Members Present: Caroline Alexander, Lara Collier, Michael Graham, Yu Hen Hu (arrived before final voting item), William Karpus, Steffen Lempp, Christopher Livanos, Lisa Martin, Christa Olson, John Pfotenhauer, Parmesh Ramanathan, Tracy Schroepfer, Steph Tai, Monica Turner (left before final voting item), Earlise Ward, Kirsten Wolf

Members Absent: Kristin Eschenfelder, Nicole Perna, Leslie Smith III

Guests: Wendy Crone, Lee DeBaillie, Michael Doran, Elaine Klein, Ernesto Livorni, Brittney Markle, Jocelyn Milner, Lisa Naughton, Dan Negrut, David Noyce, David Rosenthal, Xudong Wang, Sue Zaeske, John Zumbrunnen

Staff: Judy Bauman, Katie Block, Eileen Callahan, Rebecca Chapman, Marty Gustafson, Kelly Haslam, Michelle Holland, Elena Hsu, Tori Karalis, LaRuth McAfee, Emily Reynolds

Dean William Karpus called the meeting to order.

The minutes of October 6, 2017, were approved as a matter of automatic consent.

Approvals:

1. Dean Karpus introduced Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science John Zumbrunnen, who presented a request to suspend admissions to the Capstone Certificate in International Politics and Practice effective Spring 2018. Courses will continue to be offered for existing students. Low program enrollment, departing faculty, and a summer-heavy curricular plan have led the department to request suspending admissions while they reevaluate its sustainability. The program will have three years to request an unsuspension or propose to discontinue.

   Motion: Moved and seconded to suspend admissions to the Capstone Certificate in International Politics and Practice effective Spring 2018. The motion was passed 13 for, 1 abstention.

2. Dean Karpus introduced Professor and Chair of the Department of Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies Ernesto Livorni, who presented a request to suspend admissions to the M.A./Ph.D. in Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies, including M.A./Ph.D. named options and doctoral minors in “Comparative Literature” and “Folklore Studies” effective Fall 2018. This is in response to their Ten-Year Institutional Review. The program will have three years to request an unsuspension or propose to discontinue.
Motion: Moved and seconded to suspend admissions to the M.A./Ph.D. in Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies, including M.A./Ph.D. named options and doctoral minors in “Comparative Literature” and “Folklore Studies” effective Fall 2018. The motion was passed 13 for, 1 abstention.

3. Dean Karpus introduced Professor and Chair of the Department of Geography Lisa Naughton, who presented a request for approval of a new Named Option “Accelerated/Non-Thesis” in the M.S. Cartography and Geographic Information Systems and two new Capstone Certificates called “GIS Fundamentals” and “Advanced GIS.” There is a growing demand for spatial information (e.g., Google Maps); Geography is meeting this need by developing these new programs. Since the current 22-credit capstone certificate is successful, they see the ability to relaunch it as a master’s degree named option at 30 credits. Simultaneously, the two new capstones for distance learners satisfy a need for students uninterested in completing a full master’s degree or interested in completing a capstone prior to applying to the master’s degree program.

Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the named option “Accelerated/Non-Thesis” in the M.S. Cartography and Geographic Information Systems. The motion was passed unanimously.

Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the capstone certificate “GIS Fundamentals” in the Department of Geography. The motion was passed unanimously.

Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the capstone certificate “Advanced GIS” in the Department of Geography. The motion was passed unanimously.

4. Dean Karpus introduced School of Education Associate Dean and Professor of the Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education David Rosenthal, who presented a request to rename the M.S. in Rehabilitation Psychology to the M.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling. This follows the guidelines of their accrediting body and licensure laws.

Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the request to rename the M.S. in Rehabilitation Psychology to the M.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. Dean Karpus introduced College of Engineering Professors Wendy Crone, Xudong Wang, and Dan Negrut, who presented requests for new named options in three different College of Engineering departments.

