

# THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE

## GRADUATE FACULTY COMMITTEE

### Minutes

Monday, October 28, 2013, 3:00 p.m.

**Union E 280**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

GFC Chair Kristene Surerus called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

#### **II. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Anthony Azenabor, Barbara Bales, Naira Campbell-Kyureghyan, Sarah Davies Cordova, Joel Des Armo, Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska, (*ex officio*), Craig Guilbault, Eric Herhuth, Jerry Kaster, Michael Liston (*ex officio*), Sarah Morgan, Mike Schadewald, Amanda Seligman, Mark Srite, Kristene Surerus, Jon Welstead, David Yu (*ex officio*), Vyara Zlatkova

Members Absent: Sukanya Banerjee, Michael Brondino, Anoop Dhingra, Laretta Henderson, Kathleen Koch (*ex officio*), Rina Kundu, Christine Larson, Karen Morin, Gabriel Rei-Doval Patricia Richards, Brian Schermer, Mark Schwartz, Jeffrey Sommers, Peter Tonellato,

Guests: Erin Fox, Vicky Everson, Susan Krueger, Graduate School; Jin Zhang, SOIS; Blair Hicks

#### **III. ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Pre-Authorization for a Master of Arts in Africology

Pre-Authorization of a Master of Science in Applied Statistics

1. AUTOMATIC CONSENT
2. Minutes of the Regular Graduate Faculty Council Meeting of September 16, 2013 were approved as distributed.
3. (GFC Document 1286) Program Change – Criminal Justice M.S.
4. (GFC Document 1287) Program Change – Physics M.S.
5. (GFC Document 1288) Program Change – Political Science M.A.
6. (GFC Document 1289) Program Change – Political Science Ph.D.
7. (GFC Document 1290) Program Change – Ph.D. in Information Studies

8. (GFC Document 1291) Program Change – MS in Freshwater Sciences and Technology
9. (GFC Document 1292) Program Change – Ph.D. in Freshwater Sciences and Technology
10. (GFC Document 1293) Program Change – Specialist Certificate in Administrative Leadership

GFC Documents 1286, 1287, 1288, 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292 and 1293 were approved as distributed.

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Request from the College of Letters and Science to Establish a New Curricular Area in Digital Arts and Communications

Amanda Seligman moved to approve the request to establish a new curricular area in Digital Arts and Communications. Barbara Bales seconded the motion. Motion passed.

There was a brief discussion concerning whether or not this type of request should first go through the GCC for discussion and approval. It was decided that, since it is only an area designation and that individual courses and programs would always go through GCC first, the GFC could approve this new curricular area.

2. Establishment of a Workgroup to review Graduate Certificate Policies

Kristene Surerus asked for volunteers to serve on a workgroup to review all graduate certificate policies. The new workgroup will be: Jerry Kaster, Amanda Seligman, Kristene Surerus, Karen Moran, and Erin Fox. If others wish to volunteer at a later time, contact Kristene Surerus.

#### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Request from the College of Letters and Science to Move a Curricular Area in English As a Second Language

Sarah Morgan moved to approve the request to move the curricular area in ESL. Motion passed.

2. Request from the College of Letters and Science to Establish a New Curricular Area in Latin American, Caribbean & U.S. Latino Studies

Kristene Surerus moved to approve the request to establish a new curricular area in Latin American, Caribbean & U.S. Latino Studies. Motion passed.

3. The requirement for an external reviewer for new programs as system no longer requires an external reviewer - would an internal reviewer be sufficient.

Dev Venugopalan requested that this item be brought to GFC members for discussion. The UW System no longer requires that external reviewers be used to analyze a proposed new program prior to the start-up. The GFC would need to vote to forego the external reviewer requirement to give UWM programs the flexibility to exclusively use internal reviewers for new program start-ups. This policy change would not affect the requirement to utilize external reviewers for program evaluations at the five and ten year cycles.

Discussion points included:

- Advantages of only using UWM internal reviewers: Less costly; UWM has a strong pool of internal reviewers to draw upon; In areas where UWM is offering unique programs, too small a pool of external reviewers to draw upon; potential that external requirement may stifle the development of new programs; potential bias if reviewer from a competitive institution?
- Advantages of using external reviewers: likely have more objective reviews; matches the requirement for external program reviews at 5 and 10 year cycles; no stake in the outcome of the review; potential for stronger reviews, especially for accreditation purposes.

The consensus leaned toward favoring retaining the requirement to utilize external reviewers to evaluate new program proposals. Kristene Surerus moved to retain the external reviewers for new program evaluations. Motion passed.

## **IX. REPORTS**

### **1. Report from the Interim Dean of the Graduate School**

The Provost has indicated that he has selected a candidate for the new Dean of the Graduate School and they are in contract discussions. Dean Yu expects that there will be an announcement later this week.

The second item is an issue related to Graduate School staff. Kathleen Koch is out on medical leave and is recovering at home. Susan Krueger, who works with Kathleen, has accepted a position outside UWM and will be leaving November 1<sup>st</sup>. As a result, we have formed a contingency plan that Maria Gajdardziska-Josifovska is leading.

Associate Dean Gajdardziska-Josifovska informed the GFC members that a committee has been formed, including Associate Dean Liston, to make contingency arrangements to cover various duties until Kathleen returns. In regard to the Governance Committees, the following staff will be assisting the committees:

- Becky Gundrum will support the Research Policy Committee.
- Vicky Everson will support the Graduate Faculty Committee and the Graduate Program Review Subcommittee.
- Peter Hansen will support the Graduate Course and Curriculum Subcommittee.

The Graduate School will post the matrix so each Committee/Subcommittee chair will know who they can contact until Kathleen returns.

2. Chair's Report

Kristene Surerus reported the past six months of GFC activity to the Faculty Senate. The next report will be for a full year period.

A MS Matriculation Agreement working group has developed some good ideas and models for consideration. The next meeting for the working group is scheduled for November 14th. There will be some overlap between this working group and the Certificate working group that was formed earlier.

The Academic Program and Curriculum Committee is working on budget models and are waiting for more information from the Strategic Planning Sessions.

Some good news from the Physical Environment Committee— there will be no increase in parking fares for the next year.

3. Report from the Interim Vice Provost for Research

Mark Harris was not at the meeting; no report was provided.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT** – meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.