

**Minutes of a meeting of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee
held on Monday, February 12, 2007 at 2:30 p.m. in Maggie Benston Centre 2212**

Present:

Trude Heift, Chair
Gwen Bird
Mary Ann Gillies
Tom O'Shea
George Agnes
Martin Hahn
Bhuvinder Vaid
Vivian Blaker, Secretary

Valerie Ackroyd
Wade Parkhouse
Ed Bukszar
Michel Joffres
Fred Popowich
Richard Lockhart
Anthony Kupferschmidt

Regrets:

Jonathan Driver
Allan MacKinnon

Colleen Collins-Dodd
Joel Blok

1. Approval of agenda

Item 5 – professional graduate programs [GS2007.08] was withdrawn and deferred to the March 12th meeting. A new program proposal – Master's program in Digital Media [2007.12] was added under new business. The agenda was approved as amended.
(M. A. Gillies / F. Popowich) **Motion carried**

2. Approval of minutes

The minutes of January 8th 2007 were approved.
(R. Lockhart / W. Parkhouse) **Motion carried**

3. Business arising from the minutes

Item 5.3 – curriculum changes on Counselling Psychology program [GS2007.01] would be deferred to the March 12th meeting.

4. Chair's report (GS2007.07)

SGSC annual report to Senate was distributed for information only. It was noted that a footnote on page 5 "\$" should be "%".

5. Faculty of Science: Curriculum changes (GS2007.09)

5.1. Physics – new course proposals:

PHYS 887-1 Special topics VII
PHYS 888-1 Special topics VIII
PHYS 889-1 Special topics IX

Rationale: The 1 contact hour/week courses give options for short courses.

5.2. Molecular Biology & Biochemistry – program changes

Minor changes to program requirements of the M.Sc. and Ph.D. coursework were proposed, giving students options of taking three 1-credit courses, equivalent to a 3-credit course.

Rationale: To provide better enriching experience.

It was moved to approve the curriculum calendar changes, and forward to Senate for information.

(G. Agnes / B. Vaid)

Motion carried

6. Faculty of Applied Sciences: Curriculum changes

6.1. Kinesiology – program changes (GS2007.10)

Language changes were proposed to clarify the time required to complete the M.Sc. coursework, the degree requirements and comprehensive examinations of the Ph.D. program, to reflect current practice which was consistent with other departments.

It was moved to approve the calendar changes and forward to Senate for information.

(W. Parkhouse / M. A. Gillies)

Motion carried

6.2. Computing Science – courses (GS2007.11)

Minor course changes:

from CMPT 770-3 to **761-3** *Image synthesis* (number, title, description)

from CMPT 775-3 to **767-3** *Visualization* (number, title, description)

Rationale: Updated descriptions to reflect new approaches and concepts

New course proposals:

CMPT 764-3 Geometric modeling in computer graphics

CMPT 771-3 Internet architecture and protocols

CMPT 777-3 Introduction to formal verification

Rationale: These courses have been taught as special topics.

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

(F. Popowich / W. Parkhouse)

Motion carried

7. New business

7.1. Master's program in Digital Media: New program proposal (GS2007.12)

A new program proposal for a master's program in digital media at the Great Northern Way Campus [NGP2007.01] was presented electronically to SGSC, on February 6th, including external review [NGP2007.03], departmental response [NGP2007.04], a summary [NGP2007.02], and background information on the academic governance and administration of degree programs at GNWC [Feb.12 ACNGP Agenda Item 4c].

The Assessment Committee for New Graduate Programs met on February 12th and approved the program proposal on merit of academic content, with expressed concerns regarding the way GNWC had been constituted with respect to students, in particular, resources, financial aid and student status.

An expressed concern from student representative regarding the student appeals process at UBC was noted.

SGSC members discussed students' status – access to financial aid, services, student representations, and appeal process at GNWC. It was noted that the program was collaborated and well-funded.

It was moved to approve the program proposal, with the same expressed concerns as ACNGP, and forward to Senate Committee on University Priorities for approval.
(W. Parkhouse / M. A. Gillies) **Motion carried**

7.2. Assessment process for new graduate programs

Members discussed the present process for assessment of new graduate programs, and noted that external reviews of new proposals served a useful function. It was suggested that a working group be established to reassess and recommend processes for internal and external graduate programs.

8. Next meeting

Next meeting scheduled on Monday, March 12th, 2007.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.