University of Wisconsin-Madison
Graduate Faculty Executive Committee Meeting
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, 52 Bascom Hall
October 8, 2021

M I N U T E S

Members Present: Robert Asen, Kevin Black, Chris Choi, Alex Dressler, Tullia Dymarz, Emily Fletcher, Florence Hsia, William Karpus, Mark Mandel, Lisa Martin, Donna Neumann, Manish Patankar, Julie Poehlmann-Tynen, Parmesh Ramanathan, Gail Robertson, Morgan Robertson, Sissel Schroeder, Bret Shaw, Shannon Stahl

Members Absent: Leslie Smith III

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 September 10, 2021
   b. Approval of the extension of active Graduate Faculty status for English Professor Emerita Susan Friedman through December 31, 2022.
   c. Approval of the extension of active Graduate Faculty status for Sociology Professor Emeritus Douglas Maynard through May 31, 2022.

   Motion: Moved and seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously with one abstention.

Approvals

2. Dean Karpus introduced Professor Janet Hyde who presented a request to approve new degree PhD in Gender and Women’s Studies effective Fall 2023. The program is responsive to student demand, is competitive with peer university programs, and will offer a five-year guarantee for financial support.

   Motion: Moved and seconded to approve new degree PhD in Gender and Women’s Studies effective Fall 2023. The motion passed unanimously with one abstention.

3. Dean Karpus introduced Professors Jim Wollack and Andy Garbacz who presented a request to approve new degree Master of Science in School Psychology effective Fall 2022. The new degree consolidates two separate overlapping master’s programs into one program.

   Motion: Moved and seconded to approve new degree Master of Science in School Psychology effective Fall 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Dean Karpus introduced Professors Jim Wollack and Andy Garbacz who presented a request to approve new degree PhD in School Psychology effective Fall 2022. This program currently exists as a specific track. The change brings it into alignment with other programs, the profession and accreditation requirements.
Motion: Moved and seconded to approve new degree PhD in School Psychology effective Fall 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Dean Karpus introduced Associate Dean Parmesh Ramanathan who presented a request to amend current Prior Coursework policy UW-1216 to Transfer Credit policy with two motions, effective date to be determined by the graduate school Dependent on implementation timeline.

Motion: Moved and seconded to allow transfer of credits for prior coursework from other graduate institutions, an undergraduate career at UW-Madison, and undergraduate careers at other institutions in accordance with current policies. The transferred credits will appear on the UW-Madison transcript in the graduate career and count towards the fulfillment of minimum degree, minimum graduate coursework, Graduate/Professional certificate, and minor credit requirements as current policies allow. Grades associated with these credits will not count toward the graduate career GPA. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Moved and seconded to allow transfer of credits for prior coursework from UW-Madison’s University Special student career in accordance with current policies. Amend policy UW-1216 such that the coursework of the transferred credits will not be moved to the graduate career on the transcript. Rather, the coursework will remain on the transcript in the University Special student career and display as transfer credit in the graduate career. Credits will count towards the fulfillment of minimum degree, minimum graduate coursework, Graduate/Professional certificate, and minor credit requirements as current policies allow. Grades associated with these credits will not count toward the Graduate career GPA. The motion passed unanimously.

Three-year Check-In

6. GFEC member Associate Dean Parmesh Ramanathan summarized the three-year check-in for MS Engineering Mechanics named option “Fundamentals of Applied Mechanics.” The highlights of the check-in included a lack of enrollment. The program will likely seek a discontinuation of the named option in the future.

   No action sought

Program Reviews

7. Former GFEC member Professor Earlise Ward presented the Institutional 10-year program review of the Curriculum and Instruction PhD, MS Named Option “Research,” and Doctoral Minors: Curriculum and Instruction, International Education, Qualitative Research Methodology in Education, and Science Education. Ward noted strengths of the program include the number one ranking in US News & World Report, strong diversity among students and faculty, adapting to industry advances, strong mentoring relationships, and effective program leadership.

   The review committee recommendations include focus on admissions practices and enrollment levels, updates to the student handbook and website, revision of the master’s oral thesis evaluation form, creation of spreadsheets for tracking student progress, seeking additional funding sources, and creation of more RA positions.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the 10-Year Program Review of the Curriculum and Instruction PhD, MS Named Option “Research,” and Doctoral Minors:
Curriculum and Instruction, International Education, Qualitative Research Methodology in Education, and Science Education. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Former GFEC member Professor Yu Hen Hu presented the institutional 10-year program review of the Geoscience MS/PhD/Doctoral Minor. Hu noted strengths of the program include increasing faculty diversity, a published student handbook, strong placement, and a strong student association (Geoscience Graduate Student Association).

The review committee recommendations include expanding department strengths to include informatics and green energy, developing expectations for field work activities, use of student assessment data to improve student outcomes, develop a mechanism to track and encourage diversity recruitment initiatives, and incorporating existing alumni into professional development opportunities.

Motion: Moved and seconded to accept the 10-year program review of the Geoscience MS/PhD/Doctoral Minor. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Dean William Karpus.