Meeting minutes of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC) held on June 4, 2019 in the Thesis Defence Room, SFU Library

Present:
George Agnes (Acting Chair)
Nicole White (Library)
Lucian Rinke-Hardekopf (GSS representative)
Krista Gerlich-Fitzgerald (Associate Director)
Daria Babeshko (Curriculum)
Kathleen Vieira-Ribeiro (Secretary)

Faculty Chair:
Parvaneh Saeedi (FAS)
Sean Zwagerman (FASS)
Andrew Gemino (BUS)
Dongya Yang (FENV)
Michael Silverman (SCI)

Regrets:
Jeff Derksen (Chair)
Zoë Druick (Associate Dean)
Stuart Poyntz (FCAT)
Wanda Cassidy (EDUC)
Timothy Beischlag (FHS)

1. Approval of agenda   **Approved**

2. Review of the SGSC minutes of April 12, 2019   **Approved**

3. Business arising from the minutes

4. Chair's Report
   The Chair, on behalf of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, expressed appreciation to the following graduate students whose terms of office expired on May 31, 2019: S. Lord Ferguson, S. Ho, and H. Eksal. A new election took place, however there were no nominees for the graduate student seats on SGSC. A second round of elections will likely take place in June. The committee welcomed L. Rinke-Hardekopf as the new GSS representative.

   The Chair reminded associate deans that as a requirement for SGSC and Senate, all memos and forms submitted must be signed.

5. For Approval
   5.1 Faculty of Applied Sciences
   5.1.1   New course: CMPT 631 Industrial Internship
            New course: ENSC 704 Industrial Internship
            New course: MSE 795 Industrial Internship

   It was explained that co-op is only available for professional programs but not for research based programs.

L. Rinke-Hardekopf inquired if students will have access to the co-op database. P. Saeedi explained that the co-op office uses online job search websites to find employment for students. A new graduate coordinator will assist students in locating suitable internship opportunities going forward.

A committee member recommended updating course descriptions to state that only the senior supervisor can approve internship opportunities and to include procedures for students to receive proper remuneration should they be employed by the senior supervisor's own company. It was also recommended changing the number of units from six to three to be in line with other graduate courses in the School of Computing Science.

Moved by P. Saeedi; seconded by D. Yang   **Approved subject to revisions**
                                                   with L. Rinke-Hardekopf abstaining

School of Computing Science
5.1.2   New course: CMPT 712 Approximation and Randomized Algorithms
         New course: CMPT 720 Robotic Autonomy: Algorithms and Computation
         New course: CMPT 727 Statistical Machine Learning
         New course: CMPT 762 Computer Vision
         New course: CMPT 763 Biomedical Computer Vision
         New course: CMPT 766 Computer Animation and Simulation
         New course: CMPT 770 Parallel & Distributed Computing

A committee member recommended to change all repeats for credit to "0", make the short title 30 characters or less for CMPT 712, and correct a typographical error in the description for CMPT 720.

Moved by P. Saeedi; seconded by D. Yang   **Approved subject to revisions**

5.1.3   Program changes (calendar revisions for Degree Audit): Computing Science MSc
         and PhD

SGSC requested to either quote all the steps of the MSc to the PhD transfer process or to take them out entirely. N. White noted that some of the program requirements of the PhD process to completion are unclear and requested either removing information regarding research seminar if it is not a mandatory requirement or moving it to a separate section. It was requested to revise the section on the supervisory committee since GGR 1.6 was quoted incorrectly in both calendar entries.

Moved by P. Saeedi; seconded by S. Zwagerman   **Approved subject to revisions**

5.1.4   Program changes (calendar revisions for Degree Audit): Computing Science Dual
         Degree MSc and PhD

The committee recognized that currently the program does not meet the minimum University requirements for a dual degree. The contract with the partner institution expires in 2025 and

degree requirements should be revised before the MOU is renewed. N. White requested clarification if one of the extended essays is to be deposited to the library.

A committee member requested specifying in the calendar entry that if withdrawing from the partner institution, students have to transfer to MSc in CMPT or PhD in CMPT respectively and complete those program requirements. Dual degree may not be awarded if completing course work in one institution only.

