University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee  
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Room 350 Bascom Hall  
November 9, 2012  

M I N U T E S  

Members Present: Martin Cadwallader, Michael Bell, Duncan Carlsmith, Susan Cook, Aparna Dharwadker, Norman Drinkwater, Robert Howell, Ron Kalil, Daniel Kleinman, Lisa Martin, Donna Paulnock, Stephen Quintana, Paul Sacaridiz, John Sharpless, Fernando Tejedo  

Members Absent: Steve Ackerman, Ted Golos, James Schauer, Kevin Shinners, Susan Thibeault, Jean-Luc Thiffeault  

Guests: Katy Duren, Sara Lazenby, Jeff Russell  

Staff: Judy Bauman, Wendy Crone, Alissa Ewer, Steve Hahn, Kelly Haslam, Elena Hsu, Jennifer Martin, Dorothy Sanchez, Linda Scholl, Alexandra Walter  

Dean Martin Cadwallader called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.  

The minutes of October 12, 2012 were approved as written.  

Information Items:  

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.  
- The three arms of responsibility within the Graduate School: Graduate Education, Research and Centers.  
- The Associate Deans and their roles within the Graduate School.  
- The steady influx of admissions over the last 30 years; enrollment among all ethnic minorities continues to rise, but there is room for improvement.  
- UW-Madison Graduate School ranked well in the last NRC study, with representation from all four divisions of graduate study.  
- Details on how students are funded, including mechanisms used by the Graduate School to fund students and the distribution of funding sources.  
- Summary of GFEC functions – particularly its role in program reviews and approval requests.  

Approval:  

Associate Dean Susan Cook and Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman introduced the request to suspend admissions for the MS in Medical Microbiology and Immunology. The program will suspend admissions for three years, during which the program faculty will consider Medical Microbiology & Immunology’s
future either as a professional master’s program or as a master’s degree “default” option (which would need to be renamed to Microbiology) for Microbiology doctoral students leaving prior to completion of the PhD.

**Action:** Moved and seconded to approve the request to suspend admissions for the MS in Medical Microbiology and Immunology. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Discussion Items:**

1. Dean Martin Cadwallader introduced Jeff Russell, the Vice Provost for Lifelong Learning and Dean of the Division of Continuing Studies, who spoke on Education Innovation, the campus-wide initiative that encourages melding creativity, technology and the Wisconsin Idea in support of teaching and learning on campus. Educational Innovation aims to grow different methods of program delivery, expand student markets served and create revenue generation. The committee noted that when addressing program requests for approval that fall under the scope of Educational Innovation, the GFEC’s role is ensuring quality as graduate programs develop innovation in teaching and learning.

2. Associate Dean Wendy Crone and Assistant Dean Steve Hahn introduced the topic of delayed release dissertation publication and how the Graduate School’s new electronic thesis deposit system is resulting in increased rates of embargo requests. In the past, when a student deposited a paper copy of his/her dissertation to the Graduate School, the process would result in the UW Library making the dissertation available after a months-long process. Now, when a student electronically deposits his or her dissertation at the graduate school, the process may take only days to complete, resulting in a much shorter window of opportunity to prepare the dissertation for publication before it finds its way in full text to the internet. In some cases, publishers have expressed concerns with publishing manuscripts already available publicly via ProQuest and university depositories. Current Graduate School policy is that all dissertations are eventually made public, but allows that a student and their advisor, with the agreement of the appropriate Associate Dean of the Graduate School, may make a request to temporarily restrict public access to the dissertation (that is, embargo the dissertation). The GFEC discussed the idea of an additional policy of allowing students to opt-in to allowing internet access to their dissertation. The GFEC agreed that there should be continued discussion with the UW-Library on this and other dissertation publication policies; in the meantime, the Associate Deans will continue to consider 1-year embargo requests.