

Graduate Council

Tuesday January 18th at 9:30 am via Zoom

Present: D. Welch (Chair), M. Thompson, S. Hanna, M. Horn, G. Mulvale, B. Gupta, J. Gillett, K. White, M. Abouei, J. Kish, T. Chamberlain, W. Farmer, P. McNicholas, N. Kuhathasan, S. Raha, C. Seiler, S. Qian, K. Tsang, S. Baschiera (Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary), C. Bryce, (Assistant Graduate Secretary)

Regrets: M. Ragny, M. Dion, Z. Samaan, S. Brophy, N. Tan

I. Minutes of the meeting of December 7th, 2021

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that Graduate Council approve the minutes of the meeting of December 7th, 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. Welch reported on the following items:

- The current Covid context, noting the significant challenge that Omicron has posed;
- Boosters are available for students through Student Wellness;
- Students with an exemption and newly arriving international students can access asymptomatic testing;
- Rapid tests have been purchased and will be distributed to different areas;
- On February 7th most classes are expected to be back in person;
- SGS is still working with comm 100, noting that UTS is planning to pilot a queue management system for other areas;
- The final season of admissions in the old system;
- Senate Executive has approved a selection committee for a new Dean of Graduate Studies.

In response to a question about doing a teaching assistant work online after the return to campus, Dr. Welch noted that this is related to employment and directed them to bring it up with their instructor. If there is a need for accommodation there is a process which can be considered.

In response to another question about booster proof being required, Dr. Welch noted that while folks can upload it there is not currently a change planned that will make the booster mandatory to maintain status.

IV. Report from the Graduate Associate Deans

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

- A successful recruitment fair with other Canadian universities aimed at primarily domestic students;
- Teaching Assistant training workshop.

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

- MBA students will be returning to in person classes at the Ron Joyce Centre on January 31st;

- Upcoming IQAP review preparation, noting that they are exploring a new field in the program and a potential M.Sc. in Management.

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

- Notes that in-person clinical training has been running and that lessons learned there will be an advantage as the rest of campus returns;
- Hybrid curriculum discussions within the Faculty.

Dr. Gillett (Faculty of Social Sciences) reported on the following items:

- Work on international student recruitment and funding in the Faculty;
- Enrollment management.

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

- February 1st is the application deadline for most programs within the Faculty, noting that the early numbers are encouraging and include a substantial proportion of international applicants.

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

- Most courses are being offered remotely and very few in person, noting they are looking at how best to support programs;
- Pilot programs on graduate career and mentorship;
- Professor Hippo-on-Campus Workshops in the last two weeks of February, noting that the program builds awareness around mental health issues and how best to support.

V. Report from the Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary

Ms. Baschiera reported on the following items:

- Updates on the new admission system, noting no disruptions to the new admission system through peak application time and that at the end of the cycle there will be a user review to confirm what the next steps should be in terms of improvement/enhancements;
- MacCheck, noting the major activity is complete and there are about 100 students affected, many are still working to complete their requirement;
- Policy review and updates, including the policy around continuous enrollment.

VI. New Award

Dr. Welch noted that it had been just over a year since the Ukraine flight crashed and that the award was in memorial to the graduate students and post-doctoral fellow who had died.

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

The motion was **carried**.