University of Wisconsin-Madison
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Room 350 Bascom Hall
October 12, 2012

MINUTES

Members Present: Steve Ackerman, Susan Cook, Aparna Dharwadker, Thaddues Golos, Robert Howell, Ron Kalil, Daniel Kleinman, Lisa Martin, Donna Paulnock, Stephen Quintana, Paul Sacaridiz, John Sharpless, Fernando Tejedo-Herrero, Jean-Luc Thiffeault

Members Absent: Martin Cadwallader, Michael Bell, Duncan Carlsmith, Norman Drinkwater, James Schauer, Kevin Shinners, Susan Thibeault

Guests: Judith Burstyn, Jan Greenberg, Jocelyn Milner, Karl Scholz

Staff: Judy Bauman, Eileen Callahan, Wendy Crone, Steve Hahn, Kelly Haslam, Elena Hsu, Jennifer Martin, Linda Scholl, Alexandra Walter

Dean Martin Cadwallader arranged for Associate Dean Donna Paulnock to lead the meeting in his absence.

Associate Dean Donna Paulnock called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

The minutes of May 29, 2012 were approved as written.

Discussion Item:

Associate Dean Wendy Crone introduced a discussion on graduate student learning outcomes, reflecting the Graduate School’s growing interest in including student learning outcomes in both program reviews and as continual assessment measures within programs. Crone introduced Judith Burstyn from Chemistry, who, representing the Physical Sciences division, spoke about Chemistry’s process of improving learning outcomes by allowing current and former students to identify and present the programs’ strengths and challenges. Chemistry found it useful to conduct their learning outcome-based assessments in cooperation with their other departmental self-reflection activities and permitted for flexibility in how and when goals were met. Chemistry’s efforts, initiated several years ago, resulted in ramping up student-learning assessment, with a new first-year graduate seminar (now on hiatus), ramped-up dissertator preparation, increased career preparation and a department that has become congruent, well-structured and well-implemented.

Approvals:

1. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman and Karl Scholz from the Economics department introduced the request to approve the named option “Graduate Foundations” in the Master of Science in Economics, which would prepare students with alternate scholarly backgrounds for industry or for entry into an Economics PhD program at other institutions. The named option is an initiative born of the University’s “Educational Innovation” campaign and will allow for faculty and their associated departments to share in a portion of the revenue the named option
would generate. The GFEC expressed concerns that adding the new program to the Economics Department's undergraduate and graduate offerings could lead to faculty attention and department resources spread too thinly.

**Action:** Moved and seconded to approve the named option “Graduate Foundations” in the Master of Science in Economics. The motion was passed with 11 votes for, 1 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

**Action:** Moved and seconded that the GFEC does not wish to consider for approval further revenue-generating programs under Educational Innovation without a uniform mechanism for addressing costs that incur beyond the department and college. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman introduced the request to discontinue the Master of Arts in Economics. The Economics Department was unaware of the existence of the Economics-MA; the program has no students enrolled and no associated curriculum. Economics believes there will be no disruption to the department when the MA is discontinued, and will continue to offer both a MS and PhD in Economics.

**Action:** Moved and seconded to discontinue the Master of Arts in Economics. The motion was passed unanimously.

3. Associate Dean Steve Ackerman introduced the request to discontinue the Air Resources Management Graduate Certificate; the certificate program has historically low enrollment and associated faculty have been recommending that students not pursue it.

**Action:** Moved and seconded to discontinue the Air Resources Management Graduate Certificate. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Program Review:**

1. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman and Jan Greenberg from Social Work introduced the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis' Master Administrator Capstone Certificate (MACC). The review committee found that though the program aims to provide high-quality professional development to Wisconsin school administrators, it runs at high cost with insufficient funding and with limited faculty and resources support available. The review committee recommends that the department coordinate with the Department of Public Instruction by granting the Master Administrator License upon completion of the certificate and that it redevelop significant faculty.department resources and support, or that the Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis Department explore alternate ways in which to provide the MACC content with mechanisms other than a capstone certificate.

**Action:** Moved and seconded that, given current financial concerns and questions about the ability of the program to maintain sufficient and stable enrollment, the GFEC accepts the review and recommends that the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis consider discontinuation of the Master Administrator Capstone Certificate (MACC). The motion was passed with 9 votes for, 4 opposed, and 1 abstention.