

Tuesday January 22nd at 9:30 am in Council Chambers (GH-111)

Present: Dr. D. Welch (Chair), Dr. K. Hassanein, Dr. P. Swett, Dr. M. Thompson, Dr. C. Hayward, Dr. S. Raha, Dr. B. Gupta, Dr. E. Grodek, Dr. I. Bruce, Dr. L. Chan, Ms. V. Lewis, Dr. M. Parlar, Dr. M-A Letendre, Mr. A. Ozbilge, Dr. A. Sills, Dr. J. Carette, Ms. S. Ramsammy, Ms. D. Jones, Mr. S. Peter, Ms. S. Oikawa, Dr. J. Gillett, Dr. L. Wiebe, Dr. J. Shedden, Dr. I. Marwah, Dr. K. Hassanein, Ms. S. Baschiera (Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary), Ms. C. Bryce (Assistant Graduate Secretary)

Regrets: Dr. L. Thabane, Dr. S. Bannerman, Dr. M. Gough

By Invitation: Ms. C. Mascotto

I. Minutes of the meeting of December 4th, 2018

It was duly moved and seconded **‘that Graduate Council approve the minutes of the meeting of December 4th, 2018’**.

The motion was **carried**.

II. The motion was carried. Business arising

There was no business arising.

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

Dr. Welch reported on the following items:

- The announcement from the provincial government announcement around changes to tuition cuts and fee changes starting September 2019, noting there would be more detail when the budget was released in March;
- The uncertainty around graduate growth beyond the expiration of the current SMA.

In response to a question from a member, Dr. Welch confirmed that students from within Canada but outside of Ontario would be affected by the decrease as those groups aren't treated any differently for the purposes of tuition. In response to another question he noted that they are not sure what the effect will be on international Masters tuition rates but that a tuition rate decrease didn't seem to be required for this group. The arrangement at McMaster where international Ph.D. students paid domestic rates remained unchanged.

IV. Report from the Graduate Associate Deans

Dr. Hayward (Faculty of Health Sciences) reported on the following item:

- The development of a handbook for graduate course instructors, noting that feedback has been positive and that input from Graduate Council would be welcome.

Dr. Swett (Faculty of Humanities) reported on the following items

- An interesting meeting with Engineering for a program working on a stream in technology and design which may lead to some collaboration with communication and multimedia;
- The Faculty of Humanities Review report is now in and will be posted soon;
- The Cotutelle Working Group will be having another meeting shortly.

Dr. Gupta (Faculty of Science) reported on the following items:

- An alumni event held at the University Club;
- The launch of the student ambassador program.

Dr. Gillet (Faculty of Social Science) reported on the following items:

- The Faculty is exploring the development of a new professional program;
- The development of a joint degree possibilities with universities in Italy and France;
- The exploration of online components to graduate programs, noting that a number of programs have been approached by companies that help with online graduate education.

Dr. Thompson (Faculty of Engineering) reported on the following items:

- The development of a Faculty policy about minimum funding retained when a student wins a big award;
- The work of the sub-committee of the Graduate Council Program Working Group regarding the definition of a course, including the how a unit count is developed when a course is not a traditional lecture-based. He asked for feedback and noted they are trying to make sure that they build a policy that's comprehensive.

Dr. Hassanein had no report

V. Report from the Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary

There was no report.

VI. Graduate Student Life Update

Ms. Mascotto reported on the following items:

- Orientation for students starting in January, including events aimed at post-docs;
- Registration for Three Minute Thesis was open and closes on February 5th, noting that McMaster is also hosting the provincial Three Minutes Thesis Competition;
- Graduate Writing support, including a February writing bootcamp and writing workshops with graduate writing consultant.

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

Dr. Hayward explained that the Biomedical Discovery and Commercialization internships have changed and the program has proposed a change to their calendar copy to reflect that. The second change

proposed was from Health Research Methodology, who discontinued a course and launched new courses. There was no overall change in their course requirements.

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that Graduate Council approve the changes proposed by the Faculty of Health Sciences as described in the documents.’**

The motion was **carried**.

VIII. Scholarship Committee Membership Change

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that Graduate Council approve the changes to Scholarship Committee membership as set out in the document.’**

The motion was **carried**.

IX. New Scholarship

Dr. Welch noted that there was a friendly amendment to the scholarship as presented so that the ‘Office’ of Graduate Studies be replaced with ‘School’ of Graduate Studies.

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that Graduate Council approve the new scholarship as set out in the document.’**

The motion was carried.

X. Universal Design for Learning

This item was deferred for future meeting.

XI. Other Business

Ms. Lewis reported that the library had celebrated the anniversary of Bertram Russel coming to university. She noted that they are now turning their attention to celebrate STEM with a host of events that are going to be rolled out.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 am.