University of Wisconsin-Madison
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Room 52 Bascom Hall
December 2, 2016

MINUTES

Members Present: Caroline Alexander, Susan Babcock, Cynthia Czajkowski, Kristen Eschenfelder, Mary Louise Gomez, William Karpus (Chair), Daniel Kleinman, Lisa Martin, Christa Olson, Nicole Perna, John Pfotenhauer, José Pincheira, Parmesh Ramanathan (not present for last voting item), Stephanie Tai, Fernando Tejedo-Herrero, Monica Turner

Members Absent: Michael Graham, Patricia Rosenmeyer, Tracy Schroepfer, Kristin Wolf

Guests: Jeff Beneker, James Blanchard, Greg Downey, Norman Drinkwater, Greg Harrington, Elaine Klein, Sarah Kuba, Donna Paulnock, Mary Possin, David Rosenthal, David Wasserman

Staff: Judy Bauman, Katie Block, Alissa Ewer, Marty Gustafson, Kelly Haslam, Elena Hsu, LaRuth McAfee, Meghan McMackin, Cassandra Rademaekers, Emily Reynolds

Dean William Karpus called the meeting to order.

The minutes of November 11, 2016 were approved as a matter of automatic consent.

Dean William Karpus announced that Daniel Kleinman, Senior Associate Dean in the Graduate School and Professor of Community and Environmental Sociology in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, is leaving the University of Wisconsin-Madison to become Associate Provost for Graduate Affairs and Professor of Sociology at Boston University, effective January 1, 2017. The Dean thanked Daniel Kleinman for his work at the Graduate School and wished him the best of luck in his new career.

Approval:

1. GFEC member Kristin Eschenfelder presented a request to approve the Capstone Certificate in User Experience Design from the School of Library and Information Studies. Eschenfelder explained that this Certificate will be a joint project between the School of Library and Information Studies and the Department of Computer Sciences, bringing the curriculum and expertise of both departments together. The Certificate will be a fully online, 10-credit graduate Capstone Certificate aimed at working professionals who will complete coursework on evenings and weekends. Eschenfelder further explained that it will be an elite program with a high price per credit, with some scholarships available, and that they hope that it will bring new resources, energy, and expertise to this area of study on campus.
Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the Capstone Certificate in User Experience Design. The motion was passed with 15 for, 1 abstention.

2. Dean William Karpus introduced Jeff Beneker from the Department of Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, who presented the request to discontinue the M.A./Ph.D. in Hebrew and Semitic Studies. Beneker explained that this request is related to several past actions associated with discontinuing the Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies, including suspension of admissions to the program two years ago. Beneker further explained that students who had been in the HSS programs have either completed them or transferred into the new CANES-Hebrew Bible option, and that there are no students currently enrolled in the program.

Motion: Moved and seconded to discontinue the M.A./Ph.D. in Hebrew and Semitic Studies. The motion was passed unanimously.

3. Dean William Karpus introduced James Blanchard from the College of Engineering, who presented the request to approve several named options under existing M.S. degrees. Blanchard explained that these named options will provide targeted M.S. degrees in high demand areas, which will attract students who would not otherwise come here for an M.S. The named options will be terminal, accelerated, 30 credit, non-pooled, residential degrees. With the exception of a few courses that will be created, Blanchard explained that the named options will primarily use existing courses. Additionally, the departments plan to use the common assessment plan used across the whole college at the graduate level (with the exception of Industrial and Systems Engineering) and keep the administration as common as possible. Blanchard said that the departments will use revenue from the named options to hire advisors and student services coordinators, the advising load per faculty member will be relatively low, and admissions decisions will be made at the program level. The GFEC agreed with the utility of these new programs, and encouraged the College of Engineering to monitor and support student service needs (in particular English as a Second Language) and advising commitments from faculty as they expand over time.

Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the following named options in the College of Engineering:

- M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering
  - Named Option “Construction Engineering and Management”
  - Named Option “Environmental Science and Engineering”
  - Named Option “Geological/Geotechnical Engineering”
  - Named Option “Structural Engineering”
  - Named Option “Transportation Engineering”
  - Named Option “Water Resources Engineering”
- M.S. in Industrial Engineering
  - Named Option “Systems Engineering and Analytics”
  - Named Option “Human Factors and Systems Engineering”
- M.S. in Electrical Engineering
  - Named Option “Signal Processing and Machine Learning”
- M.S. in Mechanical Engineering
  - Named Option “Automotive Engineering”

The motion was passed with 13 for, 3 abstentions.
4. Dean William Karpus introduced David Rosenthal from the Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education, who presented the request to rename the Ph.D./Doctoral Minor in Rehabilitation Psychology to Rehabilitation Counselor Education. Rosenthal explained that recent changes in the accreditation mechanisms necessitate changing the names of the programs so that students are able to continue to have access to the same jobs they previously had access to. Rosenthal stated that this is a national trend, and that peer universities are following in the same direction. Additionally, Rosenthal explained that there will be minor changes in the curriculum, but all students currently in the program are aware of the change and that there will be no increase in time-to-degree for current or incoming students.

Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the request to rename the Ph.D./Doctoral Minor in Rehabilitation Psychology to Rehabilitation Counselor Education. The motion was passed unanimously.

Program Reviews

1. GFEC member Nicole Perna introduced the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the M.S./Ph.D. in Cancer Biology. Perna noted the program’s strengths, including attentive and responsive co-directors, solid financial support from training grants and individual PI grants, flexible but defined curriculum, strong progress-monitoring, and high student satisfaction and post-graduation success in obtaining jobs in academia and industry. Perna also discussed review committee recommendations, including increasing enrollment if resources support it, improving specificity of learning goals and outcomes within the student handbook, assigning permanent course numbers for multiple 675 topic courses, and adding explicit consideration of professional development to annual committee meetings. The review committee also suggested increasing the voice of faculty trainers outside of the Department of Oncology, clarifying the role of the Steering Committee in the program decision-making process, and holding periodic meetings among to assess short- and long-term goals of the Program. The GFEC commends the program on its strengths and recommends that the program engage in efforts to address the review committee’s concerns.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the M.S./Ph.D. in Cancer Biology. The motion was passed with 15 for, 1 abstention.

2. Review committee member Donna Paulnock introduced the Institutional (10-Year) Review of M.S./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor in Cellular and Molecular Biology. Paulnock noted the graduate program’s strengths, including a national stature as an excellent training program, an extensive and diverse group of faculty, a strong system for monitoring of graduate student progress, a well-developed governance structure, sustained efforts to build a graduate community, alumni networks, and professional development programming, and an active commitment to increase the diversity of the program. Paulnock also noted the review committee recommendations, including that the program work with the OVCRCGE to create a two year budget model to allow flexibility in managing class size, maintain the full-time funded status of the program coordinator position, increase budgetary support for student rotations, and provide students with information regarding career paths both inside and outside of
academia. Noting that CMB can provide unique campus-wide leadership with respect to graduate training activities, the review committee also recommends that the Graduate School work together with the CMB program in developing, testing, and improving key graduate training practices and procedures, with particular attention to admissions practices that may be resulting in a lower admissions level for underrepresented minorities than desired. The GFEC commends the program on its strengths, and joins the review committee in recommending the department work to fulfill the review committee recommendations.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to accept the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the M.S./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor in Cellular and Molecular Biology. The motion was passed with 11 for, 5 abstentions.

**Adjournment:**

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