

**Minutes of a meeting of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee
held on Monday, June 9, 2008 at 2:30 p.m. in Maggie Benston Centre 2212**

Present:

George Agnes, Chair
Gwen Bird
Mary Ann Gillies
Michel Joffres
Steven Robinovitch
Michael Letourneau
Vivian Blaker, Secretary

Barry Williamson
Fred Popowich
Ed Bukszar
Andrew Calvert
Martin Hahn
Ursula Arndt

Regrets:

Heesoon Bai
Clea Moray

Lannie Kanevsky

Guests:

Paul Budra, Arts & Social Sciences
Craig Janes, Health Sciences

Eli Gibson (Alternate), graduate student

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

(M. Letourneau / M. A. Gillies)

Motion carried

2. Approval of minutes

Minor typo was noted to the date of Item 2 – approval of minutes; meeting minutes of May 12th 2008 were approved as amended.

(M. Hahn / M. Letourneau)

Motion carried

3. Business arising from the minutes

3.1. The Chair reported that Interdisciplinary Learning in Infectiously-Acquired Diseases (ILIAD) would be revised and resubmitted as a certificate program. The Library representative raised the question of library report, and was asked to follow up.

4. Chair's report

The Chair noted that a report of external review of graduate studies was not yet available.

5. Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences: New program proposal [GS2008.29]

Master of Arts in International Studies

The committee reviewed the program proposal recommended by the Assessment Committee for New Graduate Programs for approval. The Chair agreed to disclose the identity of the external reviewers to ACNGP; the committee did not feel that the anonymity presented an issue. After discussion, the committee recommended approval of the program, subject to the following minor changes:

- ECON 803-4 Economics of international organizations and development – an ‘amended title’ requested by Political Science
- Calendar entry – re-wording the description of program requirements and MA project

It was moved and seconded to recommend the new program proposal to SCUP for approval, pending the above changes.

(M. A. Gillies / M. Letourneau)

Motion carried

6. Faculty of Health Science

6.1. Overview of academic program plan

Dr. Craig Janes, was invited to provide an overview of academic program plan in Health Sciences. At 3:10 p.m., Dr. Janes presented the following outline:

- Timeline of program roll-out
- Internal/external pressures for program development
- Short-term plans for program changes and new graduate program – research track M.Sc. in Health Sciences, PhD program, new concentrations of the MPH program, revision of the MPH program for accreditation, joint degree/certificate program in infectious disease, Master’s programs for Surrey campus
- Expectation in the next six months

A committee member questioned the name of the degree; it was clarified that the M.Sc. was more theoretical and narrower, and MPH was more applied and broader. The committee observed that due to fiscal restraint, resources and overlap issues with collaboration, thus other faculties/departments should be informed and negotiation should be made, especially with premium fee programs.

The Chair thanked Dr. Janes for his presentation, and he departed at 3:30 p.m.

6.2. Master of Science program [GS2008.30]

M.Sc. program – Research option

A new stream or option was presented, with calendar changes, a minor course change and two new course proposals:

HSCI 801-4 Biostatistics for population health practice I

HSCI 804-3 Biostatistics for population and public health practice II

HSCI 805-3 Intermediate epidemiology

It was clarified that the originally approved M.Sc. program in Population & Public Health had a name change to Master of Public Health due to industry demand (with no changes to content or structure of the program). The faculty was advised by SGSC to present a research-based program as a new option of the master’s program.

A committee member questioned students’ ability to cope with the changes; funding and course requirement issues were discussed. Another committee member noted that SGSC spent considerable time debating the similarity of the

two degrees, and now the difference of the two degrees. It was noted that the faculty could admit students with insufficient background under conditional or qualifying admission. Another member expressed that a new option, with emphasis on research, would not require a notice of intent, and that courses other than the two new ones were already part of the existing M.Sc. program. Overlap issue of the new courses was resolved with the Department of Statistics & Actuarial Science. Library report for new courses was pending. Question of fee structure was raised.

The committee noted the following:

- Course descriptions - too long
- Calendar entry – minor typos; avoid reference to page numbers

It was moved and seconded to approve the new stream M.Sc. program, minor course change, two new courses, and calendar changes, subject to minor revision, as above noted, and forward to Senate for information.

(F. Popowich / M. Joffres) (1 opposed) **Motion carried**

7. Faculty of Science: Curriculum changes

Physics [GS2008.31]

PHYS 880-3 Applications to group theory to physics

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

(A. Calvert / M. Letourneau)

Motion carried

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.