To: Graduate Academic Council

From: Timothy Groves, Chair
GAC Committee on Curriculum & Instruction (CC&I)

Date: February 7, 2011

Subject: Report and Recommendations

CC&I Members: T. Groves, S. Kazanas, and F. Bolton (staff) were present.
J. Aini, S. Chittur, S. Friedman, W. Lanford and P. Nambisan were absent.

The CC&I Committee met on February 7, 2011 to discuss two items of business. The following recommendations are now forwarded for GAC’s review and further action.

1. School of Education Department of Educational Theory and Practice – Request to establish a new Certificate of Graduate Studies on Online Learning and Teaching (COLT)

Upon request of the GAC Chair, the Committee on Curriculum and Instruction conducted a preliminary review of the School of Education’s Department of Educational Theory and Practice (ETAP) proposal to establish a new Certificate of Graduate Study. The Certificate in Online Learning and Teaching (COLT) is intended to aid students wishing to gain conceptual knowledge and practical skills in developing curricula and also teach in both fully online and blended learning environments. COLT is to be comprised of five courses that are offered regularly in ETAP for a total of fifteen credits. Therefore, no new resources will be needed in support of the Certificate.

Overall the Certificate received a favorable review. It was considered to be applicable, valid and current. Only a few minor questions were raised. Perhaps they can be asked of the program’s administrator(s) when the Certificate is presented before the GAC for its action.

- How does this Certificate’s course sequence compare to those at other places or what was the logic used for choosing this particular sequence?
- “All courses counting toward the certificate must be completed with a grade of B or better and with an over-all average of B.” Will a course taken and awarded a C disqualify a student from the Certificate or may it be repeated?
- Is the topic of how to keep contact alive between student and instructor addressed somewhere within the required courses?
- Can this Certificate be accomplished by taking its course requirements entirely on-line?

2. Rockefeller College and School of Social Welfare – Request to revise the Certificate in Nonprofit Management and Leadership

Adjusted program requirements and course additions were proposed for the fifteen credit Certificate in Nonprofit Management and Leadership jointly offered by Rockefeller College and the School of Social Welfare. While reviewing the proposal the Curriculum Committee raised several questions and made some comments and suggestions that they felt would lead to greater clarification and understanding of the Certificate. These have been forwarded to the administrator of the program. Further discussion of the Certificate changes will be held upon receipt of that response.