Meeting minutes of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC) held on July 9, 2019 in the Thesis Defence Room, SFU Library

Present:
Jeff Derksen (Chair)
Zoë Druick (Acting Chair)
George Agnes (Associate Dean)
Patty Gallilee (Designate for the Library)
Lucian Rinke-Hardekopf (GSS representative)
Krista Gerlich-Fitzgerald (Associate Director)
Daria Babeshko (Curriculum)
Kathleen Vieira-Ribeiro (Secretary)

Faculty Chair:
Sean Zwagerman (FASS)
Andrew Gemino (BUS)
Stuart Poyntz (FCAT)
Dongya Yang (FENV)
Michael Silverman (SCI)

Regrets:
Parvaneh Saeedi (FAS)
Wanda Cassidy (EDUC)
Timothy Beischlag (FHS)
Nicole White (Library)

1. Approval of agenda   **Approved**

2. Review of the SGSC minutes of June 4, 2019   **Approved**

3. Business arising from the minutes

4. Chair's Report
    The Chair has been working with the GSS to bring forward the issues of student housing. The proposed new building will have units for single graduates and graduates with families. The number of units is relative to that of Louis Riel House and the timeline to completion is within two years. Rates will most likely be below market value and the preference is to subsidize the project rather than to market it.

    GPS received 1000 more applications during the last admissions cycle; further increases are anticipated.

    Associate Deans have recently received the draft tuition fee schedule for 2020/21. It was requested to contact graduate studies to inform of any changes or discrepancies by July 11, 2019.

    P. Gallilee joined the meeting.

    J. Derksen left the meeting. Z. Druick is the acting chair.

5. For Approval
    5.1 Beedie School of Business
    5.1.1   Notice of Intent: Masters in Management (MiM)

A. Gemino informed SGSC that the program is intended for non-business students. It offers basic business training and combines courses from other faculties, hence the interdisciplinary aspect.

G. Agnes joined the meeting.

SGSC recommended strengthening the proposal by listing which academic units might potentially be offering the program together with Beedie, clarifying the number of units required to complete both the certificate and master's credentials and ensure that they meet University minimum requirements, and re-phrasing some paragraphs more positively, specifically the section on "Undergraduate Student Retention".

Moved by A. Gemino; seconded by D. Yang   **Approved**
                                                                With G. Agnes abstaining

5.2 Graduate General Regulations
5.2.1   Revisions: GGR 1.3.1 General

A committee member requested changing "work" that appears in many areas, to "studies" to avoid confusing students with employment.

GGR 1.3.3 English Language Competence

GGR 1.3.4 Admission to a Graduate Certificate Program

A committee member commented on the use of "exceptional", that it implies the student has additional potential and suggested removing it. It was explained that it refers to students admitted under a different circumstance and most likely will have conditions. Some programs have a certificate option should those conditions not be met.

GGR 1.3.5 Admission to a Graduate Diploma Program

GGR 1.3.6a Admission to a Master's Program

GGR 1.3.6b Transfer to a Master's Program

GGR 1.3.7a Admission to a Doctoral Program

GGR 1.3.7b Transfer to a Doctoral Program

Moved by K. Gerlich-Fitzgerald; seconded by G. Agnes   **Approved subject to revisions**

5.2.2   Revisions: GGR 1.4.1 Continuity of Enrollment

GGR 1.4.2 Enrollment

A committee member expressed concern that the approval process for students wishing to take courses outside of their programs is too complex and should be simplified. SGSC discussed whether the oversight is too excessive, student completion times, available funding,

and concluded that the level of approvals are necessary to ensure that program requirements are met. GPS will look further into levels of approval at other academic institutions and provide an update at the next meeting.

GGR 1.4.3 Enrollment Status

GGR 1.4.4 Withdrawal from Courses

GGR 1.4.5 Leave of Absence

L. Rinke-Hardekopf requested softening the language to protect students from potential repercussions and stigmas for taking leaves and absence. It was explained that the language has been revised to recognize that interruptions are normal. GPS will review policies at other institutions to ensure our policy language is consistent and provide an update at the next meeting.

GGR 1.4.6 Course Audit

GGR 1.4.7 Practical Experience

Moved by A. Gemino; seconded by D. Yang   **Approved subject to revisions**

With L. Rinke-Hardekopf and S. Zwagerman abstaining

5.2.3   Revisions: GGR 1.5 Graduate Grading Systems and Policies

GGR 1.5.1 Standard Grading Basis

GGR 1.5.2 Competency Grading Basis

GGR 1.5.3 Notations

GGR 1.5.4 CGPA Required for Continuation and Graduation

Moved by A. Gemino; seconded by D. Yang   **Approved**
With L. Rinke-Hardekopf abstaining

6. For Discussion
   6.1 Credit for research in science theses (no attachment)
                                                                            Tabled

7. For Information
   7.1 Renumbering: GGR 1.3 Admissions

8. The date for the next SGSC meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2019 *(SGSC submission deadline is August 22, 2019 at noon)*