Meeting minutes of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC) held on March 7, 2016 in the Thesis Defence Room, SFU Library

Present:
Ex-Officio: Wade Parkhouse, Chair  
Peter Liljedahl (Associate Dean)  
Mary Ann Pope (Director, Records)  
Nicole White (Library)  
Abhishek Nanjundappa (GSS)  
Krista Gerlich-Fitzgerald (Curriculum)  
Gloria Leung (Secretary)

Faculty Chairs:  
Faisal Beg (FAS)  
Lisa Shapiro (FASS)  
Michael Johnson (Designate for Beedie attending via Skype)  
Zoë Druick (FCAT)  
Phil Winne (EDUC)  
Sean Markey (FENV)  
Stephen Smith (FHS)

Graduate Students: Essya Nabbali

Guests:  
Susan Rhodes (University Curriculum)  
Martin Andresen (CRIM)  
Garth Davis (CRIM)  
Mehrdad Moallam (MSE)

Regrets:  
Mary-Ellen Kelm (Associate Dean)  
Peter Ruben (SCI)  
Matthew Alteen (Grad Student)

1. Approval of agenda

   Revisions: “Department of Criminology” to “School of Criminology”, and “CRIM 897 Preliminary Exam” to “CRIM 897 Comprehensive Exam”  
   Approved with revisions

2. Review of the SGSC minutes of February 1, 2016  
   Approved

3. Business arising from the minutes

4. Chair’s Report

   The Graduate Certificate in Imaginative Education will be reviewed at Senate meeting that evening (March 7th). The next SGSC meeting will be held as part of a retreat held on April 18th 8:30am – 4pm at the Burnaby Mountain Golf Course.

5. For Approval

   5.1 Faculty of Applied Science  
   School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering  
   Memorandum of Understanding: Fraser International College and Mechatronic Systems Engineering Pre-Master’s Program in Mechatronic Product Realization
SGSC had concerns about setting a precedent for lowering admission standards as this can potentially lead to admitting an entire cohort with a lower admission requirement.

SGSC recommended that a number cap is placed into the agreement on the number of students per intake to ensure the department can handle the number of students if they all successfully complete the FIC program.

It was recommended that some oversight or monitoring is added to the FIC-Pre Master’s Program.

It was agreed that MSE will change the Memorandum of Understanding to parallel Beedie’s FIC Pre-MBA program and remove the reduction in the academic admission standard.

Based on the discussion, W. Parkhouse proposed the following motion:

That SGSC approve the conditional admission of students that do not meet the normal English Language Requirements but have minimally an IELTS 6.5 or equivalent, to the MEng in Product Realization provided they successfully complete the MSE-FIC Pre-Master’s program on a two year trial basis.

Motion moved by F. Beg, seconded by P. Winne

Approved with revisions

5.2 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
5.2.1 School of Criminology
a) Program change: Master of Arts in Criminology

There was a discussion regarding having the page length of the thesis listed in the calendar entry. While it is atypical, M. Andresen provided further justification specific to the department on why it should be in the calendar and the website.

Motion moved by L. Shapiro, seconded by S. Markey

Approved

b) Program change: Doctor of Philosophy in Criminology

Motion moved by L. Shapiro, seconded by P. Winne

Approved

c) Course changes: CRIM 800, CRIM 801, CRIM 810, CRIM 811, CRIM 830, CRIM 831, CRIM 860, CRIM 861, CRIM 862, CRIM 863, CRIM 864, CRIM 865

d) Course deletion: CRIM 885

e) New courses:
   • CRIM 813 Policing
   • CRIM 814 Restorative Justice
   • CRIM 815 Cybercrime
SGSC discussed that some course changes are dramatic enough that creating a new course is necessary. CRIM 810, CRIM 811, CRIM 830 and CRIM 831 appear that their changes are substantial enough to warrant the creation of new courses. M. Andresen explained that the changes merely reflect what has been taught in those courses for multiple offerings. SGSC suggested a further rationale is provided to explain the changes.

SGSC was informed that CRIM 740, CRIM 742 and CRIM 815 have had their overlap issues resolved.

