

Meeting minutes of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)
held on Monday December 1, 2014 in the Thesis Defence Room, SFU Library

Present:

Ex-Officio:

Peter Liljedahl, Chair
George Agnes (Acting Associate Dean)
Mary Ann Pope (Director, Records)
Emma Liu (GSS)
Shelley Gair (Programs, Policy, Curriculum)
Krista Gerlich-Fitzgerald (Secretary)

Faculty Chairs:

Uwe Glässer (FAS)
Jane Pulkingham (FASS)
Marina Morrow (FHS)
Phil Winne (EDUC)
Zoë Druick (FCAT)
Dan Burns (FENV for Sean Markey)

Graduate Students:

Ehsan Jozaghi (Regular)

Regrets:

Mary-Ellen Kelm (Associate Dean)
Ian McCarthy (BUS)
Peter Ruben (FSCI)
Nicole White (Library)
Jasneet Singh Sabharwal (Graduate Student)

1. Approval of revised agenda **Approved**
2. Approval of the SGSC meeting minutes on November 3, 2014 **Approved**
3. Business arising from the minutes

4. Chair's Report

Mary-Ellen Kelm is currently in Brazil. Peter Liljedahl has returned from China. Prior to the trips, faculties were asked for a list of research areas to help match potential students with faculty at SFU with similar interests. Peter reported that this was very successful as it made a much stronger connection with students.

5. For Discussion

5.1 Revisions to GGR 1.7.3 and 1.4.4

It was suggested that the word "normally" be added before the phrase "a minimum of three full-time terms" in the second paragraph of GGR 1.4.4, to allow for rare cases where a student completes a master's degree in fewer than three terms. Concern was raised over the GGR not preventing students from going on leave and returning merely for a final semester. Feedback will be incorporated into the next revision which will be brought forward in January.

5.2 Revisions to GGR 1.7.6

Concern was raised over the term “credential”. It was suggested that the term credential be defined clearly at the beginning so that everyone knows this refers to a certificate, diploma or degree.

6. For approval

6.1 Revision to GGR 1.9.5

Motion moved by U. Glässer, seconded by J. Pulkingham.

Approved

6.2 Revision to GGR 1.3.8a

It was agreed that a revision be made to clarify the type of undergraduate program by adding the word “bachelor’s” before the word “program” in section (a) in GGR 1.3.8a.

Motion moved by M. Morrow, seconded by J. Pulkingham.

Approved with revision

6.3 Revision to GGR 1.7 and 1.3.13

It was agreed that the reference to course requirements be changed to program requirements throughout because the regulation refers to courses, units and capstones. It was agreed that section (c) in GGR 1.7.2 should have a comma added after the word “project” because both the extended essays and project are examined by two readers.

Motion moved by P. Winne, U. Glässer seconds.

Approved with revisions

6.4 Faculty of Applied Science

Mechatronic Systems Engineering

Program change: PhD

Motion moved by U. Glässer, seconded by P. Winne.

Approved

6.5 Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology

School of Communication

a) New course: CMNS 848 Communication and Global Social Justice

b) Program change: Global Communication Double MA Degree

Motion moved by Z. Druick, seconded by U. Glässer.

Approved

6.6 Faculty of Science

6.6.1 Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology

- a) New specialization: Interdisciplinary Oncology Graduate Specialization
- b) New course: ONC 502 Concepts in Oncology
- c) New course: ONC 510 Seminars in Oncology
- d) New course: ONC 548 Rotation in Oncology

6.6.2 Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

- a) New specialization: Interdisciplinary Oncology Graduate Specialization

It was requested that the calendar entry be resubmitted with a division on where the calendar entry begins. Concern was raised over the instruction of the three new courses. SGSC would like further clarification on who the instructors are for each course and their SFU affiliation. As well, it needs to be clear who at SFU is providing oversight if the instructors are not from SFU. A long-term commitment from the BC Cancer Agency was signaled, but not explicit. SGSC has requested that this be stated more clearly in the proposal. As no representative was available from the Faculty of Science, it was recommended 6.6.1 and 6.6.2 be tabled until the next meeting.

Motion moved by P. Winne, M. Morrow seconds.

Tabled until next meeting

7. Items for information (previously approved under delegated authority)

7.1 Faculty of Science

Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

Course change (units): MBB 898

8. Other Business

On behalf of SGSC, the Chair thanked Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Dr. Jane Pulkingham for her superb work with SGSC and GAR. The Arts and Social Sciences representative starting in 2015 will be Dr. Lisa Shapiro.

9. Next SGSC scheduled meeting January 5, 2015 (*material deadline December 11, 2014*)