Meeting minutes of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC) held on January 11, 2022

Present:
George Agnes (Acting Chair, Associate Dean, GPS, Students)
Roxanne Panchasi (Associate Dean, GPS, Academic)
Krista Gerlich-Fitzgerald (Associate Director, GPS)
Nicole White (Designate for Dean of Library)
Reese Muntean (GSS Executive Representative)
John C. Foerster (Graduate Student)
Hannah Buteau (Curriculum, GPS)

Ruth Anyankpele (Recording Secretary)

Faculty Chair:
Andrew Gemino (BUS)
Lucy LeMare (EDUC)
Parvaneh Saeedi (FAS)
Philippe Pasquier (FCAT)
Frank Lee (FHS)
Michael Silverman (SCI)

Regrets:
Jeff Derksen (Chair, Dean GPS and Associate Provost)
Sean Zwagerman (FASS)
Dongya Yang (FENV)

1. Approval of agenda

2. Review of the SGSC minutes of December 7, 2021

3. Business arising from the minutes

4. Chair's Report

> The Acting Chair informed the committee that Senate approved the change in grading basis from In Progress/Complete to Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory.
>
> The Graduate Program Chair and Graduate Program Assistant (GPC/GPA) Townhall Meeting has been scheduled for February 1, 2022. The committee was encouraged to forward any agenda items to the GPS office.
>
> Committee members expressed their interest in commencing micro-credentialing at SFU. A committee member clarified that SGSC is not authorized to approve micro-credentials, but GPS is looking into the process. The committee agreed to introduce micro-credentials as a discussion item in a future meeting. A committee member emphasized that all changes need to align with regulations from the various accreditation bodies.

5. <u>For Approval</u>

5.1 2021 Annual Report of SGSC

> GPS requested feedback on the current structure of the annual reports, particularly if enrollment numbers should be reported by academic or calendar year. SGSC has deliberations around enrollment numbers as per academic year, therefore the annual

report should align with the committee's discussions. The committee decided that future annual reports should reflect enrollment numbers according to the academic year.

A committee member suggested that the numbers for Professional and Research based programs be reported separately to reflect their individual weight. This is important when weighing enrollment numbers against the targeted goals. K. Gerlich-Fitzgerald emphasized the importance of developing strong definitions that differentiate them.

The committee also discussed the possibility of implementing an approval process to change course delivery methods after approval by SGSC. The goal is to clarify the specific fields an academic unit is allowed to change with respect to course offerings.

Moved by K. Gerlich- Fitzgerald; seconded by A. Gemino   **Approved**

5.2 Beedie School of Business

5.2.1   Program Change: Master of Science in Finance
New Course: BUS 890 Research Methods I
New Course: BUS 891: Theory of Financial Markets

A. Gemino clarified that the rationale for the program change is to reflect the research potential of the current MSc Finance program. The aim of the proposed research stream is to build students research skills and encourage them to continue on to the PhD level.

The committee requested that the CGPA pre-requisite is removed and instead, have prospective students gain permission from the program before entering the research stream.

Moved by A. Gemino; seconded by L. Le Mare   **Approved subject to revisions**

5.2.2   Course Change (short title): BUS 752 Strategic Management – Technology

The committee was reminded of the importance of making short titles unique to their respective courses.

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

5.3 Faculty of Applied Sciences
5.3.1   School of Computing Science
Course Change (units): CMPT 788 Information Privacy

Moved by P. Saeedi; seconded by A. Gemino   **Approved**

5.4 Parchment Standardization
The committee was informed that the timeline for this project is estimated to be two years. The first step is SGSC's approval, after which it would be submitted to the IT queue. Committee members raised questions around digitalizing both transcripts and parchments for cybersecurity reasons as well as SGSC's parameter to make these changes.

Moved by K. Gerlich-Fitzgerald; seconded by A. Gemino   **Approved**

6. <u>For Discussion</u>

7. <u>For Information</u>

8. The date of the next SGSC meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2022