Professor Crone presented a request to create the named option “Fundamentals of Applied Mechanics” in the M.S. Engineering Mechanics from the Department of Engineering Physics effective Summer 2018. The department sees this as an opportunity to help physics majors transition to an engineering degree. This is an accelerated one-year non-pooled program. It would not require any additional courses to be taught as there is capacity in existing courses.

Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the request to create the named option “Fundamentals of Applied Mechanics” in the M.S. Engineering Mechanics. The motion was passed with unanimously.

Professor Wang presented a request to create the named option “Nanomaterials and Nanoengineering” in the M.S. Materials Science and Engineering from the Department of Materials Science and Engineering effective Summer 2018. Nanomaterials and Nanoengineering is a major discipline within
Materials Science and Engineering as well as a rapidly-growing career area. It is a 30-credit one-year courses only program, using capacity in existing courses.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to approve the request to create the named option “Nanomaterials and Nanoengineering” in the M.S. Materials Science and Engineering. The motion was passed unanimously.

Professor Negrut presented a request to create the named option “Modeling and Simulation in Mechanical Engineering” in the M.S. Mechanical Engineering from the Department of Mechanical Engineering effective Fall 2018. This is a one-year courses only program targeting industry needs for graduates fluent in computer modeling and simulation. Courses used have existing capacity, and in one case, additional section are planned to cover increasing enrollment.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to approve the request to create the named option “Modeling and Simulation in Mechanical Engineering” in the M.S. Mechanical Engineering. The motion was passed with 13 for, 1 abstention.

6. Dean Karpus introduced Professor and Chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering David Noyce and Adjunct Professor Michael Doran, who presented a request to move the MEng Civil and Environmental Engineering Named Option “Environmental Engineering” to the M.S. Civil and Environmental Engineering effective Spring 2018. Professor Noyce explained that the option was originally developed following master of science degree standards. The GFEC noted however that the named “Environmental Engineering” is very similar to a currently existing option in the M.S. Civil and Environmental Engineering, “Environmental Science and Engineering.” Additionally, a Spring 2018 effective term is impossible to implement at this late date.

**Motion to table the request to approve the move the MEng Civil and Environmental Engineering Named Option “Environmental Engineering” to the M.S. Civil and Environmental Engineering. The motion was passed unanimously.**

**Approval Updates:**

7. Associate Dean Ramanathan presented the Three-Year Progress Report Check-in of the M.S. Environmental Conservation. The program is stable and meeting enrollment capacity, but is having some issues with faculty workload for advising students.

8. Associate Dean Ramanathan introduced a discussion of the Ten-Year program review response from the Biophysics M.S./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor. The program has responded to concerns regarding funding changes and other recommendations.

9. GFEC Member Michael Graham introduced the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the M.S./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor in Biological Systems Engineering. Graham noted the strengths of the program, including high research productivity among faculty, increased enrollment, competitive time-to-degree and generally satisfied students. Graham also discussed challenges to the program, including a UW policy conflicting with criteria for a USDA national needs program that could help fund students, a low application and enrollment rate of underrepresented minority students, difficulty attracting top domestic graduate students, older facilities spread among five buildings and a limited number of graduate course offerings. Graham noted review committee recommendations, including working with CALS to open access to the USDA national needs program, inviting graduate student representatives to
faculty meetings, bolstering marketing efforts to improve the quality and diversity of the applicant pool, creating a colloquium and graduate courses, working with CALS and UW Foundation on a development strategy to improve facilities, and seeking strategies to increase instructional offerings. Associate Dean Martin noted that the program should meet with Graduate School Assistant Dean for Diversity, Inclusion and Funding LaRuth McAfee to create a plan to increase diversity by developing actionable recruiting strategies of underrepresented minority students. The GFEC commends the program on its strengths and recommends it engage in efforts to address the review committee’s concerns.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the Ph.D./M.S./Doctoral Minor in Biological Systems Engineering. The motion was passed unanimously.

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