

To : Members of Graduate Council

From : Christina Bryce
Assistant Graduate Secretary

The next meeting of Graduate Council will be held on **Tuesday September 20th at 9:30 am in Council Chambers (GH 111)/Zoom**

Listed below are the agenda items for discussion.

Please email cbryce@mcmaster.ca if you are unable to attend the meeting.

A G E N D A

- I. Minutes of the meeting of June 7th, 2022
- II. Business arising
- III. Report from the Vice-Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies
- IV. Report from the Graduate Associate Deans
- V. Report from the Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary
- VI. New Awards and Change to Award Terms
- VII. Deferral of Graduate Thesis Plagiarism Checking requirement

Tuesday June 7th at 9:30 am via Zoom

Present: D. Welch (Chair), M. Thompson, S. Hanna, B. Gupta, G. Mulvale, M. Stroinska, M. Abouei, T. Chamberlain, N. Kuhathasan, D. Gillespie, G. Krishna, Z. Samaan, S. Raha, P. McNicholas, S. Brophy, T. MacDonald, S. Baschiera (Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary), C. Bryce, (Assistant Graduate Secretary)

Regrets: K. White, J. Kish, L. Side, W. Farmer, J. Gillett

I. Minutes of the meeting of May 17th, 2022

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that Graduate Council approve the minutes of the meeting of May 17th, 2022.’**

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:

- His last grad council;
- Updates on the new Dean of Graduate Studies and new Graduate Associate Deans;
- Mask and vaccine mandate paused but not gone, noting an item later in the agenda;
- Improvement on pandemic numbers;
- A package of offerings now available for scholars/students at risk, noting a webpage with more information;
- Progress on the Graduate Student Residence.

IV. Report from the Graduate Associate Deans

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

- Ideathon in May run by the Engineering Graduate Student Society.

Dr. Gillian (Faculty of Business) reported on the following item:

- DeGroot Doctoral Research Day.

Drs. Gupta, Horn and Hanna had no reported.

V. Report from the Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary

Ms. Baschiera reported on the following item:

- Statistics on the success of the online chat tool, noting about 96% satisfaction from those who responded and an 8 second wait time.

VI. Updated Graduate Expectations for McMaster Vaccination Policy

Dr. Welch introduced the item, noting it is a parallel version of what was approved at the undergraduate level. It essentially states that there is currently a pause but is also a reminder that it's still in force and that if it needs to be reimplemented in some way, the university will do that.

In response to a question about whether this would also apply to sessional instructors Dr. Welch noted that policies have been institution wide generally and he presumed that will be the case going forward

It was duly moved and seconded, **'that Graduate Council approve the updated Graduate Expectations for the McMaster Vaccination Policy as set out in the document.'**

The motion was **carried**.

VII. Faculty of Health Sciences Associate Member Policy

Dr. Hanna presented the policy, noting the context for supervisory membership categories and approvals in the Faculty of Health Sciences. The proposal to remedy current challenges is to introduce a new level of membership that would have virtually all the rights and responsibilities except they would not be formally involved in grading/evaluating the student. The idea here is to allow the voices of folks who have been traditionally excluded to now be a part of the conversation.

Members discussed the benchmark for success of the new position and the approval process.

It was duly moved and seconded, **'that Graduate Council approve the Faculty of Health Sciences Associate Member Policy as set out in the document.'**

The motion was **carried**.

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

Dr. Hanna noted the report contained for-information items only.

September 2022 Graduate Council

New Awards for Approval

Name of Fund: The Alyssa Vito Scholarship in Cancer Research

Terms of Reference for Fund:

Established in 2022 by Dr. Alyssa Vito, survivor of triple negative breast cancer and MSc/PhD McMaster alumna. To be awarded by the School of Graduate Studies, on the recommendation of the Graduate Associate Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences, to a graduate student who conducts cancer research with a component of their activities devoted to leadership, community outreach, and patient engagement. Preference will be given to students pursuing research in breast cancer.

Name of Fund: The EJ Irvine Graduate Student Award

Terms of Reference for Fund:

Established in 2022 by the Estate of Daniel Connelly Irvine in memory of the late Dr. Elizabeth Irvine, MSc. (Class of '86). To be awarded by the School of Graduate Studies on the recommendation of the Director of the Farncombe Family Digestive Health Research Institute and the Director, Division of Gastroenterology in the Department of Medicine. To be awarded to graduate students who demonstrate the best progress in research after year 1 in the Farncombe Family Digestive Health Research Institute.

Name of Fund: The Lambda Scholarship Foundation Canada Graduate Award

Terms of Reference for Fund:

Established in 2022 by the Lambda Scholarship Foundation Canada. To be awarded by the School of Graduate Studies to a graduate student who is currently enrolled in their first year of any program who identifies as a member of the queer, trans community and is Black, racialized, or Indigenous.

