

## VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

## A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Establishment of the Graduate Certificate in Russian, East European, and Central Asian StudiesRECOMMENDED ACTION

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the Board of Regents grant authority to the Herbert J. Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies (REECAS) in the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies to offer the Graduate Certificate in Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies (REECAS), effective Autumn Quarter 2012. The certificate program will have provisional status with a review to be scheduled in the 2017-2018 academic year. At such time that continuing status is granted, a ten-year review cycle would begin.

BACKGROUND

In September, 2011, the Graduate School received a full proposal from the graduate faculty in the Herbert J. Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies (REECAS) requesting authority to offer the Graduate Certificate in Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies (REECAS). Implementation is planned for Autumn Quarter 2012.

The REECAS program currently offers a Master of Arts in Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies. Students from other programs across campus take REECAS courses as electives, but there is no formal recognition of these students' engagement with REECAS. The proposed Graduate Certificate will be a 16 credit program available to matriculated graduate and professional students from across the university that allows them to more effectively structure and document their study of REECAS. For example, a REECAS Graduate Certificate would help students in professional degree programs where regional knowledge is often a required or preferred skill for non-profit and government positions. The REECAS Graduate Certificate will use existing courses and resources from within the Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies. One new, one-credit capstone course will be established to formalize the mentoring relationship between an individual faculty member and a student pursuing the REECAS Graduate Certificate.

The Graduate School Council met on February 2, 2012, to discuss the REECAS Graduate Certificate proposal. The Council recommended unanimously that the proposal be forwarded to the Regents for review and approval. The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School concurred with this recommendation.

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The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, and the Provost have reviewed and approved the recommendation.