

Tuesday May 13th at 9:00 am in GH-111

Present: S. Hranilovic, S. Hranilovic (Chair), S. Hanna, N. Carter, F. Homid, F. Ma, A. Shakib, A. Prasad, S. Hanna, K. McCallum, I. Jahan, T. Ruebottom, B. Newbold, D. Trigatti, M. Verma, M. Heath, N. Wagner, P. Miu, T. Davidson, K. Graham, O. Liao, E. Grodek, M. Gough, B. Milliken, C. Chakraborty, E. Zhou, K. Bhatta, L. Side, J. Antwi-Boasiako, Y. Kim, C. Bryce (Assistance Graduate Secretary), S. Baschiera (Senior Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary)

Regrets: K. Grandfield, C. Biruk, M. Cino, D. Emslie, A. Gadsden, K. Mattison, L. Parker, Y. K. Shin

I. Opening Remarks

Dr. Hranilovic reported on the following items:

- The status of Provincial Attestation Letter (PAL) allocation, noting the benchmarks and timelines McMaster needs to meet to retain the rest of its allocation;
- The development of framework to allow stacking credentials and more flexible access to graduate credentials;
- An overview of the IQAP review process, noting the work involved in the process and the importance of continuous improvement.

Members discussed the IQAP review process, highlighting the intersection with accreditation reviews and the potential for some improvement as it relates to programs who must conduct accreditation reviews in addition to their IQAPs.

II. Minutes of the meeting of April 15th, 2025

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that the Graduate Council approve the minutes of the April 15th, 2025 meeting, as circulated with one correction to a typo.’**

The motion was **carried**.

III. Business arising

There was no business arising.

IV. Report from the Associate Deans, Graduate Studies

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

- The Plenary event;
- Upcoming Faculty of Health Sciences convocation ceremonies.

Dr. Heath (Faculty of Social Sciences) reported on the following item:

- The Faculty’s first alumni workshop on careers beyond academia.

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

- An upcoming GEMS presentation in GH 212;
- The Science Graduate Student Association is seeking nominations for members.

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

- The DeGroote Doctoral Student Association had recently held an event engaging alumni from industry to talk about opportunities outside of academia.

V. Report from the Senior Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary

Ms. Baschiera reported on the following items:

- PAL allocation numbers;
- A focus on converting applicants to students;
- Preparation for the end of the academic year and beginning of the next academic year.

VI. Report from Certificate, Diplomas and Microcredentials Committee

- Graduate Academic Certificate in Data Science, Applied AI, & Organizational Leadership

Dr. Verma presented the certificate, noting a planned launch of fall 2025. It will be delivered in a blended format and consists of 3 courses (6 units of instruction) and can be completed in three weeks.

Dr. Hranilovic highlighted that the unit count is the same as previously approved certificates approved but organized differently.

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that the Graduate Council approve, for recommendation to the University Planning Committee and the Senate, the establishment of the graduate academic certificate in Data Science, Applied AI, & Organizational Leadership, for inclusion in the 2025-2026 Graduate Calendar, as circulated.’**

The motion was **carried**.

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

Dr. Hanna explained the change noting that Health Policy wants to add a part-time option. He highlighted the interdisciplinary nature of the program and the range of courses, with the specific number required being determined by the student’s background. The program would now like to bring students who are already working in policy contexts to do the program part-time. The requirements remain the same but a key feature of the part-time option is that they have made provision for one term of overload if needed.

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that the Graduate Council approve, for recommendation to Senate as appropriate, the changes proposed by the Faculty of Health Sciences, as described in the documents.’**

The motion was **carried**.

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

Dr. Heath presented the change for information, noting a prerequisite was being removed from a course.

IX. Spring 2025 Graduands (to be circulated)

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that Graduate Council approve the list of the 2025 Spring Graduands, with amendments/corrections to be made as necessary by the Senior Associate Graduate Registrar.’**

The motion was **approved**.

X. Final Assessment Reports

Dr. Hranilovic presented the item for information and noted that these documents were publicly available at the end of a review and that they would be useful for anyone preparing for their next review.