University of Wisconsin-Madison
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Room 52 Bascom Hall
September 9, 2016

MINUTES

Members Present: Caroline Alexander, Susan Babcock, Cynthia Czajkowski, Kristin Eschenfelder, Mary Louise Gomez, William Karpus (Chair), Daniel Kleinman, Christa Olson, Nicole Perna, John Pfotenhauer, José Pincheira, Parmesh Ramanathan, Patricia Rosenmeyer, Tracy Schroepfer, Stephanie Tai, Fernando Tejedo-Herrero, Monica Turner, Ray Vanderby, Kristen Wolf

Members Absent:

Guests: Sarah Kuba, Elaine Klein

Staff: Judy Bauman, Katie Block, Marty Gustafson, LaRuth McAfee, Meghan McMackin, Elena Zhu

Dean William Karpus called the meeting to order.

The minutes of June 3, 2016 were approved as a matter of automatic consent.

Information Items:

1. Dean Karpus led introductions and briefly described the GFEC overview and charge. New GFEC members beginning terms in the 2016-2017 academic year include Christa Olson, John Pfotenhauer, Parmesh Ramanathan, Stephanie Tai and Monica Turner.

2. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman informed the GFEC of the delay of implementation of two online Master of Engineering (M.Eng.) in Engineering named options: Applied Computing and Engineering Data Analytics and Manufacturing Systems Engineering, which were approved by the GFEC in June 2015 and May 2015, respectively. Kleinman noted that the implementation will be delayed one year to launch in Fall 2017, rather than in Fall 2016 as proposed due to marketing delays that limited the number of applications received. The committee expressed concern regarding students who have already enrolled in the programs. Kleinman noted that students will have the ability to defer the program for one year or withdraw their applications and receive a refund.

Approvals:

1. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman introduced the request to discontinue the doctoral minor in Cancer Biology. There is no longer faculty support for the doctoral minor, and there has been no enrollment or awards since 2008.
Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the discontinuation of the doctoral minor in Cancer Biology. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman introduced the request to discontinue the doctoral minor in Medical Genetics. Kleinman stated that there has never been enrollment in this program.

Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the discontinuation of the doctoral minor in Medical Genetics. The motion was passed with 18 for, 1 abstention.

Approval Update:

1. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman introduced for discussion the three-year new program check-in for the Capstone Certificate in Post-Graduate Psychiatric Nursing. Kleinman noted that the assessment of the learning outcomes was strong. The committee noted recommendations for improvement, which included strengthening the ongoing and broad commitment of faculty and creating a governance structure.

Program Reviews:

1. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman introduced the 5-Year Review of the graduate/professional certificate in Culture, History, and Environment and the Doctoral Minor in Culture, History, and Environment. Kleinman noted the program’s strengths, which include that it acts as a stimulating interdisciplinary environment, provides a context for building community, and offers renowned place-based workshops. Kleinman also discussed the review committee’s recommendations, which are to improve enrollment numbers, develop a graduate student handbook which includes clear specification of requirements and a grievance procedure, and develop learning outcomes. The GFEC commends the program on their new initiatives to improve the certificate program’s low enrollment, and joins the review committee in encouraging the program to implement program review recommendations. The committee requests that the program complete its program handbook and make it available to students by January 31, 2017.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the Five-Year Review of the graduate/professional certificate in Culture, History, and Environment and the Doctoral Minor in Culture, History, and Environment.

2. GFEC member Tracy Schroepfer presented the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the M.A./Doctoral Minor/Graduate/Professional Certificate in Gender and Women’s Studies. Schroepfer noted the program’s many strengths, including its interdisciplinary nature, allowance of intense specialization, student satisfaction with a very available and supportive faculty, strong community spirit, and good funding for students. Schroepfer also discussed the review committee’s concerns regarding recent course reductions, and its recommendations to better organize work responsibilities amongst staff, expand the internship class, and target more engagement of core affiliate faculty to expand graduate student offerings. The GFEC also discussed the program’s desire for a doctoral program that would meet the perceived needs of some master’s students who wish to continue to a Ph.D.; however, the GFEC recommends that the program resolve staff and faculty resource issues first, and consider alternatives such as bridging partnerships and guidelines to other Ph.D. programs. The GFEC further
recommends that the program provide additional career guidance and clarity about what the program offers to prospective students, and requests that the program review its recruiting and advising practices and report back to the committee clarifying how these practices align with the program’s goals, learning outcomes and resources. The GFEC commends the program on its strengths and looks forward to the program’s response by January 31, 2017.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the M.A./Doctoral Minor/Graduate/Professional Certificate in Gender and Women’s Studies. The motion was passed unanimously.

3. GFEC member Fernando Tejedo-Herrero introduced the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the Mead Witter School of Music graduate programs, including the Music M.A./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor, Music Education M.M., and Music Performance M.M./DMA. Tejedo-Herrero noted the graduate program’s strengths, which include dedicated and highly qualified faculty members, talented and engaged students, and excellent placement of program graduates. Tejedo-Herrero also commented on program review recommendations, many of which may affect the Ph.D. time to degree and completion rate, such as securing additional funding for students, providing more professional development opportunities, creating additional opportunities for student interaction and community building across the School of Music, and maintaining a full time staff position for Admissions/Financial matters. The GFEC requests that the program work directly with the Graduate School Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Funding to develop a plan to increase the diversity of its graduate students, define a mechanism to ensure yearly meetings between graduate students and advisors on progress toward degree to improve mentoring, and clarify a path forward for its low enrollment Music Education M.M. The GFEC commends the program on its strengths, and requests that the program include the GFEC in its response to review committee recommendations by January 31, 2017.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the Institutional (10-Year) Review of Music M.A./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor, Music Education M.M., and Music Performance M.M./DMA. The motion was passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

Motion: Moved and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.