Motion moved by L. Shapiro, seconded by E. Nabbali  
Approved

f) Program proposal: Terrorism, Risk, and Security Studies Professional Master’s Program (Cohort Special Arrangement)

SGSC requested a clarification to the definitions of terrorism and risk in the program description to demonstrate that is a broader definition which will be able to keep up with the contemporary global issues.

SGSC also requested clarity on the role of the advisory committee for this program; in particular what is the member’s involvement in designing the program.

A question was raised about supervisory capacity for this new program and how many students the program will anticipate in the first year. M. Andresen responded that they expect to have 8 - 10 students and that many individuals have been identified as potential readers for the project. It was unclear in the proposal if the project was to be submitted to the university repository. SGSC requested this be confirmed.

Motion moved by L. Shapiro, seconded by F. Beg.  
Approved with 1 abstention

g) New courses (included with TRSS proposal):
- CRIM 710 Current Issues in Terrorism
- CRIM 711 Radicalization and Recruitment to Terrorism
- CRIM 720 Fundamentals of Security Risk Management
- CRIM 721 Psychological Assessment of Risk for Terrorism and group-Based Violence
- CRIM 730 Terrorism and Civil Liberties: Canadian, Comparative and International Perspectives
- CRIM 731 Policy Making and Decision Analysis in Counter-Terrorism and Security Studies
- CRIM 740 Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods and Statistical Modeling
- CRIM 742 Cybersecurity
- CRIM 798 MA Project (Research Report)

Motion moved by L. Shapiro, seconded by S. Markey.

Approved with 1 abstention

5.2.2 Department of French
a) Program change: Master of Arts in French
b) Course change (units): FREN 998

Motion moved by L. Shapiro, seconded by Z. Druick Approved

5.2.3 Department of Political Science
a) Concurrent Enrolment in Bachelor’s and Master’s Program in Political Science

The term “Concurrent Enrolment” may be seen as misleading as students are not concurrently enrolled in their Bachelor’s and Master’s program. SGSC will consider possible rebranding of the program to avoid confusion at a later date. If a change is made all programs will have their calendars’ updated through an editorial change.

(Note: SCUS reviewed the calendar language at their meeting on March 3, 2016)

Motion moved by L. Shapiro, seconded by P. Winne Approved with revisions

5.3 Beedie School of Business [GS2016.09]
a) Admission change: Master of Technology MBA
b) Program change: MBA
d) Course change (equivalency): BUS 553, BUS 706
e) Course change (title): BUS 645, BUS 729, BUS 782

SGSC requested a revised rationale for the removal of the GMAT requirement for the Master of Technology. The use of internal data from Beedie to show students’ performance in their programs who received GMAT waivers would be beneficial to include in the rationale.

Motion moved by M. Johnson, seconded by F. Beg Approved with revisions

5.4 Faculty of Science [GS2016.10]
Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry 
a) New course: MBB 841 Genomics and Bioinformatics Colloquium

Motion by P. Winne, seconded by S. Markey 
Approved

6. For Information

6.1 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences [GS2016.11]
Department of Humanities
a) Course change (units): HUM 803

Approved under delegated authority

6.2 Special Arrangement Program [GS2016.12]
a) Course change (units): SAR 896
b) Course change (units, description): SAR 897

Approved under delegated authority

7. Other Business

7.1 SFU Open Access

N. White distributed information regarding the SFU Open Access policy which is currently in the consultation stage. All scholarly articles are to be included in this and the department librarians and university copyright officer will be available to support faculty.

Concern was raised on how this will impact submitting to subscription based journals. SGSC was informed that many subscription based journals will still allow the author to submit their work to institutional repositories in addition to the journals.

SGSC enquired about enforcing compliance. N. White offered possible options that have been considered including an internal audit sent to senate. She asked SGSC members to send her any comments and concerns related to this policy which will be discussed at a future meeting.

7.2 Online Plagiarism Tutorial for Graduate Students

Peter Liljedahl informed SGSC that the link for the University of Manitoba Plagiarism Tutorial has been emailed to them and encourages SGSC members to review the tutorial. Faculty Chairs may share the link with their Graduate Program Committee for feedback.

8. Next SGSC scheduled meeting April 18, 2016 (Material deadline March 17, 2016)