University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee  
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Room 350 Bascom Hall  
December 14, 2012

MINUTES

Members Present: Martin Cadwallader, Steve Ackerman, Michael Bell (out at 2:50), Duncan Carlsmith, Susan Cook, Aparna Dharwadker, Norman Drinkwater, Ted Golos, Ron Kalil, Daniel Kleinman, Lisa Martin, Donna Paulnock, Stephen Quintana, Paul Sacaridiz, James Schauer, John Sharpless, Kevin Shiners, Fernando Tejedo, Susan Thibeault

Members Absent: Robert Howell, Jean-Luc Thiffeault

Guests: Julie Mead, Jocelyn Milner, David Rosenthal, Larry Shapiro, Brad Zulick

Staff: Eileen Callahan, Wendy Crone, Kelly Haslam, Elena Hsu, Jennifer Martin, Linda Scholl

Dean Martin Cadwallader called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

The minutes of November 9, 2012 were approved as written. It was clarified that the GFEC would receive an update concerning the delayed release dissertation publication issues (discussed at the November 9, 2012 meeting) at a coming Spring 2013 GFEC meeting.

Discussion Item:

The discussion item “Learning Outcomes Case Study: Political Science” was postponed.

Approval:

Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman introduced the following requests for suspension/discontinuation:

- Request to discontinue the named option titled “Cooperative Program with UW-Oshkosh” in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis MS.
- Request to discontinue Business: Information Systems MBA
- Request to discontinue Business: Accounting MBA
- Request to discontinue the named option titled “Strategic Management in the Life and Engineering Sciences” in Business: Management and Human Resources MBA
- Request to suspend admissions for the named option titled “Quantitative Finance” in Business: Finance, Investment and Banking MS

Action: Moved and seconded to discontinue the named option titled “Cooperative Program with UW-Oshkosh” in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis MS. The motion was passed unanimously.
Action: Moved and seconded to discontinue Business: Information Systems MBA, Business: Accounting MBA, and the named option titled “Strategic Management in the Life and Engineering Sciences” in Business: Management and Human Resources MBA. The motion was passed with 17 for and 2 abstentions.

Action: Moved and seconded to suspend admissions for the named option titled “Quantitative Finance” in Business: Finance, Investment and Banking MS. The motion was passed unanimously.

Information Items

1. Associate Dean Steve Ackerman informed the GFEC that the specialization “Engineering Management Specialization” has been converted to a named option titled “Engineering Management Specialization” in the Manufacturing Systems Engineering MS. The specialization, which is an obsolete structure on campus, will be discontinued.

2. Associate Dean Wendy Crone presented the Mass Communications PhD program review follow-up update. In response to the program’s GFEC review on May 11, 2012, ad hoc committee members have been charged with making recommendations for the program’s governance structure and policies governing the joint program, and have had their first meeting. In addition, a joint committee facilitated by Associate Dean Crone has met and created a shared program listserve and joint seminar series to expose the program’s students to the work done across the two units. Both committees will resume work on strengthening the program’s joint partnership in the coming Spring 2013 semester.

3. Associate Dean Steve Ackerman presented the program review follow-up for the Nuclear Engineering and Engineering Physics MS/PhD and the Engineering Mechanics MS/PhD, in response to the programs’ GFEC review on April 13, 2012. Ackerman is confident that the Engineering Physics department is committed to serious program changes as a result of the GFEC’s recommendations. The GFEC commends Nuclear Engineering and Engineering Physics and Engineering Mechanics and looks forward to the programs’ continuing work.

4. Associate Dean Steve Ackerman presented the Geoscience MS/PhD program review follow-up, in response to the program’s GFEC review on February 10, 2012. The GFEC commends Geoscience on their work improving communication, funding, time-to-degree issues and the Geoscience graduate handbook. The GFEC is interested as to how Geoscience’s four internal doctoral minor subject areas satisfy the minor requirement and guarantee breadth, and how the department will collect data on how students are achieving said breadth.

Program Review:

Associate Dean Susan Cook and Larry Shapiro from Philosophy introduced the Institutional (10-Year) Reviews of the MA/PhD in Spanish and of the MA/PhD in Portuguese. Discussed were the programs’ NRC rankings and excellent career placement for graduates, as well as the review committee’s concerns, including long time-to-degree, students’ perceived lack of opportunity for specialization and professionalization, and low morale among students and the department alike. The review committee
recommends that the program consider providing more supervision between the Masters and preliminary exam stage, more opportunities for extended writing exercises, a proseminar in the Spanish program similar to that which Portuguese offers, and policies that would achieve greater standardization in the evaluation of preliminary exams. The GFEC commends the programs on their strengths, and requests that in order to maintain their standards of success, they address the review committee’s concerns.

Action: Moved and seconded to accept the review of the Spanish MA/PhD and Portuguese MA/PhD programs, with a request the program address the review committee’s recommendations in a written memo to GFEC by April 2013.

Additional Approval:

Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman and Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis department chair Julie Mead introduced the request to approve the following named options:

- “Wisconsin Idea Executive PhD Cohort” in the Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis PhD
- “Global Higher Education” in the Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis MS

Mead noted that the “Wisconsin Idea Executive PhD Cohort” named option will be delivered flexibly to cohorts of advanced school leaders. Mead described “Global Higher Education” as a named option that would aim to serve both domestic and international professionals in a year of concentrated study.

Action: Moved and seconded to approve the named option “Wisconsin Idea Executive PhD Cohort” in the Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis PhD. The motion was passed unanimously.

Action: Moved and seconded to approve the named option “Global Higher Education” in the Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis MS. The motion was passed unanimously.

Additional Information Item:

Dean Martin Cadwallader introduced discussion concerning a document from the Educational Innovation co-chairs which details principles for program development under the scope of Educational Innovation. The GFEC learned that the document is being distributed across campus and appreciates that the principles described strive to ensure quality in those programs developed as Educational Innovation initiatives. The GFEC aims to hold all program development approvals that come before GFEC to these and other quality-ensuring principles.