

Graduate & Professional Student Needs Assessment Work Group

A goal of the 2021-2026 Division of Student Life Strategic Plan is to, “Cultivate virtual and in person programs and physical spaces that promote a sense of belonging, opportunities for socialization, and community development.” A specific tactic within this goal is to, “Complete a graduate and professional student needs assessment and develop intentional outreach that invites graduate and professional students to participate in initiatives and programs.” The Graduate & Professional Student Needs Assessment Work Group is charged with creating and administering a needs assessment to graduate and professional students.

Scope:

- Review data already gathered by the Student Experience at the Research University (SERU), the National College Health Assessment (NCHA), and other data sources to determine what data, if any, is needed to understand the graduate and professional student experience.
- Complete an audit or analysis of existing programs and services offered to graduate and professional students.
- Conduct a needs assessment focused on initiatives, programs, and services which could be provided by the Division of Student Life.

Work Group Representation:

- [In process], Graduate and Professional Student Government
- Bill Nelson, Office of the Dean of Students (co-chair)
- Alicia Aguiar, Assessment, Improvement, & Research
- Mackenzie Lechniter Kirby, Residence Education
- Trisha Welter, Student Wellness (co-chair)
- Mara Cheney, Late Night Programming
- Shuhui Lin, Multicultural & International Student Support & Engagement
- Erika Christiansen, Leadership, Service & Civic Engagement
- Anna Holbrook, Student Care & Assistance
- Sarah Lobb, Human Resources
- Katie Birdsall, Student Life Communications

Liaisons: Association of Graduate Nursing Students, Carver College of Medicine Student Government, College of Pharmacy Student Leadership Council, College of Public Health Graduate Student Association, Graduate Student Senate, Iowa American Student Dental Association, Iowa Student Bar Association

Sponsor: Vice President for Student Life

Deliverables: The work group is responsible for delivering the following:

- A clear purpose for conducting a needs assessment with graduate and professional students
- A draft of a graduate and professional student needs assessment
- A plan to administer the needs assessment
- A report on the findings of the needs assessment and recommendations for next steps for the Division of Student Life

Schedule: Due date for above deliverables is December 2021.