

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE STUDIES

Minutes of the December 17, 2009 Meeting

In Attendance: N. Klentrou (Chair), C. Daigle, M. Rose, T. Dunk, A. Reynolds, J. Sivell, P. Beard, R. Kuchapski, G. Finn, M. Grove, N. DeCourville, T. Akseer, C. Skorobohacz.

Regrets: M. Knuttila, D. Zinni, C. Mitchell.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the November 30, 2009 meeting

- It was **MOVED** (Reynolds/DeCourville) that the minutes of the November 30, 2009 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes/Chair's Report

- N. Klentrou reported that the SGSC comments/report regarding the proposed TREMP had been forwarded to G. Finn and would be considered during the next round of consultation.

3. Dean of Graduate Studies Report

- Dean Rose reported that 8.2% Master's growth and 37.5% PhD growth was achieved re: 09/10 November 1 graduate enrolment. Our domestic eligible growth has exceeded our allotted MTCU graduate spaces by 51 fte's. This has provided the President with the necessary proof to lobby MTCU for additional graduate spaces for Brock re: planned graduate growth.
- 2010/11 enrolment planning is underway with the graduate programs. We have been asked to replicate the 09/10 intake with an additional 2% domestic eligible growth.
- OCGS – We have five upcoming periodic appraisals in the new year. Confirmation of appraisers and program specific questions are being received. Philosophy had a six month extension re: its review and will be submitting its OCGS document in January.

4. Quality Assurance Framework – Information Update: Proposed Review Schedule

- The committee reviewed and discussed the proposed review schedules. The proposed schedules the undergraduate and graduate reviews in consecutive years on an eight year cycle. The pros/cons of consecutive vs concurrent UG/GR reviews was explored.
- The committee suggested that departments be consulted regarding their preference for concurrent or consecutive reviews.

5. Report of the Interdisciplinary Sub-Committee

- C. Daigle provided a summary of the sub-committee's activity thus far. The committee is looking at both the broad conceptual issues and the pressing practical issues faced by our current interdisciplinary graduate programs.
- The sub-committee is preparing a reflection paper on interdisciplinarity, its challenges and possible solutions which will be presented to the SGSC in early 2010.
- Current BUFA concern re: collective agreement and upcoming nomenclature work by other Senate committees was noted.

6. Academic Colleague Working Paper: Accommodating Graduate Students with Disabilities

- M. Rose introduced the paper, its focus and the recommendations. She noted that the University must have a clear policy and be willing to assist students without compromising the academic requirements of the graduate program.
- Each graduate program needs to be able to think in terms of central degree requirements, skills, competencies that students must be able to do and acquire to succeed in the particular discipline and complete the graduate degree. They also need to look at what kind of support and adaptation is possible re: the delivery and requirements of their particular graduate program.
- Dean Rose will be looking at inviting an expert re: defining essential graduate degree components to come to campus and offer a workshop for graduate faculty and GPDs.
- This agenda item will be placed on the January 7th agenda so that further discussion can occur.

7. 2010-11 Graduate Calendar Submissions

- It was **MOVED** (Reynolds/Daigle) that the Earth Sciences, Mathematics & Statistics, Classics, Biological Sciences and Applied Health Sciences 2010-11 Graduate Calendar submissions be approved.

CARRIED

8. Degree Level Expectations

- This item will be placed on the January 7th agenda for discussion as we were unable to get to this item on December 17th.

The meeting was adjourned.