VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Neuroscience – Establishment of the Graduate Certificate Program in Neural Computation and Engineering

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the Board of Regents grant authority to the graduate faculty of the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Neuroscience at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA, to offer the Graduate Certificate in Neural Computation and Engineering, effective Winter Quarter 2016. The graduate certificate program will have provisional status with a review to be conducted by the Graduate School in the 2021-2022 academic year. At such time that continuing status is granted, a ten-year review cycle would begin.

BACKGROUND

In April 2015, the Graduate School received a proposal from the graduate faculty of the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Neuroscience at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA requesting authority to offer a Graduate Certificate Program in Neural Computation and Engineering. It is a minimum 15 credit certificate program, with an initial enrollment of 10-15 doctoral students. At steady state, the program enrollment is projected to be approximately 50-75 students.

The program is a continued effort to build a student base in the domain of neural engineering and computational neuroscience which the Computational Neuroscience Program and the Center for Sensorimotor Neural Engineering (CSNE) have undertaken in the past five years. It is an area of national priority, identified by President Obama’s BRAIN Initiative and an area of significant strength at the University of Washington. The Washington Research Foundation has recognized this strength by funding the UW Institute for Neuroengineering (UWIN). The certificate program will serve as the gathering center for students across schools and colleges who participate in research in the diverse but related areas that contribute to this campus-wide thrust. Further, it will provide a home and a structure for current and future training grants.

The Graduate Certificate Program in Neural Computation and Engineering is designed to provide graduate student training at the critical interface of experimental, computational, and engineering-focused neuroscience by complementing standard departmental degrees and curricula and solidifying a burgeoning intellectual community. Enrollment is increasing in this area due to high profile media attention on topics such as connectomics, memory restoration
A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Neuroscience – Establishment of the Graduate Certificate Program in Neural Computation and Engineering (continued p. 2)

and brain computer interfaces, areas in which the University of Washington and affiliated partners are national leaders.

On October 15, 2015, the Graduate School Council recommended that the proposal for the Graduate Certificate Program in Neural Computation and Engineering be forwarded to the Board of Regents for approval.

The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School and the Interim Provost have reviewed and approved this recommendation for the graduate certificate program.

Attachment
New Graduate Certificate Proposal – UW Seattle
IDEA STAGE
Conversations with:
• Faculty/Deans/Chancellors;
• PCE (fee based programs);
• Office of Planning & Budgeting & Provost office;
• Other stakeholders.

DRAFT PNOI
• Faculty lead contacts the Office of Academic Affairs and Planning (OAAP) in the Graduate School for proposal guidelines;
• Submit PNOI to OAAP

PNOI COMMENT PERIOD
• 10 day stakeholder comment period (all three campuses);

GRADUATE SCHOOL COUNCIL
• Council considers proposal including final MOA;
• After presentation, unit incorporates feedback if needed;
• Graduate Dean authorizes sending proposal to Board of Regents.

FINAL PROPOSAL
• Incorporates stakeholders feedback;
• Includes final Memorandum of Agreement (for fee based programs).

BOARD OF REGENTS
• Certificate approval;
• Provost confirms Regents’ approval.

CREATE CODE
OAAP directs Registrar to create new program code.

DRAFT PROPOSAL
• To OAAP for Review;
• Response to academic unit on draft proposal.

PROGRAM LAUNCH
• Certificate Program 5 year review cycle begins.

ATTACHMENT

ATTACHMENT A–7.1/211-15
11/12/15