

**Minutes of a meeting of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee
held on Monday, June 13, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. in Maggie Benston Centre 2212**

Present:

Jonathan Driver, Chair
Valerie Ackroyd
Wade Parkhouse
Carolyne Smart
Peter Mustard
Judy Zaichkowsky
Larry Dill

Trude Heift
Gwen Bird
Mary Ann Gillies
Tom O'Shea
Ken Kasa
Allan MacKinnon
Vivian Blaker, Secretary

Regrets:

Charmaine Dean
Ariel Hornstein

Ted Milner

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Motion carried

2. Approval of minutes

A member questioned about standardized definition of course credit hours under item # 4, and proposed that the minutes be amended to read:

“It was recommended that the chair of SGSC do research on the subject matter”, instead of the chairs of faculties.

It was clarified that the chair would consult the chairs of faculties and report to SGSC prior to taking it to SCUP.

The meeting minutes of April 11, 2005, were approved as amended.

(A. MacKinnon/C. Smart)

Motion carried

3. Business arising from the minutes

The Chair reported that all of the curriculum changes approved on May 9, were on the Senate meeting agenda for June 13, 2005, for information.

4. Cohort Special Arrangements:

International Adult Education and Development (GS 2005.28)

Colin Yerbury was invited to present a draft of the cohort program proposal. This is a proposal in conjunction with the CIDA funded Tier 1 project, designed for a cohort of 26 master's participants. The following issues were discussed:

- Need of the cohort program - to upgrade adult education due to 80% loss of their faculty - a result of political conflicts in S.E. Asia - Cambodia and Laos.
- Dialogue between Continuing Studies and the Faculty of Education, specifically whether the cohort should be an M.A. or M.Ed. program; applied or professional degree; feasibility of graduates to pursue Ph.D.
- Role of Continuing Studies – to initiate and facilitate the Tier 1 project, in Laos, Cambodia, Thailand
- Appropriate for cohort special arrangements – not a pilot program
- Lack of clarity

- Fees
- Comps
- Supervision and research
- Language arrangements prior to and during program; preparatory stage not mentioned in proposal
- Coursework – objective of project
- Location of instruction and qualification of instructors
- Academic content and responsibility
- Cost to provide the program
- Timing – six years to develop; first semester of implementation – 2006

The chair clarified that cohort special arrangements programs were for master's only and not Ph.D. In summary, more dialogue should follow between Continuing Studies and Education. Development of the proposal should address:

1. Integrity and academic standards of the program - coursework and program must meet basic standards of SFU;
2. Sufficient budget to provide resources;
3. Concern of teaching by SFU or non-SFU faculty; adequate supervision for research.

5. TOEFL recommendation (GS 2005.29)

The ad hoc committee, jointly chaired by Valerie Ackroyd and Trude Heift, determined the English language requirement for graduate admissions at SFU, after examining the new TOEFL test, which included components of reading, writing, speaking and listening.

The committee recommended a minimum overall score of 88 with a minimum score of 20 for each subsection (reading, writing, speaking, listening) as the university standard. The academic units could set higher standard if desired.

A member proposed an amendment that SGSC would review the standard in the Fall of 2010 to determine if the minimum requirement was adequate in meeting the needs of the faculties. It was moved and seconded that the recommendations be accepted for graduate admission, as amended.

(V. Ackroyd/M.A. Gillies)

Motion carried

6. New business

Meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m. The next meeting will be held on July 11, 2005.