Moved by P. Saeedi; seconded by M. Silverman   **Approved subject to revisions**
with K. Gerlich-Fitzgerald against

School of Mechatronic Systems Engineering
5.1.5   Program change (calendar revision for Degree Audit): Mechatronic Systems Engineering MASc and PhD

It was requested to replace "practicum" with "internship" and to correct the wording to indicate the outcome of the qualifying exam to say "Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory".

Moved by P. Saeedi; seconded by S. Zwagerman   **Approved subject to revisions**

5.2 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Department of Economics
5.2.1   Program change (calendar revision): Economics MA
5.2.2   Course deletion: ECON 998

Moved by S. Zwagerman; seconded by K. Gerlich-Fitzgerald   **Approved**

Department of French
5.2.3   Calendar revision (Degree Audit): French MA
Course change (units): FREN 896

The committee recommended removing reference to GGR 1.9 and 1.10 as they are quoted incorrectly and to specify what happens if the B grade is not achieved by a student. N. White requested clarification if the extended essays are to be deposited to the library.

Moved by S. Zwagerman; seconded by L. Rinke-Hardekopf   **Approved subject to revisions**

Department of Philosophy
5.2.4   Calendar revision (Degree Audit): Philosophy MA
Course change (title): PHIL 899

A committee member recommended increasing the number of units for PHIL 898 to 11 to ensure that both streams have equal number of units and requested changing "dismissed" to "required to withdraw". N. White requested to clarify how the project will be examined and if it is to be deposited to the library.

Moved by S. Zwagerman; seconded by N. White   **Approved subject to revisions**

Department of Political Science
5.2.5   Course change (description, repeat for credit): POL 804

Moved by S. Zwagerman; seconded by K. Gerlich-Fitzgerald   **Approved**

Department of Urban Studies
5.2.6   New course: URB 601 Urban Professional Development I
         New course: URB 602 Urban Professional Development II

Moved by S. Zwagerman; seconded by M. Silverman   **Approved**

5.3 Beedie School of Business
5.3.1   Program change (calendar revision): Management of Technology MBA
         Course change (title): BUS 725

Moved by A.Gemino; seconded by M. Silverman   **Approved**

5.3.2   Program change (calendar revision): Business Administration PhD
         Course change (title, description, repeat for credit): BUS 961
         Course changes (units, title, description, repeat for credit): BUS 962, BUS 963
         Course change (description): BUS 990
         Course deletions: BUS 964, BUS 975, BUS 976, BUS 977, BUS 978

A committee member questioned the function of BUS 990 course. It was explained that the course has a research component and prepares students for thesis research.

Moved by A. Geminio; seconded by S. Zwagerman   **Approved**

5.4 Faculty of Communications, Art and Technology
5.4.1   New course: CMNS 835 Communication and Cultural Policies, Power and Governance

A committee member requested moving the effective date to Spring 2020 to avoid item being overlooked during the data entry stage and making language revisions to the course overview section of the course outline.

Moved by G. Agnes; seconded by D. Yang   **Approved subject to revisions**

5.5 Graduate General Regulations
5.5.1   Renumbering: GGR 1.3 Admissions

Moved by K. Gerlich-Fitzgerald; seconded by M. Silverman   **Approved**

6. For Discussion

   M. Silverman raised the issue of tuition transparency on students' admission letters as they do not mention tuition and there have been multiple complaints from students. L. Rinke-Hardekopf added that many students get surprised when they see tuition charges on their student accounts. K. Gerlich-Fitzgerald confirmed that a sentence can be added to the GPS admission letter clarifying that students have to pay tuition but the fix might take some time before it becomes effective. It was suggested that in the meantime, departments add the wording they want on students' recommendation forms and the staff at GPS will add it manually.

7. For Information

   7.1 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
   <u>Department of History</u>
      7.1.1   Course reinstatements: HIST 805, HIST 826, HIST 879, HIST 883, HIST 885, HIST 888

8. The date for the next SGSC meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2019 *(SGSC submission deadline is June 20, 2019 at noon)*