

To : Members of Graduate Council

From : Christina Bryce
Assistant Graduate Secretary

The next meeting of Graduate Council will be held on **Tuesday September 23rd at 9:00 am**
in Council Chambers (GH 111)

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. Opening Remarks**
- II. Graduate Council Overview**
- III. Minutes of the meeting of June 3rd, 2025**
Approval
- IV. Business arising**
- V. Report from the Associate Deans, Graduate Studies**
- VI. Report from the Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary**
- VII. Graduate Council Executive Committee Membership**
Approval
- VIII. Quality Assurance Committee Membership**
Approval
- IX. Student Accessibility Services Update**
Information
- X. New Awards**
Approval

Tuesday June 3rd at 9:00 am via Zoom

Present: M. Heath (Chair), B. Newbold, S. Hanna, K. Grandfield, W. Liao, T. Ruebottom, B. Milliken, A. Prasad, M. Cino, D. Trigatti, E. Grodek, M. Gough, K. Graham, F. Homid, J. Antwi-Boasiako, D. Emslie, K. McCallum, K. Mattison, M. Young, Y. Shin, A. Shakib, P. Miu, G. Flynn L. Side, C. Bryce (Assistant Graduate Secretary), S. Baschiera (Senior Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary)

Regrets: S. Hranilovic, C. Biruk, C. Chakraborty, L. Parker, A. Gadsden

I. Minutes of the meeting of May 13th, 2025

It was duly moved and seconded, **‘that the Graduate Council approve the minutes of the May 13th, 2025 meeting, as circulated.’**

The motion was **carried**.

II. Business arising

There was no business arising.

III. Report from the Associate Deans, Graduate Studies

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

- A thank you to the Health Sciences GSA representatives, noting that new elections have taken place for next year’s representatives.

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

- Thanks the Engineering graduate student representatives;
- A meeting where the Faculty hosted all the engineering graduate associate deans from across Ontario;
- A postdoc event social, noting they are looking to continue events in the new year and add professional development opportunities.

Drs. Newbold and Health thanked the graduate students from their Faculties.

IV. Report from the Senior Associate Registrar and Graduate Secretary

Ms. Baschiera reported on the status of Provincial Attestation Letter allocations.

V. New Program Proposal

Dr. Heath introduced Dr. Flynn and noted a correction to the unit count in appendix A, where it listed an old number of units, while the revised version of the proposal now lists the units at 31.5.

Dr. Flynn provided an overview of the program, describing the intended audience and research they'd done with the public and private sector. He highlighted the change to make it a two-track program in response to the IQAP report.

Members discussed the two tracks including expected student interest and the process for declaring they were in a track in the context of a cohort program. Dr. Flynn highlighted that their research suggested that students would want to complete the degree quickly but that there is potential value for recruitment if students were given more time to complete.

In response to the question about unit count change and the part-time versus full-time tracks Dr. Flynn noted the amendment reflected a change to the approach, noting moving the intensive weeks into separate courses will build greater flexibility and described the difference in the expectation of depth of knowledge between students in the existing MPP program versus the new program.

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 Master of Public Policy in Digital Solutions, Strategies and Leadership, as circulated.'**

The motion was **carried**.

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

Dr. Hanna provided an overview of the items for information, noting that for the new course for Health Research Methodology it's listed as being cross-listed with Nursing but is only a Health Research Methodology course.

VII. Faculty of Science Graduate Curriculum and Policy Committee Report

Dr. Newbold provided an overview of the items for information, noting that as the program was interdisciplinary the items had also been approved by the Faculty of Health Sciences.

VIII. New Scholarships

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

The motion was **carried**.

2025-2026 Graduate Council Subcommittee Membership

Executive Committee

Associate Deans:

Melanie Heath

Kathryn Grandfield

Faculty Members:

Dino Trigatti

Catherine Anderson

Student Members:

Korede Ologun

Luc Klein

Quality Assurance Committee

Dave Goutor (Social Sciences)

September 2025 Graduate Council

New Awards (FHS) – For Approval

Award Name: The Celeste Ann Petrusevski (Popelas) Memorial Bursary in Physiotherapy

Terms:

Established in 2024 by the family, friends, and loved ones of Celeste Petrusevski, who was passionate about community-based primary health care, physical literacy and population health. To be awarded to graduate students enrolled in the physiotherapy program Level 2 or enrolled in the Rehabilitation Sciences Program in Level 2 or higher. Preference will be given to those who share similar interests as Celeste, who are in the dual degree PT / PhD Program and/or who have previously completed graduate work prior to starting their current Program of studies. Expenditures from the Fund will be guided at the discretion of the Vice-Dean and Executive Director of the School of Rehabilitation Science.

New Awards (SGS) – For Approval

Award Name: The Microsoft Scholarship for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Terms:

Established in 2025 by Microsoft. To be awarded by the School of Graduate Studies, on the recommendation of the W Booth School of Engineering Practice and Technology, to a master's student in the W Booth School of Engineering Practice, who self-identifies as a member of an equity-deserving group and demonstrates academic excellence. Preference will be given to students in the Master of Engineering and Entrepreneurship and Innovation program.