

Graduate Council
October 20th, 2015 9:30 AM
GH 111

Present: Dr. N. Agarwal (Acting Chair), Ms. S. Baschiera, Dr. A. Deza, Dr. M. Verma, Dr. A. Holloway, Dr. A. Guarne, Dr. A. Dean, Dr. A. Fudge Schormans, Dr. E. Badone, Mr. D. Finnerty, Mr. R. Mah, Mr. M. Bui, Ms. B. Gordon, Mr. A. Vishwanath, Mr. P. Demaio, MS. C. Brown, Dr. A. Roddick, Dr. J. Qiu, Dr. P. Swett, Dr. C. Hayward, Dr. M. Thompson, Dr. T. Porter, Mr. P. Self, Dr. S. McCracken, Dr. G. McClelland

Regrets: Dr. S. Kumar, Dr. D. Novog, Dr. J. Richardson, Dr. A. Shi, Dr. D. Gillespie, Ms. A. Ion, Ms. R. Pereira

A G E N D A

I. Minutes of the meeting of September 22nd, 2015

The minutes of the meeting of September 22nd, 2015 were approved on a motion by Dr. Deza, seconded by Dr. Hayward.

II. Business arising

Dr. Agarwal reported no business arising. He noted there had been a good discussion of grad pay at the previous meeting and asked if there were any questions in this respect from council members.

III. Report from the Associate Vice-President and Dean of Graduate Studies

Dr. Agarwal had nothing to report on behalf of Dr. Welch.

IV. Report from the Graduate Associate Deans

Dr. Hayward reported that the Faculty of Health Sciences was working on initiatives started last year to communicate better to candidates, including the information they want to see on website. The Faculty is using their student ambassadors to help with a student-centred approach to applicants. Dr. Porter had nothing to report. Dr. Thompson reported that the Faculty of Engineering is working on developing an Industrial Ph.D. option. Dr. Swett reported that the Faculty of Humanities still has two new graduate programs moving through the approval process. Dr. Agarwal reported that the Faculty of Business is still working on the development of a M.Sc. in business and they expect this to come to Graduate Council later in the year or early in the new year.

V. Report from the Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary

Ms. Baschiera reported that her team is busy working toward the November 1st count and convocation. She noted that one of the benefits of Mosaic is that all BIU eligibility for students is available on system. An admissions training session will be held for program administrators later in the week.

VI. Report from the Assistant Dean, Graduate Student Life and Research Training

Mr. Self reported that the Graduate Student Life team ran a thesis writing boot camp in the library. They also ran a 'zero to hero' career strategist session. This event was intended for students who had completed or were about to complete their thesis to assist with career preparation and a job search. It involved practice interviews and feedback from people working in industry. They plan to run it again as the feedback was really strong. A Mitacs presentation skills workshop was also held recently.

VII. Faculty of Engineering Graduate Curriculum and Policy Committee Report

Dr. Thompson reported that the Department of Chemical Engineering wants to terminate their M.Eng. program. Students have not been enrolled in a while and the department wants to focus attention on M.A.Sc. and Ph.D. The fact that the degree still exists creates confusion for students applying; many apply for M.Eng when they were really intending to take a thesis-based Masters.

Dr. Thompson moved and Dr. Deza seconded, 'that Graduate Council approve the cancellation of the M.Eng program in Chemical Engineering as described in the document.'

The motion was carried.

VIII. Faculty of Health Sciences Graduate Policy and Curriculum Committee Report

Dr. Hayward provided an overview of the for-information items. They included a new course from Global Health, a cross-listing and change in course length from Health Policy, a new course from the Master of Public Health program and the Health Science Education program changing their residency from courses to Milestones.

IX. Proposed New Stream in Social Work

Dr. Fudge-Schormans introduced the proposal. The School of Social Work currently offers an MSC in Critical Analysis. They would now like to introduce another stream to their Masters program, an MSW in Critical Leadership in Social Services and Communities. The introduction of this stream was prompted by concerns in the community with respect to the changing context of doing social work. They wanted to develop a program that would allow graduates to take leadership role. The new stream will have a practicum rather than a thesis. Students enrolled in the program will gain leadership skills in the community through the

practicum. She noted that the program had introduced two new graduate diplomas, one in leadership in social services and communities as well. There will be an overlap between the diploma and MSW leadership stream courses.

The Assistant Graduate Secretary noted that the social work diplomas had already been approved by Graduate Council already and that the calendar copy for those diplomas was included in the documentation being reviewed.

A council member asked how the practicum will be evaluated. Dr. Fudge Schormans responded that it will be pass/fail. The council member asked if there would be a faculty member associated to supervise the practicum. Dr. Fudge Schormans confirmed this was the case.

Dr. Porter moved and Dr. Badone seconded, 'that Graduate Council approve the proposed changes in Social Work as described in the document.'

The motion was **carried**.

X. Additional Scholarship Committee Members

Dr. Swett moved and Dr. Porter seconded, 'that Graduate Council approve the additional Scholarship Committee members as listed in the document.'

The motion was **carried**.

XI. Fall 2015 Graduands (to be distributed)

Dr. Hayward moved and Dr. Thompson seconded, 'that Graduate Council approve the list of the 2015 Fall Graduands, with amendments/corrections to be made as necessary by the Associate Graduate Registrar.'

The motion was **carried**.