Meeting minutes of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC) held on March 6, 2018 in the Thesis Defence Room, SFU Library

Present:
Jeff Derksen (Acting Chair)  
Ed Park (Associate Dean)  
Nicole White (Library)  
Chantal Turpin (GSS Representative)  
Shelley Gair (Associate Director)  
Krista Gerlich-Fitzgerald (Curriculum)  
Daria Babeshko (Secretary)  

Faculty Chair:  
Kevin Oldknow (designate for FAS)  
Andrew Gemino (BUS)  
Stuart Poyntz (FCAT)  
Peter Liljedahl (EDUC)  
Dongya Yang (FENV)  
Stephen Smith (HSCI)  
Mark Paetzel (designate for SCI)  

Graduate Students  
Erin Hogg  

Regrets:  
Faisal Beg (FAS)  
Lisa Shapiro (FASS)  
Sarah Lord Ferguson (Graduate Student)  

1. Approval of agenda  
Approved  

2. Review of the SGSC minutes of February 5, 2018  
Approved  

3. Business arising from the minutes  

After the SGSC meeting, Geography MA and MSc submissions were adjusted to include the following sentence in program requirements: “*Course substitutions may be allowed for different graduate Geography courses or graduate courses outside of Geography subject to approval.”  

4. Chair’s Report  

The chair thanked the committee for shifting SGSC meetings to Tuesdays after the Senate meetings. This arrangement will allow the Chair to provide the committee with a report on the outcomes of the Senate meetings the following day. The Chair informed the committee that he attended Senate meeting on March 5th and that there are no outstanding issues for the graduate items submitted.  

The Chair requested that the appropriate deadlines for SGSC submissions be respected and followed. The Chair reminded the Committee that the contact person for the submission should be the faculty member who is proposing the curriculum and typically not a staff member.
5. For Approval

5.1 Faculty of Applied Sciences

5.1.1 Notice of Intent MASc in Sustainable Energy Engineering (SEE)

K. Oldknow informed SGSC that this proposal is a part of the initiative to expand Surrey campus and funding was provided on the basis of launching a graduate and undergraduate program in SEE. The undergraduate program has been approved by Senate and is currently under review with the Ministry of Advanced Education. The Faculty is anticipating to accept sixty students annually between their Masters and Doctoral SEE programs. Approximately twenty faculty and staff will be hired to provide sufficient support for the programs. The Committee has requested that this information is reflected and expanded on in the Full Program Proposal.

Moved by K. Oldknow; seconded by P. Liljedahl  
Approved

5.1.2 Notice of Intent PhD in Sustainable Energy Engineering (SEE)

Moved by K. Oldknow; seconded by A. Gemino  
Approved

5.2 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

School of Criminology

5.2.1 New course: CRIM 890 PhD Thesis Prospectus
5.2.2 Course change (prerequisite): CRIM 865
5.2.3 Course change (units): CRIM 899
5.2.4 Program change (revised calendar entry): Criminology MA, PhD, Terrorism, Risk and Security Studies and Applied Legal Studies

The unit change in CRIM 899 was proposed to make the number of units consistent between the Criminology Master and Doctoral thesis course.

Department of Philosophy

5.2.5 Course change (units): PHIL 864, PHIL 865

Department of Political Science

5.2.6 New course: POL 804 Topics in Advanced Political Research Design and Methodology
5.2.7 Course change (title): POL 802

Moved by J. Derksen; seconded by P. Liljedahl  
Approved

Department of Psychology

5.2.8 New course: PSYC 820B Psychological Assessment II
5.2.9 New course: PSYC 821B Practicum in Psychological Assessment II
5.2.10 Course change (title, course number, description, prerequisite): PSYC 820
5.2.11 Course change (title, unit, course number, description, prerequisite): PYSC 821
5.2.12 Course change (title, description, prerequisites): PSYC 822
5.2.13 Course change (title, units, description, prerequisite, grading): PSYC 823
5.2.14 Program change: Psychology MA, PhD

Department of Urban Studies
5.2.15 Program change: Urban Studies MA

Moved by J. Derksen; seconded by E. Park  Approved

5.3 Beedie School of Business
5.3.1 Course change (equivalency change): BUS 702
5.3.2 Course change (title and description change): BUS 870
5.3.3 Course change (description): BUS 877, BUS 878

Moved by A. Gemino; seconded by C. Turpin  Approved

5.4 Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology
School of Interactive Arts and Technology
5.4.1 Course change (title): IAT 814

Moved by S. Poyntz; seconded by A. Gemino  Approved

5.5 Faculty of Education
5.5.1 Course change (title, description): EDUC 876

Moved by P. Liljedahl; seconded by E. Hogg  Approved

5.6 Faculty of Environment
Department of Geography
5.6.1 New course: GEOG 603 Theory and Methods for Human Geographers
5.6.2 New course: GEOG 671 Doctoral Qualifying Exams
5.6.3 New course: GEOG 677 MSc Thesis Proposal
5.6.4 New course: GEOG 678 MA Thesis Proposal
5.6.5 New course: GEOG 679 PhD Thesis Proposal
5.6.6 Course change (units): GEOG 600, GEOG 601

D. Yang has informed the committee that a new faculty will be teaching GEOG 603. A question was raised regarding the rationale behind unit change for GEOG 600 and GEOG 601. By making those courses one unit, the department hopes that the classes will have better participation.

5.6.7 Course change (deletion): GEOG 604, GEOG 605, GEOG 622
5.6.8 Course change (temporarily withdrawal): GEOG 618
5.6.9 Course change (units): GEOG 699  
5.6.10 Program change: Geography MA, MSc, PhD

Language revision was requested to Geography MA and MSc regarding the number of allowed course substitutions taken outside of the department. It is not recommended all course work is taken outside the department. Consultation with the department is needed to clarify.

Moved by D. Yang; seconded by S. Smith  
Approved subject to revisions

5.7 Faculty of Health Sciences
5.7.1 Course change (temporary withdrawal): HSCI 824  
5.7.2 Course change (title, description, prerequisite): HSCI 827  
5.7.3 Program change: Master of Public Health

Moved by S. Smith; seconded by P. Liljedahl  
Approved

5.8 Faculty of Science  
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry  
5.8.1 Course change (description): MBB 726, MBB 727  
5.8.2 Course change (description, prerequisite): MBB 741  
5.8.3 Course change (title and description): MBB 746  
5.8.4 Course change (deletion): MBB 737, MBB 742

Moved by M. Paetzel; seconded by C. Turpin  
Approved

6. For Discussion  
The Committee members discussed potential topics to include on SGSC retreat agenda. Among suggested topics were strengthening the role of co-supervisor, strategic enrollment, and funding minimum. Committee members were encouraged to submit their suggestions by March 22nd.

C. Turpin informed the committee that GSS is campaigning for the housing for graduate students. If faculty are interested to support the cause, a support letter can be sent to GSS. GSS also want to hear from the students who had housing challenges as they would like to bring more awareness to the issue.

7. Other Business

8. The date for the next SGSC meeting is scheduled at the SGSC retreat on April 13, 2018  
(Material Deadline March 22, 2018)