

Subject:

FW: Graduate Council Organizational Meeting - Tomorrow, 8/16 at 1pminCato 228

Appendix B

From: [Christine Haynes](#)

Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 1:51 PM

To: [Christi Skerlak](#); rrmcgreg@uncc.edu; treynolds@uncc.edu

Subject: RE: Graduate Council Organizational Meeting - Tomorrow, 8/16 at 1pminCato 228

Dear Christi, Roy Roy, and Tom,

As promised at the end of yesterday's meeting, I am writing to put the following item on the agenda for the Graduate Council this year, please:

In general, I would like for the Council to become more involved in the Graduate School's strategic planning for enrollment management. I think the council could play a role as a liaison with the colleges for thinking about what sorts of graduate students, in what particular programs, the University most seeks to attract.

In conjunction with this general discussion of enrollment management, I would like to see more discussion in particular of funding, and especially tuition assistance, for graduate students. While I realize that a good part of the funding for students is handled at the college level, the tuition assistance piece is handled by the Graduate School, and the recent switch to need-based tuition assistance, while in theory more equitable, is making it very difficult for program directors to offer prospective students—including those given assistantships—clear tuition packages at the time of admission. In practice, this means that those offered assistantships are not guaranteed full, or even partial, in-state tuition and may often have to pay substantial sums for course credits out of their stipends, which are in many cases still well below those of comparable institutions. I would like to see the Graduate School re-think this model of tuition assistance—or at the very least the timing of decisions about tuition offers—to make recruitment more effective. In this discussion, I think the Graduate Council could provide some insight on issues program directors are facing with student recruitment in practice. In CLAS, for instance, I know that I am by no means alone in struggling to provide newly admitted students with timely information about their tuition packages.

I hope that is clear. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

Thank you for considering this request.

Best wishes,
Christine