

## VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

## A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Department of Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies – Graduate Certificate Name ChangeRECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Students Affairs Committee that the Board of Regents grant authority to the Department of Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies to change the name of the Graduate Certificate in Women Studies to the Graduate Certificate in Feminist Studies, effective Autumn Quarter, 2011. The graduate certificate was granted provisional status in 2009, with a review scheduled in the 2014-2015 academic year.

BACKGROUND:

In April 2009, the Graduate School received a proposal from the then Department of Women Studies requesting authority to offer the Graduate Certificate in Women Studies. Implementation of the Graduate Certificate Program was planned for Autumn Quarter 2009.

The Graduate School Council considered the proposal on May 21, 2009. The Council recommended unanimously that the proposal be approved and that it be forwarded to the Board of Regents for final approval. The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School concurred with the Council's recommendation. In June 2009, the Board of Regents granted authority to the graduate faculty of the then Department of Women Studies to offer the Graduate Certificate in Women Studies.

A change in name for the Graduate Certificate is consistent with the recent change of the department's name and provides a broader sense of the curriculum for prospective students. The Interim Provost and Executive Vice President approved the request from the Department of Women Studies faculty to change the name to the Department of Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies, effective March 1, 2011. Additionally, the Graduate Certificate in Feminist Studies provides students outside of the Department to gain a foundational understanding of feminist theory and analysis, and it gives students the opportunity to integrate gender, women's and feminist studies in their respective disciplines.

The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, and the Provost have reviewed and approved the recommendation. Higher Education Coordinating Board approval is not required for the Graduate Certificate name change.