

Meeting minutes of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC) held on February 6, 2017 in the Thesis Defence Room, SFU Library

Present:

Ex-Officio

Wade Parkhouse (Chair)
Peter Liljedahl (Associate Dean)
Jeff Derksen (Associate Dean)
Mary Ann Pope (Director, Records)
Nicole White (Library)
Chantal Turpin (GSS Representative)
Krista Gerlich-Fitzgerald (Curriculum)
Shelley Gair (Acting Associate Director, Records)
Sheilagh MacDonald (Acting Secretary)

Faculty Chairs:

Faisal Beg (FAS)
Lisa Shapiro (FASS)
Zoë Druick (FCAT)
Allan MacKinnon (designate for EDUC)
Dongya Yang (FENV)
Stephen Smith (HSCI)

Graduate Students:

Mikayla Roberts (Alternate)
Charanjot Singh

Regrets

Ian McCarthy (BUS)
Peter Ruben (SCI)

1. Approval of agenda
2. Review of the SGSC minutes of January 9, 2017

J. Derksen requested the Chair's report on the CAGS conference include a reference to student concerns about housing and homelessness.

3. Business arising from the minutes

P. Liljedahl will form a working group that will investigate the issue of cross-listed courses and report back to SGSC at a later date. SCUS has been informed that members of SGSC are looking into problems in cross-listed courses and possible best practices.

4. Chair's Report

The Chair reported that the USA 90 day travel ban for citizens of seven countries has caused a great deal of concern amongst international graduate students, faculty and research associates. A website has been created to provide up-to-date information and advice: www.sfu.ca/students/us-travel-ban/ (to view it log into with your SFU computing ID). The Office of Graduate Studies and GSS are meeting to discuss how graduate students are specifically being impacted.

Students who have concerns about leaving the US to defend should contact the Office of Graduate Studies.

5. For Discussion
None.

6. For Approval

6.1 Major Program Changes

Faculty of Education

- a) Program change: Master of Arts in Educational Psychology
- Program change: Master of Education in Educational Psychology
- Course changes: EDUC 829, 841, 860
- New course: EDUC 760 Academic and Social Behaviour Assessment in Education
- New course: EDUC 885 MEd Extended Essays
- New course: EDUC 886 MA Thesis

A. MacKinnon indicated that the changes are part of a long term plan within the Faculty of Education. It was clarified that the extended essays are examined by two readers and not examined through a public oral defence.

It was questioned if the intention was to have EDUC 885 graded S/U or should it be IP/CO as per most other capstones. Education will review the intention and change the grading basis if necessary prior to the submission to Senate.

Concern was raised about the use of 700, 800 and 900 level course numbers for Master's programs which traditionally in Education have all been 800 level. A. MacKinnon will bring the concern back to the Education curriculum committee.

Moved by A. MacKinnon; seconded by C. Turpin

Approved

- b) Program change: Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction
- Course changes: EDUC 901, 902
- New course: EDUC 882 MA Extended Essays
- New course: EDUC 901B Seminar in the History of Educational Theory
- New course: EDUC 902B Interdisciplinary Seminar in Contemporary Educational Theory

A. MacKinnon noted that the courses have been revised from 6 to 3 credit courses to streamline and make the courses consistent with others in the university. These changes are intended to increase options for students to bridge movement from an MA to PhD.

Moved by A. MacKinnon; seconded by F. Beg

Approved

- c) Program change: Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum Theory and Implementation
- Course changes: EDUC 911, 912, 921, 922.
- New course: EDUC 984 Qualifying Examination

Education is replacing a comprehensive exam with a qualifying exam. This will ensure a consistent and documented approach. A SGSC committee member expressed concern that there may be a loss of breadth that might affect a student's future for an academic career.

Moved by A. MacKinnon; seconded by C. Turpin **Approved**

6.2 **Minor Calendar Changes**

Faculty of Education

Calendar change: Graduate Degrees in the Faculty of Education

Moved by A. MacKinnon; seconded by P. Liljedahl **Approved**

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

a) Calendar change: Master of Arts in Urban Studies

b) Calendar change: Graduate Diploma in Urban Studies

Moved by L. Shapiro; seconded by J. Derksen **Approved**

7. For Information

None.

8. Other Business

None.

9. Next SGSC meeting scheduled for 2:30 pm March 6, 2017 (Material deadline February 16, 2017)