

Tuesday January 17th at 9:30 am in Council Chambers (GH 11) and via Zoom

Present: S. Hranilovic (Chair), S. Hanna, M. Thompson, M. Heath, M. Horn, M. Verma, T. Chamberlain, N. Kuhathasan, S. Raha, C. Ching, V. Kuperman, T. McDonald, M. Parlar, P. Guo, Z. Samaan, S. Han, B. Trigatti, P. Nyers, N. Malik, D. Emslie, E. Grodek, L. Romane, V. Lewis, S. Bouma, M. McDonald, S. Baschiera (Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary), C. Bryce, (Assistant Graduate Secretary)

Regrets: M. Young, M. Ragany

I. Minutes of the meeting of December 6th, 2022

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that Graduate Council approve the minutes of the meeting of December 6th, 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. Hranilovic reported on the following items:

- The upcoming School of Graduate Studies review taking place on March 22nd and 23rd
- Graduate Funding, noting an ad hoc committee had been established and that they are working to collect data (which is present in multiple locations) first and then to propose a structure for ongoing review, noting there would be a new standing subcommittee of Graduate Council;
- The 25th annual Graduate Student Recognition awards taking place at the Phoenix.

IV. Report from the Graduate Associate Deans

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

- The Faculty of Science Graduate Research Symposium, noting a successful day and the hope that this was the start of a new tradition;

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

- A successful joint workshop between Engineering and Science on the topic of EDI in research

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

- A successful PhD awards night;

- Two upcoming events for the MBA program an alumni reception event and an MBA award event;
- Graduate programs working through their applications.

Drs. Hanna, Heath and Horn had no report.

V. Report from the Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary

Ms. Baschiera reported on the following items:

- SGS and UTS are working together to review McMaster's system for graduate payments;
- They're also looking at records and systems optimization generally, noting great success with Slate and the hope for a similar solution for in-course students on the records and payments side.

Dr. Hranilovic emphasized the need for improvement in the system for these two key administrative tasks.

In response to a question from a member about finances for graduate students, wondering if they're looking at the supervisor's contribution, Dr. Hranilovic drew a distinction between the update from Ms. Baschiera regarding the system to process payments and the discussion of graduate student support. With respect to the ad hoc committee, he noted that as they're seeing in the process of data collection the sources of funding are very diverse.

VI. New Program Proposal – Master of Biomedical Innovation

Dr. Hanna presented the item, noting that the Faculty is proposing a new one year Masters, that had been in development for quite some time. The program had been approved at the Faculty of Health Sciences Executive Council and had had a successful IQAP review. He invited Dr. MacDonald to provide some additional information.

Dr. MacDonald described the program, noting that it focused on innovation in the biomedical sphere, excluding from pharmaceuticals. She highlighted the experiential component of the program, noting that placements are a key part of the proposal. The program is primarily delivered in virtual modules but is also anchored by boot camps. Coaching and mentoring are a key part of the design of the program.

In response to a question about whether the program is self-funded Dr. MacDonald confirmed it was.

Members discussed the stage of approval the proposal was at and a recommendation from the external reviewers report. Dr. MacDonald noted that they interpreted that recommendation as being a prime example of the need for the program. Dr. Hanna confirmed that from his point of view the proposal addresses it.

It was duly moved and seconded **‘that Graduate Council approve the new program as described in the documents.’**

The motion was **carried**.

VII. Faculty of Social Sciences Graduate Curriculum and Policy Committee report

Dr. Heath presented two items for approval:

- The department of political science currently has two areas of specialization and they would like to add additional areas of specialization to reflect current faculty expertise and to benefit students interested in studying in those areas;
- The School of Social Work offers a graduate diploma in community engaged research and evaluation and they want to change the mode of instruction from in person to virtual, noting there are many people who would benefit from the diploma being more broadly accessible.

In response to questions Dr. Heath confirmed that students taking the diploma courses from another program would also take the course online and that the diploma had been running remote through the pandemic and continued to do so successfully.

Dr. Hranilovic noted a friendly amendment to the document, to approve for January 2023.

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

The motion was **carried**.

VIII. Faculty of Business Graduate Curriculum and Policy Committee report

Dr. Verma presented the report, including the following changes:

- A proposal from the Information Systems are of the Ph.D. program to replace an outdated elective course with a more current course.
- The Blended Learning Part-Time MBA program is making an existing course available as an elective to the program.

In response to a question, Dr. Verma noted that he understood P721 to be located at the Burlington Campus. In response to another question he said the new Ph.D. course was not cross-listed.

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

The motion was **carried**.

IX. New Award

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

The motion was **carried.**