted stipend.
- 6) Adjournment