The Committee on Graduate Education, Continuing Education, and Special Programs (“Committee”) met once in August (special meeting) and September, November, December, January, February, and April, and twice in October and March. Members of the Committee were Christine Finnan (Chair; Teacher Education and Anthropology), Barbara Beckingham (Secretary; Geology and Environmental Geosciences), Ben Cox (Mathematics), David Hansen (Management & Marketing), and Michael Lee (Communication). Throughout the year, the Committee devoted considerable work to a proposal to split the responsibilities of the committee into two committees: Committee on Graduate Education and Committee on Continuing Education. A proposal was submitted to the By Laws Committee and the By Laws Committee proposed to the Senate that the Faculty Committee on Graduate Education, Continuing Education, and Special Programs be replaced by the Committee on Graduate Education and the Committee on Continuing Education. The proposal was approved by the Senate in March 2017. In making this proposal, the Committee clearly laid out the duties and responsibilities for both committees.

August special meeting: The Committee met unofficially in August to discuss efforts to reconfigure the committee to separate the work devoted to graduate education from work devoted to continuing education. The Committee also discussed other items for consideration in 2016-17 related primarily to admissions policies.

September: All program proposals brought forward were tabled until the next meeting. The request to change the number of times students can enroll in ENGL 700 to three was tabled until the committee was assured that a process to avoid retaking content was clear. A set of proposals emanating from Teacher Education (add EDFS 692 to Special Education MAT and TEDU 436 or EDFS 692 to MAT in Middle Grades, Elementary, and Early Childhood) were tabled until course content was clarified. The committee also worked on clarifying the duties of the proposed split committees (Graduate Education and Continuing Education).

October: Two meetings were held in October. At the first meeting, held on October 17, 2016, several curricular changes were approved. The proposal to allow students to enroll in ENGL 700 multiple times passed. A proposal to add a new course and eliminate a course in Marine Biology passed. A change to the Math program also passed. The Committee continued to clarify the wording in the proposal to split the committee.

The Committee also met on October 31. A proposal to delete a course from the Elementary Education MAT passed. A proposal to add a course to the LALE Spanish emphasis also passed. A proposal to terminate the ESOL II certificate passed. Work on the proposal to split the committee into two continued with a presentation by Dr. Andrew Lewis, Director of Professional Development in Education (PDE) explaining why faculty oversight of PDE is more appropriately housed in the proposed Committee on Graduate Education. The committee continued to work on defining the committee duties.

November: There was no new business this month so the Committee worked primarily on clarifying the Committee’s duties. A brief discussion of “stacking” (using courses in multiple programs/certificates) occurred and was delayed until after the Curriculum Committee concludes a discussion of this issue in relation to undergraduate certificates.

January: The Committee considered a number of proposals under new business. Within Teacher Education, three proposals to eliminate prerequisites were approved (EDEL, EDSP, EDGT). Computer
Science proposed two certificates. A certificate in Information Science was approved and an edited version of the Software Engineering proposal was approved. The Committee also approved an edited request from Marine Biology to reduce required core courses from four to three. The Committee agreed to participate in Curriculog training this spring; no work on the proposal to split the committee occurred because the By Laws Committee was reviewing the proposed split of the committee.

**February:** The Committee approved changes to the Urban Studies certificate section from “Development Practice” to “Geographic Information Systems,” with a necessary course deletion, a course shift to another section, a course addition and increase in credit hours for a course from 3 to 4 credit hours. It also approved the addition of a number of courses to its list of electives. The Committee tabled proposed changes to the MTLA program. Dates for Curriculog training were set, and the Committee learned that the Senate delayed action on the proposal to create two committees because of time constraints. The discussion of stacking certificates into a degree continued.

**March:** The Committee approved a number of curricular change proposals: proposal to add new course electives in the MFA program, proposal to convert a special topics course to a required course in the MBA program, proposal to change to several courses in EDEL, proposal to delete course from LALE, proposal to delete course from EDPA, proposal to remove requirement for Mbio course, proposal to approve MTLA course and program changes, and proposal to make changes in EVSS/PUBA courses. In addition, the committee approved (with amended language) a proposal to change LALE admissions criteria and approved a proposal to change the MBA admissions criteria (with agreement to consider the impact on the cohort program model). A proposal to add TEDU 536 was tabled until after a special meeting to revisit “meets with” designation.

A special meeting was held prior to the Administrative Council meeting to revisit the designation of “meets with” and its implication for MAT programs. At this meeting a proposal to include TEDU 536 in MAT programs and LALE was approved. A discussion about “meets with” will continue between the Graduate School Dean and the MAT program director and TEDU department chair.

**April:** New members to the committee (Lindsay dragger and Sandy Slater) were introduced; Christine Finnan was elected committee chair; Ben Cox will remain on the committee and David Hansen will move to the Committee on Continuing Education. One additional person will be added to the committee. The Committee reviewed a proposal from Computer Science to begin a new Masters in Data Science and Analytics. The Committee agreed to approve the proposal pending changes to the paperwork discussed by the program (e.g., program assessment, admissions criteria, timeline for completion, financial implications, faculty, and nature of internships).

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Finnan

Chair, 2016-17 Committee on Graduate Education, Continuing Education, and Special Programs