University of Wisconsin-Madison
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Room 52 Bascom Hall
November 14, 2014

MINUTES

Members Present:  Wendy Crone, Caroline Alexander, Duncan Carlsmith, Cynthia Czajkowski, Mary Louise Gomez, Brian Gould, Michael Graham, Daniel Kleinman, Pamela Potter, Stephen Quintana, Tracy Schroepfer, Fernando Tejedo, Kirsten Wolf

Members Absent:  Ted Golos, Robert Howell, José Pincheira, Kevin Shinners, Susan Thibeault

Guests:  Steve Ackerman, Norman Drinkwater, Lea Jacobs, Elaine Klein, Caroline Levine, Wayne Pferdehirt, John Rudolph, Paul Sacaridiz, Mary Trotter, Ray Vanderby, Susan Zaeske

Staff:  Eileen Callahan, Alissa Ewer, Kelly Haslam, Michelle Holland, Elena Hsu, Jennifer Martin, LaRuth McAfee, Linda Scholl

Interim Dean Wendy Crone called the meeting to order.

The minutes of October 10, 2014 were approved as written.

Information Items:

1. LaRuth McAfee, Graduate School Assistant Dean for the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Funding, presented diversity and inclusion resources for graduate programs and students. McAfee informed the GFEC about her office’s mission, and encouraged GFEC members to consider data related to diversity and what that data means as they participate in graduate program reviews.

2. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman informed the GFEC that the named option “Corporate Executive MBA” in the Business: Management MBA that was approved at the October 16, 2013 GFEC meeting will not be implemented. The GFEC understands that if the Wisconsin School of Business decides to re-launch the program, an approval from the GFEC will be required.

Approvals:

1. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman, GFEC member Pamela Potter, and Mary Trotter from the Department of English presented the request to approve changes to the Theatre and Drama M.A. and Ph.D. graduate programs. Changes to the programs include renaming the M.A. and Ph.D. to “Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies”, and changing the administrative/academic home for the M.A. and Ph.D. from the Department of Theatre and Drama to the Department of English. Trotter informed the committee that the Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies (ITS) graduate program will be distinct from the other academic offerings in the Department of English; the program structure will be interdisciplinary and faculty teaching ITS courses will have tenure homes in related departments (like Theatre and Drama, and English). Trotter noted most current graduate students in the program will finish their under the new ITS name. Those students who wish to complete their M.A. or Ph.D. degrees under the
Theatre and Drama name will be identified in a memo, and those students may only receive the Theatre and Drama degree name if they finish no later than the summer 2017 term. Trotter also noted that there are still conversations regarding physical space allocation with the MFA program, and that the conversation thus far has been positive.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to approve the changes to the M.A. and Ph.D. in Theatre and Drama, including renaming the programs “Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies”, and changing the administrative home of the M.A. and Ph.D. to the Department of English. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman introduced the request to discontinue the doctoral minor “Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development”. The doctoral student currently enrolled in the minor program will be allowed to finish; no other students may enroll in nor earn the Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development doctoral minor.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to approve the request to discontinue the doctoral minor in Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development. The motion was passed unanimously.

3. GFEC member Duncan Carlsmith presented the request to approve Graduate Student Learning Goals, developed by the GFEC Graduate Student Learning Goals Subcommittee; the learning goals are unique to each level of program offered by the Graduate School, including master’s level degrees, doctoral level degree, graduate/professional certificates, and capstone certificates. Over the last 10 months, the Subcommittee had shared the learning goals with and sought feedback from school/college academic planners, department chairs, directors of graduate study, GFEC, the University Council on Academic Affairs and Assessment (UCAAA), the Provost’s Office, and the Office of Academic Planning and Institutional Research. The Subcommittee recommends a September 2015 deadline for the articulation of learning goals by each individual graduate-level program for inclusion in the program entry of the 2016-2018 Graduate School Catalog. GFEC will continue to review learning goals as part of the regular review process for graduate programs. The Subcommittee suggests that GFEC has a five year review cycle for the overarching learning goals, so that they can be re-evaluated regularly and adapted as needed.

The GFEC voted on the Graduate Student Learning Goals as written in the attached “Learning Goals (10/29/14)” document.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to approve the Graduate Student Learning Goals. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Discussion Item:**

Associate Dean Kleinman presented the discussion item Conversation with Representatives of the Ad Hoc Committee on Graduate School Restructuring; ad hoc committee members Caroline Levine, Wayne Pferdehirt, John Rudolph, Paul Sacaridiz and Ray Vanderby were present. Discussed were the continued importance of GFEC members on graduate program reviews, the agreement that programs would appreciate increased funding packages/stipends to offer graduate students, GFEC members’ desire to participate in new campus-level paradigms and initiatives discussions, the continued need for graduate student programmatic professional development opportunities that address the full range of post-graduation careers, the financial burden felt by programs in providing tuition remission-based
opportunities to graduate students, examination of financial incentives for new innovative program development and interdisciplinary collaborations, and the desire of the committee and programs to have more input with the UW Foundation regarding graduate student fellowship allocation.