Members Present: Robert Asen, Kevin Black, Christopher Choi, Lara Collier, Alex Dressler, Yu Hen Hu, Steffen Lempp, Florence Hsia, William Karpus, Mark Mandel, Lisa Martin, Donna Neumann, Parmesh Ramanathan, Sissel Schroeder, Chris Walker

Members Absent: Julie Poehlmann-Tynen, Gail Robertson, Brett Shaw, Leslie Smith III, Earlise Ward

Dean William Karpus called the meeting to order.

Automatic Consent

1. The following items were approved as a matter of automatic consent:
   a. Minutes from January 8, 2021

   Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the consent agenda items. The motion passed unanimously.

Program Review:

2. GFEC member Associate Dean Lisa Martin summarized the Program Review Response for Comparative Biomedical Sciences MS/PhD. The response highlighted the implementation of a rotation program for students, a diversity plan for student recruitment, documentation of the process for students to switch advisors, provision of a funding guarantee to students accepted into a lab, and a plan to reduce the number of trainers in the program.

   No action sought.

3. GFEC member Associate Dean Parmesh Ramanathan summarized the Program Review Response for Agroecology MS. The response highlighted a redesign of two courses so more affiliated faculty can teach them, exploration of partnerships within other programs, a strategy to attract funding through outreach to the public and alumni, and an increased focus on diversity initiatives.

   No action sought.

4. GFEC member Associate Professor Alex Dressler presented the Low Award Review of the Public Humanities Graduate/Professional Certificate. Strengths of the program include a strong sense of camaraderie and collaboration among students, strong placement record, and value as a training tool for PhD students.

   Committee recommendations include relocating the program to an instructional department with greater resources, development of clear guidelines for appointing a steering committee, outreach to recruit students earlier in their graduate career, implementation of multiple tracks for student progress, and development of more clear guidelines to assess student progress.
Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the Low Award Review of the Public Humanities Graduate/Professional Certificate. The motion passed unanimously.

Approvals:

5. Dean Karpus introduced Professor Dietram Scheufele and Student Services Coordinator Tera Holtz Wagner, who presented a request to approve a new Graduate/Professional Certificate in Science Communication effective Fall 2021. The new certificate is responsive to student demand for a program to prepare students from various graduate programs for professional and academic careers.

Motion: Moved and seconded approve a new Graduate/Professional Certificate in Science Communication effective Fall 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion

6. Dean Karpus presented a revised Policy on Minor/Breadth Requirement in Doctoral Training to GFEC members for a first read. The revision contains an additional option for a Graduate/Professional Certificate to satisfy the Graduate School breadth requirement. The revised policy will be presented again to GFEC members for approval at the March 2021 meeting.

No action sought.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Dean William Karpus.