

# GRADUATE ADMINISTRATORS' COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, September 14, 2023

8:30am – 10:30am

Via Zoom Meeting ID: <https://odu.zoom.us/j/92937685226?from=addon>

In attendance: Robert Wojtowicz, Missy Barber, Megan Corbett, Piotr Kraj, Regina Karp, Jeffrey LaCombe, Lesley Greene, Erika Marsillac, Paul Carrant, Jackie Stein, Karen Vaughn, Rafael Diaz, Maggie Barber, Barbara Kraj, Denise Claiborne, Bill Heffelfinger, Chung Hao Chen

Approval of Minutes- May 11, 2023 First Lesley Greene, second Maggie Barber.

Welcome Remarks Robert Wojtowicz, asked for everyone to introduce themselves because there were newcomers.

Introduction of New Members:

- x Jeff LaCombe, Associate Dean for Undergraduate and Graduate Education in College of Engineering & Technology
- x Barbara Kraj, Associate Dean of Education & Innovation for the College of Health Sciences
- x Erika Marsillac, interim Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs in the College of Business

## New Business

- Student Health Insurance Survey Analysis Update Megan Corbett

Robert detailed the parameters for the insurance program currently available to graduate students. He covered subsidies, international requirements and those not opting for insurance. He mentioned that EVMS has a requirement for insurance while we do not. Megan said that 59.2% somewhat agree to strongly agree to a mandatory requirement with an opt clause. The “no’s” in the survey centered on the financial burden, low GA stipends, inflexibility, no clear opt processes, and the lack of a payment plan. Robert expressed concern about making students ineligible for Medicare to their employment. Robert says they are not coded as employees.

Megan gave examples of comments from students which included “cruel, socialist, immoral, and aged administrators forcing health insurance on the young.”

Missy Barber confirmed that we are at the gold level and explained that it is intended to cover 80% of healthcare expenses. Platinum level covers 90%. She noted that there was a different dental & vision provider this year and since it had been somewhat problematic, a new dental & vision provider began this year that allows the students to purchase by semester or annually while affording them monthly premiums instead of the entire premium. She said there about 800 students enrolled in health insurance. Missy noted that it is recommended for students to purchase by semester instead of by year. If they leave, they don't get a refund for a year. Robert questioned Missy about the restriction that domestic students have as opposed to international students. UHCSR says domestic has a plan. The University pays upfront for insurance for international because their premium is tied to their



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