University of Wisconsin-Madison
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee
1:30 – 3:30 pm, Room 350 Bascom Hall
October 14, 2011

MINUTES

Members Present: Martin Cadwallader, Susan Cook, Wendy Crone, Norman Drinkwater, Jan
Greenberg, Ron Kalil, Gloria Mari-Beffa, Donna Paulnock, Pamela Potter,
Stephen Quintana, Paul Sacaridiz, James Schauer, Larry Shapiro, John Sharpless,
Kevin Shinners, Marc Silberman, Kenneth Systma, David Weimer

Members Absent: Michael Bell, Parameswaran Ramanathan, Susan Thibeault

Guests: Jeffrey Hamm, Brad Zulick, Mari Paltta

Staff: Eileen Callahan, Steve Hahn, Kelly Haslam, Elena Hsu, Jennifer Martin, Kathi
Matthews-Risley, Linda Scholl

Dean Martin Cadwallader called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

The minutes of April 19, 2011 were approved as written.

Introduction:

Dean Martin Cadwallader led introductions and gave a presentation on the following items:

- The role and make-up of the Graduate School’s Academic Planning Council.
- Three arms of responsibility within the Graduate School: Research, Graduate Education, and
  Centers.
- The Associate Deans and their roles within the Graduate School; announced the search for a
  new Associate Dean of Graduate Education.
- The steady influx of admissions over the last 30 years, a feat given the decentralized, program-
  based admissions process.
- Enrollment among all ethnic minorities is rising, but there is room for improvement.
- UW-Madison ranked well in the last NRC study, with representation from all four divisions of
  graduate study.
- Details on how students are funded; mechanisms used by the Graduate School to fund students;
  and the funding levels and sources for the Advanced Opportunity Fellowships.
- Summary of GFEC functions -- particularly its role in program reviews.

Approvals:

Interim Associate Dean Jan Greenberg introduced the requests to discontinue the Education and
Mathematics MA and to discontinue the Science Education MS, both in the Department of Curriculum
Associate Dean Jeffrey Hamm and Brad Zulick, from the School of Education, discussed how eliminating the two Masters programs is an effort to streamline the Curriculum and Instruction department’s degree offerings. Both “Science Education” and “Education and Mathematics” will be available as unnamed options (tracks) in the Curriculum and Instruction MS.

**Action:** Moved and seconded to approve the request to discontinue the MA in Education and Mathematics. Motion approved unanimously.

**Action:** Moved and seconded to approve the request to discontinue the MS in Science Education. Motion approved unanimously.

**Program Reviews:**

1. Mari Palta, from the Population Health Sciences department, presented the Institutional (10-year) Review of the PhD in Genetics. The Laboratory of Genetics consists of two departments: Genetics, in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences; and Medical Genetics, in the School of Medicine and Public Health. Some administrative issues in this relationship were reviewed subsequent to the conclusion of this review by the two schools and the Provost’s Office. Addressed were the excellent postdoc and faculty placement for program graduates, the high morale among faculty and students, strong leadership from the department/program chair; desire for more teaching assistantships, questions about graduate students serving on admissions committees, and the longevity of their training grant despite some decline in training slots.

**Action:** Moved and seconded to accept the review of the Genetics PhD program. Motion approved unanimously.

2. James Schauer, from the Civil and Environmental Engineering department, presented the Institutional (10-year) Review of the MS and PhD programs in Industrial Engineering. Addressed was the “Center culture” which affords students a chance to work in Research Centers, but be disconnected from a common program culture; good national rankings and job opportunities; high student morale; unclear reporting structure for the Centers; lack of execution of their strategic plan; fragmented structure and culture (including program requirements). The review committee recommended the program develop an implementable plan toward balancing all their degree programs and how to manage unfunded students; assess progress toward improving culture in the graduate community; harmonize program requirements across department groups; and develop strategies for improved targeted minority recruitment.

**Action:** Moved and seconded to accept the review of the graduate programs in Industrial Engineering, with a recommendation to address the review committee’s concerns in a written memo to GFEC. Motion passed unanimously.

3. David Weimer, from the LaFollette School of Public Affairs, presented the Institutional (10-year) Review of the MA, MS and PhD programs in Rehabilitation Psychology. The programs’ review was part of the Council on Rehabilitation Education’s Accreditation Review of the Masters in Rehabilitation Counseling. Addressed was the high quality of the programs in national rankings and strong job
placement for graduates, some success in minority recruiting, guaranteed two-year support for many students, and strong methods training and supportive research environments. Issues addressed included concern over the small faculty size (five in Rehabilitation Psychology) and consequently high instances of advising and teaching overloads for faculty. The Review Committee recommends the programs give due attention to the problems of low faculty numbers with respect to program capacities.

**Action:** Moved and seconded to accept the review of the graduate programs in Rehabilitation Psychology. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion Items:**
Dean Martin Cadwallader encouraged members of the GFEC to think of and opened discussion about future GFEC items. Topics included having a clear statement on the Graduate School’s position on the continuing collaboration between Research and Graduate Education, sharing information on units within Graduate Education, and changes to the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Program. Dean Cadwallader encouraged the GFEC members to continue to think about topics for future discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:29 pm.