University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee  
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Room 52 Bascom Hall  
October 14, 2016

MINUTES

Members Present: Caroline Alexander, Susan Babcock, Mary Louise Gomez, William Karpus (Chair), Daniel Kleinman, Lisa Martin, Christa Olson, Nicole Perna, John Pfotenhauer, José Pincheira, Parmesh Ramanathan, Patricia Rosenmeyer, Stephanie Tai, Fernando Tejedo-Herrero

Members Absent: Cynthia Czajkowski, Kristin Eschenfelder, Tracy Schroepfer, Monica Turner, Kristin Wolf

Guests: James Tinjum, Matt Griswold, Gilles Bousquet, Elaine Klein, Susan Zaeske

Staff: Judy Bauman, Katie Block, Marty Gustafson, Kelly Haslam, Michelle Holland, LaRuth McAfee, Meghan McMackin, Cassandra Rademaekers, Alexander Walter, Elena Zhu

Dean William Karpus called the meeting to order.

The minutes of September 9, 2016 were approved as a matter of automatic consent.

Information Items:

1. Dean William Karpus introduced Lisa Martin, the new associate dean in the Graduate School.

2. Senior Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman informed the GFEC of the merger of the Departments of History and History of Science. The name of the restructured unit will be “History” but the graduate programs will remain distinct. The anticipated implementation of the restructuring is July 1, 2017.

3. Senior Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman informed the GFEC of the low-award producing program status of the Graduate Certificate in Material Cultures. There have been no awards granted between 2011 and 2015, and two awards granted in spring 2016. The Provost has requested a focused report to be turned in by November 1, 2016, which will outline the importance of and resources available to support retaining the program, as well as the program’s own recommendation about next actions to be taken concerning the future of the program.

Approvals:

1. Dean William Karpus introduced Program Director Matt Griswold and Professor James Tinjum from the Department of Engineering Professional Development, who presented the request to rename the “Applied Computing and Engineering Data Analytics” named option in the Master of Engineering Degree, Engineering Major to “Engineering Data Analytics.” Griswold and Tinjum explained that
marketing research indicates that potential students are more interested in the data analytics content of the program and less so in applied computing. Additionally, Tinjum and Griswold said that the proposed name better reflects outcomes expected by students and employers who expressed interest in a master’s degree in this area, and also better aligns with similar programs offered at peer institutions. Curriculum will be adjusted to reflect the name change and to offer more flexibility to students. The proposal is to launch the degree program officially, based on these changes, by fall of 2017.

**Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the rename of the “Applied Computing and Engineering Data Analytics” named option in the Master of Engineering Degree, Engineering Major to “Engineering Data Analytics.”** The motion was passed unanimously.

2. Dean William Karpus introduced Professor Gilles Bousquet, chair of the Department of French and Italian, who presented the request to suspend admissions to the Capstone Certificate in French Studies. Professor Bousquet stated that there are no students currently enrolled in the program, and suspending admissions will allow the program to make revisions to better attract potential students. When the committee inquired about the process by which they will revise the program, Bousquet responded that the program plans to engage in market research with three different audiences to determine how to increase the attractiveness of the program to possible applicants.

**Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the suspension of admissions to the Capstone Certificate in French Studies.** The motion was passed unanimously.

**Program Reviews and Updates:**

1. Senior Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman introduced the program review update for the Graduate/Professional Certificate and Capstone Certificate in Global Health, in response to the program’s GFEC review on November 20, 2015. The GFEC thanked the program for its thoughtful response to their review, but the GFEC remains concerned with the program’s lack of a plan to increase student diversity and decrease program attrition. Members of the GFEC agreed that a more specific detailing of the program’s plans to improve upon areas of concern is necessary.

2. Senior Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman presented the update of the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the Chinese M.A./Ph.D./Doctoral Minor and Japanese M.A./Ph.D/Doctoral Minor, in response to the program’s GFEC review on June 3, 2016. The GFEC thanked the program for their efforts thus far, but agreed that the workload of the program’s TAs remains an area of concern. The GFEC requests that the program assure that actual TA hours worked are matched to level of appointment and to work with the College of Letters and Science to provide the necessary resources.

3. GFEC member Professor Mary Louise Gomez introduced the Institutional (10-year) Review of the School of Business Graduate/Professional Certificates in Entrepreneurship and Strategic Innovation: Technology, Organizations, and Society. Gomez noted the programs’ successes, including the applicability of the content to a variety of majors, the numerous options of courses to fulfill requirements, student appreciation of the variety of majors and perspectives offered through its courses, and the high level of knowledge and passion of the instructional faculty. Additionally, Gomez
pointed out that the graduate certificates are two of the most awarded certificates at UW-Madison. Gomez also discussed the review committee’s concerns, including the fact some listed courses are no longer being offered, and that there is a need to recruit more students from underrepresented populations. The GFEC commends the program on its strengths, and also requests that the program take steps to address the review committee recommendations. The GFEC specifically requests that the program communicate with the Graduate School Office of Diversity and Inclusion to generate a plan to recruit more students from underrepresented populations.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to accept the Institutional (10-Year) Review of the Graduate/Professional Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Strategic Innovation: Technology, Organizations, and Society. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Discussion Items:**

1. Assistant Dean Marty Gustafson led a discussion of the current array of certificates available to both enrolled graduate students and non-degree seeking students at UW-Madison. Gustafson discussed the intended audience for each certificate and enrollment and award data from the past three years. She noted concern that the label of “Capstone” carries an undergraduate connotation, which may contribute to low numbers of enrollment in such certificate programs. The committee joined in discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of the various certificate options, including their use as professional development for securing employment. The GFEC considered the possibility of renaming the capstone certificate and offered examples of possible renaming options for future consideration.

2. Senior Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman led a discussion of the recommendations from ad hoc committee on “The Future of the Dissertation.” The GFEC discussed the benefits and impacts of each of the recommendations briefly, and concluded that more discussion is needed for particular items. The committee agreed that certain recommendations will be discussed in more detail at the November 11, 2016 GFEC meeting.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.