LISTED BELOW ARE ALL KNOWN OUTSTANDING APPROVAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE ONLINE PROFESSIONAL MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN CARTOGRAPHY/GIS (GIS DEVELOPMENT) AS OF OCTOBER 12, 2015.

COURSE APPROVAL STATUS

All courses have been approved or are scheduled to be voted on by the University Curriculum Committee in October. Those that are not yet approved:

- Geog 576 (Spatial Web and Mobile Programming)  
  On the UCC October 23 Agenda
- Geog 670 (Capstone in GIS Development)  
  On the UCC October 14 Agenda
- Geog 672 (Practicum in GIS Development)  
  On the UCC October 14 Agenda

ONLINE COURSE DEVELOPMENT WITH DCS

We have already begun working with the instructional designers in the Division of Continuing Studies (DCS) to finalize the design of four of our eight courses.

Prepared by: Ian Muehlenhaus, Program Director (muehlenhaus@wisc.edu)
Date: October 12, 2015
cc: Wendy Crone, A-Xing Zhu, Lisa Naughton
May 15, 2015

Kris Olds
Chair, Department of Geography
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Sent Electronically

Dear Professor Olds:

As you know, an important part of the University’s ongoing oversight process is the vetting of proposals for new graduate programs by the Graduate Faculty Executive Committee (GFEC) of the Graduate School. At its April 10, 2015 meeting, the GFEC reviewed the proposal for a named option titled “GIS Development” in the Cartography and Geographic Information Systems M.S. program.

We understand that this online non-pooled tuition-model named option will provide education in advanced development/application support for geographic information systems (GIS). After discussion, the GFEC voted unanimously to approve your proposal. As you may be aware, with GFEC’s approval your proposal will move to the University Academic Planning Council (UAPC) where it will be a matter for automatic consent.

Since all of the elements of this named option are not in place, the GFEC requests that the Department of Geography provide an update to the Committee on the status of the named option curriculum course approvals by October 15, 2015.

In addition, as with all new approved programs, the GFEC is very interested in how the program develops and, therefore, will expect to receive a status update in three years. The Graduate School will request a written report from the program responding to a list of questions and campus data reports. In addition, program representatives may be asked to attend GFEC to be available to answer questions that may arise in response. This check-in process will allow the program an opportunity for additional feedback as it prepares for the formal five-year program review process in place for all new programs. The list of questions and campus data reports are still in development, but we will provide them in advance of your three-year check-in point.

The Committee is pleased to be able to give you the “green light” and wishes you success in the implementation of your new named option. We look forward to receiving your three-year check-in report by Fall 2018.

Best of luck to you and your colleagues as you move forward.

Sincerely,

Wendy C. Crone
Interim Dean of the Graduate School
cc:
John Karl Scholz, College of Letters and Science
Greg Downey, College of Letters and Science
Elaine Klein, College of Letters and Science
A-Xing Zhu, Department of Geography
Lisa Naughton, Department of Geography
Sharon Kahn, Department of Geography
Jocelyn Milner, Office of the Provost
Daniel Kleinman, Graduate School
Marty Gustafson, Graduate School
Jennifer Martin, Graduate School