

Tuesday October 20th at 9:30 am via Zoom

Present: Dr. D. Welch (Chair), Dr. A. Hicks, Dr. J. Kish, Dr. A. Roddick, Dr. N. Tan, Dr. A. Shi, Dr. JP Xu, Dr. J. Shedden, Dr. L. Thabane, Dr. M. Horn, Dr. M. Thompson, Mr. O. Loertscher, Mr. S. Dhimi, Dr. S. Raha, Ms. S. Zakaria, Dr. S. Brophy, Ms. S. Medeiros, Dr. S. Hanna, Dr. W. Farmer, Ms. A. Thyret-Kidd (University Secretary), Ms. S. Baschiera (Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary), Ms. C. Bryce (Assistant Graduate Secretary),

Regrets: Dr. K. Hassanein, Dr. J. Gillett

I. Minutes of the meeting of September 15th, 2020

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that Graduate Council approve the minutes of the meeting of September 15th as set out in the document.’**

The motion was **carried**.

II. 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:

- That the October 15th extension had come and gone and now the team was processing and getting everything ready for convocation and government count;
- International graduate student arrival, noting that Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has now said that as of October 20th, international students with study permits would be declared essential travel and that for people to arrive at a given university, a quarantine plan for institution needs to be approved by the province. The hope is that McMaster’s plan will be approved in the next round;
- The task force for virtual learning, which includes broad representation and is intended to alleviate the burden for students and faculty with respect to virtual learning.

Council members discussed whether or not new study permits have been issued as well as the situation for January and May admits. In response to a question Dr. Welch confirmed that students won’t be allowed to arrive with a permit.

IV. Report from the Graduate Associate Deans

Dr. Hanna (Faculty of Health Sciences) reported on the following items:

- A program open house on November 10th, including presentations and Q&A;
- IQAP heavy year;

- The selection process for new director and co-director of the School of Biomedical Engineering;
- Pressure to find clinical placements in the Spring/Summer term, noting that a lot of clinical partners have really come around;
- The importance of the continuation of the return to research plan.

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

- The development of a peer review training workshop module within the Faculty.

Drs. Thompson and Horn had no report.

V. Report from the Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary

Ms. Baschiera reported on the following items:

- Reiterating the work her team is doing post-October 15th to prepare for convocation and government count;
- Attention on the upcoming admissions season, including demos on the new admission system, the review of current practices, and additional part-time assistance to help move things along in the current system.

VI. Fall 2020 Graduands

It was duly moved and seconded, **'that Graduate Council approve the list of the 2020 Fall Graduands, with amendments/corrections to be made as necessary by the Associate Graduate Registrar.'**

The motion was **carried**.

VII. Scholarship Committee Membership

It was duly moved and seconded **'that Graduate Council approve the Scholarship Committee membership as set out in the document.'**

The motion was **carried**.

Council members discussed whether or not there was a virtual campus tour for recruiting purposes.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.