

## **GRADUATE COUNCIL**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2012, 2:00 p.m.**

**MUSC-311/313**

**PRESENT:** Dr. A. Sekuler (Chair), Ms. S. Baschiera (Secretary), Dr. P. Baxter, Dr. P. Bennett, Dr. T. Chamberlain, Dr. N. Charupat, Dr. A. Chen, Dr. S. Crosta, Dr. D. Goellnicht, Ms. B. Gordon, Dr. P. Graefe, Dr. A. Guarné, Dr. C. Hayward, Dr. A. Holloway, Mr. J. Jaskolka, Mr. R. Khokhar, Dr. L. Magee, Dr. S. McGuire, Dr. L. Platt, Mr. P. Self, Dr. E. Service, Dr. H. Sheardown, Dr. C. Sinding, Ms. J. Tunnicliffe, Dr. D. Welch, Mrs. M. Espiritu (Assistant Secretary)

**BY INVITATION:** Dr. J. Medcof

**REGRETS:** Dr. A. Campos, Dr. T. Maibaum

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### **I. Report from the Associate Vice-President and Dean of Graduate Studies**

Dr. Sekuler reported on the following events/activities:

- The topic for the *Best Practices Lunch* held February 15, 2012 was “Evaluating Graduate Teaching and Learning.” The guest speaker was Dr. Martin Horn, History Associate Professor and Faculty Association (MUFA) Representative. There were 55 attendees for this event. A working group to be led by Dr. Sekuler will be established to develop guidelines on graduate teaching and learning. The following faculty members volunteered to be part of the working group: Dr. A. Chen (Physics & Astronomy), Dr. D. Harnish (Pathology & Molecular Medicine), Dr. D. Hitchcock (Philosophy), Dr. M. Horn (History), and Dr. E. Service (Linguistics & Languages). Dr. Sekuler invited graduate students to volunteer as well. The next *Best Practices Lunch* is scheduled for March 22, 2012.
- The *Dine with the Dean* event was held on February 22, 2012 and discussion focused on the topic of “Social Media—Building your Reputational Capital.” Guest speakers: Dr. N. Bontis (DeGroote School of Business), Ms. C. Newberry (Student Success Centre), and Mr. D. Courchesne (Graduate Student, Communication and New Media program). The next *Dine with the Dean* event is scheduled for March 28, 2012.
- There will be MITACS workshops in March 2012.
- The School of Graduate Studies organized “Thesis Defense Preparation” seminars on February 23, 27, 29 and March 1, 2012. Special guests for the seminars were: Dr. M. Kolster (Mathematics & Statistics), Ms. Lyndsay Cartwright (Biology, Post-Doctoral Fellow), Dr. P. Mascher (Engineering and Physics), Dr. H. Sheardown (Graduate Studies Associate Dean for the Faculty of Engineering).

- Dr. Sekuler recommended that Council members read the Drummond report, *Public Service for Ontarians: A Path to Sustainability and Excellence*, which was released on February 15, 2012 by the Commission on the Reform of Ontario's Public Services. The report underscores the importance of a strong post-secondary sector in Ontario's economic growth and competitiveness. The Commission made several recommendations to further improve the efficiency and effectiveness of post-secondary education in Ontario, such as: establishing multi-year mandate agreements with colleges and universities to ensure the growth of high-quality programs; and maintaining the strategic division of roles between university and college systems. The province is currently studying the Drummond report, and the Council of Universities will review the document and look forward to discussing the recommendations with the government. Dr. Sekuler also mentioned the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities' "3 Cubed" report, which recommends offering more online courses; and compressing some four-year degrees into three-year programs by holding classes year round.
- The total number of graduate applications, including international applications, has increased once again this year.
- Notices regarding the search for Graduate Associate Deans for the Faculties of Business, Humanities, and Social Sciences will soon be posted.

### **III. Report from the Associate Deans of Graduate Studies**

Dr. Goellnicht reported that the curriculum and policy committees for the Faculties of Business, Humanities and Social Sciences have all met and approved graduate curriculum changes for the 2012-2013 academic year. The submissions from the Humanities curriculum committee were already submitted to the Faculty for approval. Dr. Hayward said the study on graduate programs and faculty evaluations is moving forward, and the descriptive analysis of the data collected for the project is underway.

