22 November 2016

TO: Daniel Kleinman, Associate Dean, Graduate School

FROM: John Karl Scholz, Dean

RE: Request to Discontinue Doctoral Minor in Social Work (GMIN 918)

CC: Greg Downey, Associate Dean, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Marty Gustafson, Assistant Dean, Graduate School
William Heiss, Assistant Director, School of Social Work
Elaine Klein, Associate Dean for Academic Planning
Sarah Kuba, Academic Planner, Academic Planning and Institutional Research
Jocelyn Milner, Associate Provost and Director, Academic Planning and Institutional Research
Stephanie Robert, Director, School of Social Work

On November 15, 2016, the L&S Academic Planning Council considered the attached request to discontinue the doctoral minor in Social Work. In light of the compelling rationale provided, the Council unanimously approved this request.
The School of Social Work offers two doctoral minors; a Ph.D. Minor in Social Welfare and a Ph.D. Minor in Social Work. It is the social welfare minor that is most familiar to faculty. The Ph.D. Committee actively maintains the social welfare minor and regularly reviews its requirements for currency in the field and for consonance with Graduate School requirements.

The second minor is the Ph.D. Minor in Social Work. This minor has not been maintained. In fact, there are no records of its purpose, creation or requirements. However, with the assistance of Jennifer Martin in the Graduate School, we learned that Ph.D. Minor in Social Work was awarded 17 times since 1982. The last time this minor was awarded was in 2009 though the student had completed the minor requirements 10 years earlier in 1999.

Given that the doctoral minor in social welfare is the preferred minor that our school offers; and that little is known about the doctoral minor in social work; and that, no one has completed the social work minor since 1999; it proposed that the Ph.D. Minor in Social Work be eliminated. The Minor in Social Welfare will be maintained.

The Doctoral Committee and Executive Committee of the School approved this proposal on September 28, 2016. As such, we are sending this proposal to the L&S Academic Planning Council (L&S APC) and Graduate Faculty Executive Committee (GFEC) for final action.

Lonnie Berger, Ph.D.
Chair, Ph.D. Program

Stephanie Robert, Ph.D.
Director, School of Social Work