

Graduate Council
Tuesday May 18th at 9:30 am via Zoom

Present: M. Thompson (Acting Chair), S. Hanna, M. Horn, K. Hassanein, B. Gupta, M. Dion, A. Shi, S. Raha, B. Farmer, M. Parlar, S. Madeiros, S.K. Dhami, K. Tsang, E. Wright, N. Tan, J. Shedden, AM. Naisani, J.P. Xu, J. West-Mays, M. Stroinska, C. Davidson, S. Qian, S. Baschiera (Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary), C. Bryce, (Assistant Graduate Secretary)

Regrets: J. Gillet, S. Brophy, O. Loertscher

I. Minutes of the meeting of April 20th, 2021

It was duly moved and seconded, **'that Graduate Council approve the minutes of the meeting of April 21st, 2021.'**

The motion was **carried**.

II. Business arising

There was no business arising.

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

Dr. Thompson reported on the following items:

- The provincial lockdown and related impacts for on campus activities;
- The vaccine age eligibility had been lowered, so everyone over 18 can now get vaccinated;
- The hope for as much in person activity as possible for fall 2021;
- Updates on international student arrivals;
- eCampus Ontario call for microcredential proposals for funding under the Challenge Fund;
- The Facilitated Admissions working group which is focusing on developing an equity framework for grad admissions;
- Admission acceptance numbers are up significantly at both the Masters and Ph.D. levels.

Council members discussed enrollment caps and how the higher acceptances would affect funding.

IV. Report from the Graduate Associate Deans

Dr. Hassanein (Faculty of Business) reported on the following items:

- Planning for the fall term, including what would be in person versus online;
- All grad programs experiencing increase in applications.

Dr. Horn (Faculty of Humanities) reported on the following item:

- A sharp rise in accepted offers.

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

- Microcredentialing Challenge Fund, noting a remarkable number of ideas being discussed;
- The upcoming Faculty of Health Sciences Research Plenary.

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

- Concerns around international student arrivals.

Council members discussed the potential of more students to go overtime as a consequence of pandemic restrictions, the potential timing of this issue and the relative higher impact on those engaged in in-person research. Members also discussed the need to be clear that students know there is support available to them.

V. Report from the Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary

Ms. Baschiera reported on the following items:

- The upcoming June Convocation;
- The opening of enrollment in early July;
- The admissions project, noting that end to end demos had been well-received and user acceptance testing was starting in the coming weeks;
- Work to formalize academic standing on the system;
- The admin tools outage.

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

Dr. Hanna reported three items for approval

- Changes to elective courses for Biomedical Engineering;
- Changes to calendar copy for Child Life;
- Change to admission requirements for Physiotherapy where they are now allowing for research methods or statistics rather than just statistics as had been required previously.

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**.

VII. Faculty of Science Graduate Curriculum and Policy Committee Report

Dr. Gupta reported on the following items for approval:

- Change in calendar copy for Biology;
- Change to Comprehensive Examination in Chemical Biology;
- Change in course requirements for Chemistry to add a new course as a requirement;
- Change in calendar copy from Kinesiology to clarify electives from other programs;
- New Streams in Radiation Sciences.

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

The motion was **carried**.

VIII. Spring 2021 Graduands

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that Graduate Council approve the list of the 2021 Spring Graduands, with amendments/corrections to be made as necessary by the Associate Graduate Registrar.’**

The motion was **carried**.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.