SENATE GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE Minutes of May 7, 2007 meeting

In Attendance: S. Sadava, M. Richards, M. Rose, B. Jeynes, A. Shome, K, Jaipal-Jamani, T. Boak, C. McCormick, A. L. Domanski, V. Woloshyn, C. Burton, G. Pepper.

Regrets: J. Corlett, F. Razavi.

Guest: J. Sivell.

1. Approval of the Minutes of April 2, 2007

- It was **MOVED** (Shome/Burton) that the minutes of April 2, 2007 be approved.

CARRIED

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

- M. Richards informed members that she will be completing her term on Senate and therefore also her term as Chair of SGSC this month. She urged current Senators to consider volunteering to Chair the committee next year since she feels that the committee greatly benefits from the position of Chair being undertaken by an experienced committee member.

5. Proposed Faculty Handbook changes from Policy Sub-Committee

- It was MOVED (McCormick/Boak) that the proposed changes to FHB 14.3 Graduate Calendar be approved with minor modifications and forwarded to Senate for approval.

CARRIED

- Following a lengthy discussion, it was **MOVED** (Shome/Jeynes) that the proposed changes to FHB 14.6 Registration and Student Status be approved with modifications as discussed and forwarded to Senate for approval.

CARRIED

G. Pepper will confirm the accuracy of the agreed upon changes with M. Richards and Dean Rose prior to the report being forwarded to Senate.

6. Proof of English Language Proficiency

- G. Pepper summarized the issues for consideration re: revision to the current FHB regulation.

- J. Sivell presented to the committee information regarding the Brock University International Test of English Language Proficiency, its recent benchmarking and comparability with the Canadian Language Benchmarks.
- He suggested that the committee consider changing the required minimum ITELP score to an overall minimum range score and minimum writing range score corresponding to Range 2 of the ITELP and CLB level 6.
- The committee expressed interest in obtaining data which directly compares students' scores on the ITELP and the other acceptable tests of English Language Proficiency (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS). One way to do this would be to change the test we use to test English language proficiency on arrival to a Brock graduate program to the ITELP instead of the BIPT. This would assist us in evaluating the appropriate comparative minimum score range for the ITELP.
- The committee continues to agree that is useful to test on arrival the English language proficiency of students admitted to a Brock graduate program.
- The committee agreed that item B) of the FHB regulation should be modified as suggested.

7. Revision to Child & Youth Studies 2007-08 Graduate Calendar Entry

- It was **MOVED** (Shome/Sadava) that the deletion of CHYS 5F91 be reversed since current graduate students need this course to remain in the course bank for one more year.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned.