University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee Meeting  
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Room 52 Bascom Hall  
October 5, 2018

MINUTES

Members Present: Lara Collier, Florence Hsia, Yu Hen Hu, William Karpus, Steffen Lempp, Lisa Martin, Christa Olson, Nicole Perna, John Pfotenhauer, Pamela Potter, Parmesh Ramanathan, Gail Robertson, John Sharpless, Steph Tai, Fernando Tejedo, Monica Turner, Chris Walker

Members Absent: Tracy Schroepfer, Bret Shaw, Shannon Stahl

Guests: Jake Blanchard, Elaine Klein, Nicole Wiessinger, Kelly Moran, Jeremy Foltz, Guanming Shi, Daniel Phaneuf, Karen Wassarman, Csanád Siklós, Tullia Dymarz, Andreas Seeger, Greg Downey, Lee deBaille, Caroline Alexander, Paul Campagnola

Staff: Amy Bergholz, Judy Bauman, Eileen Callahan, Meghan Chua, Alissa Ewer, Elena Hsu, Ruth McAfee, Joshua Morrill, Emily Reynolds

Dean William Karpus called the meeting to order.

1. The minutes of September 21, 2018 were approved as a matter of automatic consent.

Information Item:

2. Dean Karpus led a discussion regarding the 2017-2018 Graduate School Annual Report.

Approvals:

3. Dean Karpus introduced Professor Paul Campagnola from the Department of Biomedical Engineering, who presented a request to approve two new Named Options, “Accelerated Program” and “Biomedical Innovation, Design and Entrepreneurship” in the MS Biomedical Engineering from the Department of Biomedical Engineering effective Fall 2019.

The “Accelerated Program” option is a non-pooled, 12-month course based option to provide further training for students entering the workforce or pursuing advanced academic degrees. The approach allows for recruitment from a broader audience. Campagnola addressed questions regarding the targeted pool of students to feed into the program, faculty advising and support, and budget considerations.

Motion: Moved and seconded to approve new Named Option “Accelerated Program” in the MS Biomedical Engineering from the Department of Biomedical Engineering effective Fall 2019. The motion was passed unanimously.
The “Biomedical Innovation, Design and Entrepreneurship” option is a non-pooled, 12-month course based option with specific training in Innovation, Design and Entrepreneurship. The option complements the research-focused programs but has a more practical focus. The option allows for a broader recruitment audience. Campagnola addressed questions regarding the accelerated nature of the program and faculty support.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to approve new Named Option “Biomedical Innovation, Design and Entrepreneurship” in the MS Biomedical Engineering from the Department of Biomedical Engineering effective Fall 2019. The motion was passed unanimously.

4. Dean Karpus introduced Professor Jeremy Foltz from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, who presented a request to approve a new Named Option “Professional Option” in the MS Agricultural and Applied Economics from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics effective Fall 2019. The non-pooled 15-month program is designed to train and prepare students to fill the growing private sector demand for quantitatively-skilled analysts and managers. Foltz responded to questions regarding differentiation from other programs in the department, career opportunities for students, expected enrollment, domestic access to program, admissions, and language proficiency requirements.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to approve a new Named Option “Professional Option” in the MS Agricultural and Applied Economics from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics effective Fall 2019. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. Dean Karpus introduced Assistant Director Csanád Siklós from the Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS) who presented a request to discontinue the Graduate/Professional Certificate in European Studies effective Spring 2019. There are currently no students enrolled in the program.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to approve a request to discontinue the Graduate/Professional Certificate in European Studies effective Spring 2019. The motion was passed unanimously with one abstention.

6. Dean Karpus introduced Assistant Director Csanád Siklós from the Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS) who presented a request to discontinue the Graduate/Professional Certificate in Southeast Asian Studies effective Spring 2019. There are currently no students enrolled in the program.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to approve a request to discontinue the Graduate/Professional Certificate in Southeast Asian Studies effective Spring 2019. The motion was passed unanimously.

7. Associate Dean Lisa Martin presented a request to discontinue the Capstone Certificate in French Studies at the Graduate Level effective Spring 2019. Admission into the program has been suspended since September 2016 and there are no students enrolled in the program.

**Motion:** Moved and seconded to approve a request to discontinue the Capstone Certificate in French Studies at the Graduate Level effective Spring 2019. The motion was passed unanimously.
Program Reviews and Updates:

8. Dean Karpus introduced Professors Tullia Dymarz and Andreas Seeger from the Mathematics Department to present an update from the Mathematics MA/PhD/Doctoral Minor Program Review. The program challenges previously identified were the exclusive recruitment and admission of international students in the named option and the disproportionate number of female PhD students failing their qualifying exams.

Seeger reported that the number of students departing the program has decreased. The department reviewed circumstances of students previously leaving the program to look for trends, but found the reasons to be individualized circumstances. The department worked to better coordinate exams and details of the corresponding syllabus so students are better prepared for exams. The department also enhanced the advising structure early in the program.

9. GFEC member Steph Tai presented the Institutional 10-Year Program Review of Public Affairs/International Public Affairs. Tai noted strengths of the program include excellent completion and placement rates and the range of procedures and data used to evaluate the program and assess student learning. Tai discussed review committee recommendations, including the need to prioritize filling open positions that have been vacated by strong leaders, outreach strategies to attract diverse students, pursuing funding support for graduate students, looking at curriculum overlap, and addressing inadequate space. The GFEC expressed some concern regarding the strength of diversity initiatives.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the Institutional 10-Year Review of the Public Affairs/International Public Affairs. The motion passed unanimously.

10. GFEC member Monica Turner presented the Institutional 10-Year Program Review of MS/PhD/Doctoral Minor in Statistics with MS/PhD Named Options in Biostatistics. Turner noted strengths of the program include recent strides in departmental climate, enhanced TA training and mentorship, and assessment procedures to guide departmental decisions. Turner discussed review committee recommendations, including the continuation of existing program strategies for improvement, reducing prerequisites, and exploring long-term vision. The GFEC expressed some concern that not enough effort is going into attracting diverse students.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the Institutional 10-Year Program Review of MS/PhD/Doctoral Minor in Statistics with MS/PhD Named Options in Biostatistics. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Due to time constraints, it was recommended that the presentation of the Institutional 10-Year Program Review of MS/PhD/Doctoral Minor Civil and Environmental Engineering be postponed until the November meeting.

Motion: Moved and seconded to postpone the presentation of the Institutional 10-Year Program Review of MS/PhD/Doctoral Minor Civil and Environmental Engineering until the November 9, 2018, GFEC meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

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