IUPUI GAC Reviewer Form

Documents Reviewed:
Proposal to create an Online MA Degree in Philanthropic Studies

Summary of Proposal:
Proposal provides rationale and plan for offering MA degree via online program in addition to current traditional and executive formats.

1. Are the goals clear and achievable?
   Goal of putting MA completely online is clear. Target date or first year of offering not available in the proposal reviewed which lends uncertainty about adequacy of faculty available at start of program.
   Planning related to online course development and eventual faculty numbers supports goal as achievable. Development of courses online even when available in traditional mode is time consuming and will take faculty resources up front, so immediate availability important in relation to start up.

2. Is the program academically sound?
   Same courses used for currently offered traditional and executive MAs will be used with fair amount of reliance on SPEA course offerings as well.

3. Are faculty resources available to offer this program without undercutting other key missions of the unit?
   Clear outline of anticipated faculty increases was in proposal. Conclusions about adequacy not easy to reach since I could not find targeted preferred start for program.

4. Is there overlap, either real or potential, with any other unit that could harm the program or be exploited to help the program?
   Reliance on SPEA for courses warrants supportive letter, statement from SPEA about ability to take on increased number of projected students.

5. My recommendation, comments/concerns regarding this proposal
   Idea of this program as online MA seems grounded in rationale and projected need and numbers of students anticipated. My concerns are about the work load development needed for even current courses to go online and the desired start date of the program.