Graduate Student Recruiting Guidelines, Addendum June 1, 2021

We have previously formulated guidelines regarding the role of graduate student support in graduate student recruiting. Those guidelines referred to the academic year and stated that a faculty may not advise more than 2 graduate students who are solely on GTA support. Any additional GTA support would have to be balanced by an equal amount of GRA support.

In those discussions, not enough attention was paid to summer support and, in addition, there have been some changes in university policy. At the time the assumptions were made that faculty is able and willing to support their graduate students in the summer for at least 2 months.

Going forward more attention needs to be paid to faculty ability and willingness to support their graduate students for three summer months (or at least two months) in every year the graduate students are in their graduate program. The intensive research focus in the summer is necessary for students to progress in their studies. Without this intensive research focus in the summer, the GRA investment during the academic year will not payoff. Therefore, taking a 3-month leave of absence during the summer will no longer be considered appropriate. And it is entirely inappropriate for faculty to have a student work during the summer as a volunteer without pay, irrespective of summer enrollment.

Therefore, a faculty wanting to recruit a new graduate student needs to demonstrate their ability to support their students during the academic year and in the summer. Information about ability and willingness to support their graduate students in the past three years will be considered together with the ability and willingness to support their graduate students in the next three years. A worksheet is attached. The filled-out worksheet will be checked by Tammy Heldenbrand. Recruiting decisions will be based on the data provided in the worksheet.