The Committee on Graduate Education (CGE) met once a month between September 2017 and April 2018 (total of eight meetings). Members of the Committee were Christine Finnan (Chair; Teacher Education and Anthropology), Ben Cox (Mathematics), Lindsey Drager (English), Kate Keeney (Arts Management), and Sandy Slater (History). This was the first year that the CGE functioned in the capacity of focusing solely on graduate curriculum and policy. It was also the first year of Curriculog implementation.

September 6, 2017: The committee met and elected a committee secretary and identified a regular meeting time. There were no curricular proposals to review so the committee discussed policy issues that might be addressed this year (graduate admissions, course “stacking,” and clarification of “meets with” and “cross list.” The committee also discussed using Curriculog and OAKS to review proposals.

October 6, 2017: The committee reviewed a proposal for a Data Sciences and Analytics program that was approved at the last meeting of the 2016-17 committee on the condition that several outstanding questions would be answered. Following a discussion of program clarifications the proposal was approved. The committee proceeded to discuss the complexity surrounding distinctions between meets-with and cross-listing and recommended hearing how these distinctions are made in the Math and MAT programs. The committee recommended that graduate admissions requirements be a topic of discussion at a Graduate Council meeting. Following a discussion of stacking certificates into a degree, we agreed that this discussion needs to occur at Graduate Council and that representatives from Academic Affairs will develop draft policies. The committee was updated on changes to the offerings of graduate assistantships and fellowships. The meeting ended with a tutorial on using Curriculog.

November 3, 2017: The committee approved a proposal from Languages to add an independent study and a portfolio development course to the program. Representatives from Math and the MAT programs described issues they address and face through offering courses as cross-listed or meets-with.

December 1, 2017: The committee approved the English program’s proposal to eliminate the foreign language requirement. Representatives from the MPA-URST 4+1 program described the program goals and advantages to highly-qualified undergraduate students who can begin graduate level work while still completing their undergraduate degree. This will require some changes in graduate admissions and course numbering. The committee discussed a proposed process for approving graduate admissions changes and tabled a vote until the next meeting.

January 8, 2017: The committee approved a proposal from the MTLA program to add two courses to the Curriculum and Instruction concentration and approved a graduate admission change process. This process will be built into Curriculog. The committee discussed program policies on admissions exams such as the GRE, the status of a graduate dean search, and the program cost study report.

February 26, 2017: The committee approved proposals from Early Childhood and Elementary MAT programs that involve renumbering and cross-listing and addition of a set of electives for students who have already completed required courses. It also approved proposals from Middle Grades and Special Education MAT programs for addition of electives for students who have completed required courses, and it approved a program change to the Early Childhood and Elementary MAT programs to move from two-year to one-year programs. The committee also approved a proposal from Public Administration to renumber many of their courses.
March 5, 2017: The committee approved a proposal from the English program to replace the comprehensive exam with an e-portfolio. It also approved a Special Education MAT proposal to renumber and cross-list courses, and it approved an Historic Preservation proposal to change a course description and to add a course. The committee approved a proposal from Communications to revise the program by reducing course requirements from 33 to 30, revising one course, and eliminating three courses. It also approved a Public Administration proposal for additional course renumbering.

April 2, 2017: The committee approved a proposal by the History program to add a Public History emphasis including additional courses. It also approved a proposal from Environmental Studies to renumber courses and to add a course. The committee also approved proposals from Early Childhood and Elementary MAT programs, Marine Biology, and Teaching, Learning and Advocacy for admissions changes.

April 16, 2017: We held an unofficial meeting to welcome the 2018-19 committee: Lindsey Drager (English), Kate Keeney (Arts Management), Anthony LeClerc (Computer Science), Amanda Ruth-McSwain (Communication), and Sandy Slater (History). We elected Sandy Slater as chair and Kate Keeney agreed to serve as secretary. We provided feedback to Lynn Cherry on our use of Curriculog.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Finnan
Chair, 2017-18 Committee on Graduate Education