

**Minutes of a meeting of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee
held on Monday, July 10, 2006 at 2:30 p.m. in Maggie Benston Centre 2212**

Present:

Jonathan Driver, Chair
Valerie Ackroyd
Wade Parkhouse
Carolyne Smart
Peter Mustard
Michel Joffres
Bhuvinder Vaid

Megan Crouch for Gwen Bird
Tom Perry for Mary Ann Gillies
Tom O'Shea
Martin Hahn
Larry Dill
Vivian Blaker, Secretary

Regrets:

Trude Heift
Chris Veld
Mary Catherine Lennon

Richard Lockhart
Allan MacKinnon

Guest:

Tom Grieve, English

1. Approval of agenda

After introduction of members, an item "Chair's report" was added, and the agenda was approved as amended.

(M. Hahn / T. Perry)

Motion carried

2. Approval of minutes

The minutes of May 8th 2006 were approved.

(M. Joffres / P. Mustard)

Motion carried

3. Business arising from the minutes

3.1. SGSC student member – conditions

A modification to the election process to fill vacancies was forwarded to Senate, SCAR made a new motion, which would be presented to Senate meeting on July 10. This would make it in line with other committees. The Chair would report in an upcoming meeting.

3.2. Time limit for formation of supervisory committees (GS2006.23)

A proposed change to GGR 1.6.4 was presented to establish a time limit for formation of supervisory committees – end of third semester for a master's student, and the sixth semester for a PhD student. Some members saw the change as problematic due to the nature of their programs, i.e., project vs. research oriented. After discussion, it was decided that this motion be tabled till the Supervision Task Force complete its report in the Fall of 2006, and that further changes might be incorporated.

(W. Parkhouse / T. Perry)

Motion tabled

3.3. **CGPA calculation – WDA courses (GS2006.24)**

P. Mustard, Science Graduate Studies Committee, presented a motion for discussion – graduate courses a student completed under the Western Deans' agreement be converted to SFU grade point system and be included in the calculation of a student's cumulative grade point average.

The Chair reported that this was not a normal practice at universities. A WDA survey resulted in one university [Lethbridge] acknowledging informal use of grades from other universities in CGPA calculation. Issues of different grading systems and student appeals were discussed. For the purpose of scholarships, departmental criteria would allow informal use and calculation of grades from other universities. The Chair agreed to take this issue to the next meeting of Western Canadian Deans of Graduate Schools.

4. **Chair's report**

The Chair was writing a document on graduate enrollment management to be submitted to SCEMP for the meeting in September.

5. **Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences**

M.A. for Teachers of English – new program proposal - NOI (GS2006.25)

Guest: Tom Grieve, English

After a question period, it was suggested that the proposal be revised as a new stream of the regular MA program, since there were no substantive change or variation, no new graduate courses. There would be an on-line pedagogical component. An information session indicated strong interest and market demand for such a program in Surrey. Faculty of Education showed general support and an interest in collaborative work. The plan was to start the first cohort in May of 2007, and two new faculty hires based in Surrey. The Chair agreed to work with the department on a revised program proposal.

6. **Faculty of Education: new course proposal**

EDUC 879-5 – Vygotsky theories in education (GS2006.26)

After questions and discussion on the limited term of the instructor and library report, it was moved to approve the new course to be offered in Summer 2007, and forward to Senate for information.

(T. O'Shea / B. Vaid)

Motion carried

7. **Faculty of Science: new course proposal**

PHYS 864-3 – Structural analysis of materials (GS2006.27)

This course was proposed as a result of the last departmental external review.

It was moved to approve the new course, and forward to Senate for information.

(P. Mustard / C. Smart)

Motion carried

8. Faculty of Business Administration: curriculum changes

8.1. Deletion of SMBA program (GS2006.28)

The Faculty has not recruited for the Specialist MBA program, and the last class was admitted in September 2004.

It was moved to eliminate this program, including courses, approve the calendar changes for 2007, and forward to Senate for information.

(C. Smart / M. Hahn)

Motion carried

8.2. PhD program – curriculum changes (GS2006.29)

New course proposals:

BUS 974-4 Financial econometrics

BUS 875-2 Selected topics IV

BUS 976-2 Selected topics V

BUS 977-2 Selected topics VI

BUS 978-2 Selected topics VII

It was moved to approve the above new courses, and forward to Senate for information.

(C. Smart / T. Perry)

Motion carried

9. Faculty of Health Sciences: curriculum changes

9.1. Master in Global Health (GS2006.30)

New course proposals:

GLOH 615-3 Health policy-making in global context

GLOH 635-3 Program planning and evaluation in global health

It was moved to approve the above new courses to be offered in September 2007, and forward to Senate for information.

(M. Joffres / C. Smart)

Motion carried

Minor course changes:

GLOH 640-3 Health, human security and vulnerable populations (January 2007)

GLOH 690-3 Health and development (September 2007)

It was moved to approve the above minor course changes, and forward to Senate for information.

(M. Joffres / B. Vaid)

Motion carried

9.2. MSc in Population & Public Health (GS2006.31)

New course proposals:

HSCI 893-3 Directed studies in health sciences (September 2006)

HSCI 894-4 Directed studies in health sciences (September 2006)

PPH 898-0 Practicum report completion (January 2007)

Minor course changes:

HSCI 691-0 Seminars in population and public health (September 2006)

HSCI 891-3 Special topics in health sciences (September 2006)

PPH 880-6 Practicum (May 2007)

After a brief discussion on the timing of the courses, fee recalculation, and definition

of academic progress unit, it was moved to approve the above new courses and minor course changes, and forward to Senate for information.

(M. Joffres / B. Vaid)

Motion carried

10. New business

Depending on agenda items, there might not be a meeting in August.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.