

**SENATE GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of May 15, 2007 meeting**

In Attendance: S. Sadava, M. Richards, M. Rose, K. Jaipal-Jamani, A. L. Domanski, V. Woloshyn, C. Burton, G. Pepper.

Regrets: J. Corlett, B. Jeynes, A. Shome, T. Boak.

**1. Approval of the Minutes of May 7, 2007**

- It was **MOVED** (Woloshyn/Jaipal-Jamani) that the minutes of May 7, 2007 be approved.

**CARRIED**

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

- M. Richards informed members that A. Shome has agreed to Chair the committee next year.
- M. Richards thanked all committee members for their hard work this year. The committee members in turn thanked M. Richards for her work and successful chairing of the committee.

**3. Dean of Graduate Studies Report**

**D) Appraisals**

Complete:

- a) **Social Justice and Equity Studies:** Program approved to continue. No fields asked for or approved. Program classified of *Good Quality*. For the next periodic appraisal, the Appraisals Committee has indicated that they will be looking at the balance and availability of faculty from various contributing departments, the need for contiguous space for students, administrative support, and times to completion.
- b) **Psychology Report:** Acceptance of report. Program now rated as of *Good Quality* until next periodic appraisal.

Upcoming:

- a) **Political Science Periodic Appraisal** - due to OCGS in July.
- b) **Earth Sciences Report** - due to OCGS in September.

## **II) OCGS News**

- a) The Executive Director has resigned as of June 30<sup>th</sup> to return to his academic position at York.
- b) An Acting Executive Director, Dr. John ApSimon, has been appointed to cover the period during the search for a new permanent Executive Director.
- c) The President of COU has set a Review Committee led by Richard Van Loon, who recently completed a report with recommendations on the restructuring of COU. He is to report by October and the Report will be used as a basis for the hiring of the next Executive Director.

Richard Van Loon will work with an advisory panel of four: Jan Donio, formerly of COU; Martha Crago, University of Montreal, and two academics from Ontario, Greg Moran from Western and Paul Healey from Trent. Their focus is to be on recommendations re: the mandate of OCGS and the improvement of the Appraisal Process.

- c) In anticipation of that committee's work, an OCGS Streamlining Committee was struck by OCGS. It has completed its work and will report to OCGS and the Van Loon Review Committee shortly.
- d) A new President for COU will be announced shortly. The Dean was on that selection committee and noted that they have chosen someone quite young and energetic, and with institutional imagination and fine government contacts. She is hopeful that the new President will listen to representations from OCGS.

## **III) Ministry on Graduate Growth Targets**

Philip Steenkamp and Janet Mason from MTCU told the Executive Committee of COU on Friday that:

- a) universities are still expected to meet their graduate targets by Fall 2007 to help the Ministry to achieve its growth agenda by that point, and in order to access full funding for the graduate students each institution has been approved to take in
- b) the government has not decided what to do if institutions don't make their targets but another 2,000 places (beyond this first 12,000 spaces) are at stake.
- c) at the same time, those who go over target (notably in the PhD programs) will not be funded for the extra students they take in. Some institutions have reached their PhD targets already and want to take in more. One or two have met their Master's targets, the Ministry representatives say. However, they also admit that last year only 14% of the Master's targets were reached in the province and only about 50% of the PhD targets.

## **IV) Spirit Awards**

There are to be 6 such awards for undergraduate and 6 for graduate students. They are to be awarded at Spring Convocation. However there has been an urging on the part of one program in particular and the former president of the GSA to move the graduate awards to fall as they are

concerned that students at both spring and fall convocations must be eligible. The Dean asked for the committee's opinion.

#### **V) Grad Student Awards Event**

A celebration of internal and external graduate award winners was held yesterday. Dean Rose distributed copies of the program.

#### **4. Proposed Faculty Handbook revision – English Language Proficiency**

- It was **MOVED** (Woloshyn/Sadava) that the proposed changes to FHB 14.5.7 English Language Proficiency be approved as amended and forwarded to Senate for approval.

**CARRIED**

#### **5. Proposed Faculty Handbook revision – Establishment and Review of Graduate Programs**

- It was **MOVED** (Burton/Sadava) that the proposed changes to FHB 14.1 Establishment and Review of Graduate Programs be approved as amended and forwarded to Senate for approval.

**CARRIED**

#### **6. Policy re: Graduate Council Working Group of Theses, Projects and Major Papers**

- The committee discussed items 1-5. Next year's committee will need to continue the review and discussion of this report prior to the items being referred to the SGSC Sub-Committee on Policy Development for Faculty Handbook revision.

The meeting was adjourned.