Minutes of a meeting of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee
held on Monday, September 8, 2008 at 2:30 p.m. in Maggie Benston Centre 2212

Present:
Wade Parkhouse, Chair
Barry Williamson
Fred Popowich
Heesoon Bai
Martin Hahn
Eli Gibson
Vivian Blaker, Secretary

George Agnes
Natalie Gick
Paul Budra
Steven Robinovitch
Ursula Arndt
Clea Moray

Regrets:
Ed Bukszar
Andrew Calvert
Lannie Kanevsky

Michel Joffres
George Blazenko

1. Approval of agenda

The Chair welcomed members, and after a brief introduction, the agenda was
approved as amended with an item added under other business. Motion carried

2. Approval of minutes

Minor edits were noted by G. Agnes; meeting minutes of June 9th 2008 were
approved as amended. Motion carried

3. Business arising from the minutes

3.1. The Chair reported that Item 6.2 – Master of Science program [GS2008.30] was
presented at Senate Committee on University Priorities (SCUP), and the
question of whether it was a new program was raised. This item was tabled.

4. Chair’s report

4.1. Announcements:
New NSERC scholarships with an October 15 deadline, and details pending
BC Innovation Council awards www.bcic.ca

4.2. External review
The Chair discussed the report on the external review of Graduate Studies at
SFU, and the reviewers’ recommendations for:
Structure of the graduate office; Position of dean of graduate studies; Services and
operations within graduate studies; Funding of graduate students; Institutes and
centres; and Other issues
The Chair also outlined his mandate as dean of graduate studies.
5. Faculty of Business Administration: Curriculum changes [GS2008.32]

5.1. PhD Program – calendar changes
Language changes to the description of the oral thesis proposal defence were presented.
(M. Hahn / F. Popowich) Motion carried

5.2. Minor course changes
BUS 991-0  PhD comprehensive exam
BUS 662-2  Negotiations
BUS 727-0  MBA internship
BUS 713-3  Essays
(P. Budra / S. Robinovitch) Motion carried

6. Faculty of Science: Minor course changes [GS2008.33]

6.1. Physics
PHYS 821-3  Electromagnetic theory

Earth Sciences
EASC 600-0  Introduction to graduate studies
EASC 900-1  PhD research seminar
EASC 901-1 PhD research seminar
Motion carried

7. Faculty of Applied Sciences: Minor course changes [GS2008.34]

7.1. Communication
CMNS 845-5  CMNS and development
Motion carried

8. Other Business

8.1. Special meeting
SGSC members were encouraged to attend a special meeting on September 15, 2008 - a consultation meeting with software vendors for development of paperless curriculum management.

8.2. Streamline process
The Chair proposed changes which are consistent with SGSC policy, to streamline approval process for curriculum changes: Dean of Graduate Studies under delegated power, consider and approve minor editorial changes, and forward the approved changes to SGSC and Senate for information.
(M. Hahn / F. Popowich) Motion carried

8.3. Order of business
The Chair proposed changes to the order of business into categories: For discussion, items requiring approval en masse without discussion, and items for information only.

9. Adjournment
Meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.