Name of Fund: Robin Cox Memorial Graduate Scholarship in Chemistry

Terms of Reference for Fund:

Established in 2022 through the estate of Dr. Robin Cox '70. To be awarded by the School of Graduate Studies on the recommendation of the Chair of the Department of Chemistry & Chemical Biology to graduate student Teaching Assistants (TAs) who demonstrate academic excellence and exhibit dedication, leadership, and passion in their role as teachers and mentors. Preference will be given to TAs assisting in first-year chemistry or second-year organic chemistry. Students can only receive this award once.

Name of Fund: Prix Pour Engagement Communautaire Francophone

Terms of Reference for Fund:

Established in 2022 by Helene Caron '05 in honour of Dr. Suzanne Crosta and Dr. Maroussia Hajdukowski-Ahmed. To be awarded by the School of Graduate Studies on the recommendation of the French Department, to a student in a graduate French program who, while maintaining a standard of academic and research excellence, demonstrates significant

and meaningful community engagement within the Francophone community. Preference will be given to se who are engaged in the Francophone community in the Hamilton region.

Award Term Changes for Approval

Name of Fund: The GSA Travel Assistance Grants

Reason for change: The volume of applications has become too great for a committee to review them in a timely manner. The donor has agreed to a random lottery selection format.

Current Terms:

The GSA Travel Assistance Grants are funded from the proceeds of the Graduate Students Association Development Fund, which receives contributions from graduate students and the University. The GSA Travel Assistance Grants fund is administered through the School of Graduate Studies, and awards are made by a Committee comprising both GSA and Graduate Studies members. The GSA Travel Assistance Grants are designed to enable graduate students to travel to undertake research or present at conferences relevant to their field of study. Applications are assessed on their demonstration that the proposed travel will add significantly to the applicant's academic development. Travel Assistance Grants give first priority to research travel, second, to expenses incurred in attending a conference where the applicant is to present a paper, abstract or poster, and finally, undertaking research.

TFOC Approved Terms Change:

The GSA Travel Assistance Grants are funded from the proceeds of the Graduate Students Association Development Fund, which receives contributions from graduate students and the University. The GSA Travel Assistance Grants fund is administered through the School of Graduate Studies. The GSA Travel Assistance Grants are designed to enable graduate students to travel to undertake research or present at conferences relevant to their field of study.

Name of Fund: Kathryn Ann Williamson Bursary

Reason for change: The terms are too restrictive and have made it difficult to award this bursary since 2018 Broadening the class of beneficiaries to Corporate Finance and adjusting the criteria to include recently exited students would increase the pool. There would still be some challenge for gender, so it is recommended to change the gender requirement to a preference statement.

Current Terms:

Established in 1985 to honour the memory of the late Kathryn Ann Williamson, MBA '83, who was a student in the Accounting and Financial Management Services specialization of the MBA co-op program. A bursary is to be awarded annually to a female student in the MBA co-op program entering an accounting work term placement.

TFOC Notes on Term Change: Since this is a non-substantive change according to our Trust Fund Guidelines and the original value of the Gift was under \$100k, we can proceed without official approval from TFOC.

Established in 1985 to honour the memory of the late Kathryn Ann Williamson, MBA '83, who was a student in the Accounting and Financial Management Services specialization of the MBA co-op program. To be granted by the School of Graduate Studies to students who have completed in the previous summer term or who are currently completing in the fall term, an Accounting or Corporate Finance work term. Preference will be given to female students.

Name of the Fund: The McMaster Immunology Research Centre Faculty Ontario Graduate Scholarship

Reason for change: Donor wanted to change the award terms. Representatives of MIRC were under the incorrect assumption that MIRC would automatically be allocated an OGS for one of its students because an OGS matching award was created specifically for MIRC students. But, OGS awards are merit based and not allocated to any departments, centres or research areas because they have matching donor awards. We are removing the condition that the award is to fund the Ontario Graduate Scholarship programs, the rest of the award terms remain the same. There was lots of communication with the donors about this change.

Current Terms:

Established in 2011 by faculty members within the McMaster Immunology Research Centre to contribute funding of the Ontario Graduate Scholarship programs in support of graduate students. To be awarded annually by the School of Graduate Studies, to an outstanding full time M.Sc. or Ph.D. candidate. First preference will be given to a candidate supervised by a graduate faculty supervisor from the McMaster Immunology Research Centre. Second preference will be given to an applicant in the infection and immunity field.

TFOC Approved Terms Change:

Established in 2011 by faculty members within the McMaster Immunology Research Centre to support graduate students. To be awarded annually by the School of Graduate Studies, to an outstanding full time M.Sc. or Ph.D. candidate. First preference will be given to a candidate supervised by a graduate faculty supervisor from the McMaster Immunology Research Centre. Second preference will be given to an applicant in the infection and immunity field.

Agenda Item: Deferral of Graduate Thesis Plagiarism Checking requirement

Due to Turnitin's takeover of Ouriginal, vendor of the Urkund originality scanning software used by McMaster to check the originality of theses and research papers, we have chosen to not renew our subscription and are looking into alternatives.

With the fast approaching deadline of October 1, 2022 to check all graduate theses for originality before public disclosure, and needing to review alternatives thoroughly first, the School of Graduate Studies is seeking to amend the graduate calendar requirement until October 1, 2023.