### **IV. Report from the Assistant Dean, Graduate Student Life and Research Training**

Dr. Self reported that the School of Graduate Studies is in the process of organizing a thesis completion workshop to assist Ph.D. students in the final stages of their studies.

### **V. New program: Master of Finance**

Since the Faculty of Business proposes to launch the Master of Finance program in September 2013, Dr. Sekuler explained that the order of submission to the various approving University bodies has changed for the purpose of expediting internal and external approvals of the program.

Dr. Chamberlain reviewed the document and explained that there are three Ontario universities which currently offer programs that are similar to the proposed Master of Finance

program: Master of Financial Economics at the University of Toronto; Master of Finance programs at York University and at Wilfrid Laurier University. The program content that most closely resembles the proposed Master of Finance program is the Master of Financial Economics at the University of Toronto. The proposed Master of Finance is a cost-recovery program that will admit 20-25 students per year. The Economics department as well as the Department of Mathematics and Statistics will be involved in the program. In response to a question, Dr. Chamberlain explained that the Master of Finance is different from the MBA with specialization in Finance because the Master of Finance is focused more on analytical and quantitative skills while the MBA with Finance specialization focuses on management skills.

After the discussion, Council suggested replacing the wording in the “Admission requirements” section to *“Honours bachelor’s degree or equivalent in any discipline with a minimum B+ average grade from an accredited university.”*

Dr. Chamberlain moved, and Dr. Goellnicht seconded,

**“that Graduate Council approve the proposed Master of Finance, pending approval by the Faculty of Business.”**

The motion was carried, subject to the above amendment.

## **VII. Report from the Faculty of Health Sciences Graduate Policy and Curriculum Council**

Dr. Hayward reviewed the graduate curriculum recommendations for the Faculty of Health Sciences.

### Occupational Therapy – change in course requirements and change in calendar description

The current graduate calendar description for the M.Sc. Occupational Therapy program does not specify the course requirements for the program. The proposal will now include in the description, under “Program Requirements,” that all courses listed in the graduate calendar are required for the program. In the “Admissions Requirements” section, a paragraph has been added concerning the Police Check Policy; in particular, the paragraph states that a clear police check is required as a condition of admission.

Dr. Hayward moved, and Dr. Chamberlain seconded,

**“that Graduate Council approve the proposed change in course requirements and change in calendar description for the M.Sc. Occupational Therapy program, as described in the documents.”**

The motion was carried.

### Rehabilitation Science – change to the Ph.D. comprehensive examination process

The proposed changes to the Ph.D. comprehensive examination procedure will clarify timelines; explain the requirement that the scholarly paper must not be on the thesis topic; clarify committee involvement in the process; and place restrictions on the length of the proposal.

Dr. Hayward moved, and Dr. Baxter seconded,

**“that Graduate Council approve the proposed changes to the Ph.D. Rehabilitation Science comprehensive examination process, as described in the document.”**

The motion was carried.

### Rehabilitation Science – change in course requirements – M.Sc. course-based, online

The proposed change will require students in the program to take Rehabilitation Science \*705, \*706, \*708 as mandatory courses, and four elective courses.

Dr. Hayward moved, and Dr. Sheardown seconded,

**“that Graduate Council approve the proposed change in course requirements for the M.Sc. Rehabilitation Science (course-based, online) program, as outlined in the document.”**

The motion was carried.

Dr. Hayward then reviewed the remaining report from the Faculty of Health Sciences Graduate Policy and Curriculum Council for information of Graduate Council.

### **VIII. Change of scholarship name**

At the request of Michael Lee-Chin, the owner/founder of AIC—which ceased operations in 2009—the AIC Scholarship (an MBA award established in 2004) will change its name to the Michael-Lee Chin & Family Scholarship.

Dr. Goellnicht moved, and Dr. Sheardown seconded,

**“that Graduate Council approve the name, *The AIC Scholarship*, to change to *The Michael Lee-Chin & Family Scholarship*.”**

The motion was carried.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.