

**Summary Minutes of a Meeting of the
COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
Held in the Council Chamber, University Hall
Friday, May 9, 2008, 2:00 pm**

Attendance

M Shirvani in the Chair L McGann
M Allen P Schiavone

Department Representatives

E Bork, Ag, Food & Nutri Sciences	L Guilbert, Med Micro & Immunology
G Forth, Anthropology	P Lucy, Medicine
B Lemire, Biochemistry	R Thornberry, Modern Lang & Cultural Studies
H McDermid, Biological Sciences	H Bashaw, Music
D Cooper, Business PhD	K Moore, Nursing
B Hayes, Chem & Materials Eng	R Godbout, Oncology
J Takats, Chemistry	Y Sauve, Ophthalmology
M Loewen, Civil & Environ Engineering	A El-Kadi, Pharmacy & Pharm Sciences
I Sywenky, Comp Literature	C Benishin, Physiology
L Kline, Dentistry	N Galambos, Psychology
S Wilson, Economics	A Senthilselvan, Public Health Sciences
F Peters, Educational Policy Studies	P Hagler, Rehabilitation Science
C Rinaldi, Educational Psychology	F Landry, Religious Studies
J McMullin, Electric & Comp Engineering	N Krogman, Rural Economy
J McClay, Elementary Education	W Johnston, Sociology
H Madill, Health Promotion Studies	P Schneider, Speech Pathology & Aud
C MacKay, History and Classics	
M MacGregor, Internetworking	
J Martin, Lab Medicine & Pathology	
A Samek, Library & Info Studies	
M Glerum, Medical Genetics	

Graduate Student Representatives

C Levesque, GSA VP Academic	A Camino, Civil & Enviro Engineering
D Manolescu, GSA VP Labour Relations	B Jensen, Earth & Atmos Sciences
Hossein Zeinali, GSA VP Op & Service	K Cameron, Educational Psychology
C Prado, Ag, Food & Nutri Sciences	N Shahbakhti, Mechanical Engineering
L Sutherland, Ag, Food & Nutri Sciences	M Lamey, Physics
D MacRitchie, Biological Sciences	M Avey, Psychology

Ex Officio

R Elio, Office of the VP (Research)

C Amrhein joined council and introduced Dr Mazi Shirvani as the Interim Dean of FGSR for a period of 2 years. An official announcement from UHall is forthcoming.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

a. Approval of the minutes of March 27, 2008.

The minutes were approved.

b. Matters arising

None.

3. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Report of the Graduate Scholarship Committee

The Chair presented the Graduate Scholarship Committee Report.

D Cooper inquired if a copy of the adjudication information could go to unsuccessful applicants to aid them in future applications.

The Chair said some students are not discussed, as they are not at minimum requirements, and the individual student assessments are shredded immediately following the meeting. FGSR workshops already exist, if students and coordinators are willing to take a pro-active approach.

Clarification was requested regarding the President's Doctoral Prize of Distinction (PDPD). The Chair explained PDPD is an improvement on the Walter John's Award. CGSD recipients are eligible for this award, but half their award (\$5,000) will come from their home faculty, as agreed upon by the Deans. It is up to each faculty's Dean to determine if this money is coming from their general operating budget, or from the supervisor's budget.

4. NEW BUSINESS

List of Graduands

MOTION It was moved and seconded that the list of graduands, subject to future
VOTE amendments, be approved. The motion was PUT and CARRIED, 40-2, 4 abstentions.
Any amendments are to be sent to Heather Hogg by May 12, 2008.

5. INFORMAL BUSINESS

a. Discussion Topic: External Examiner Funding

The Chair explained that \$60,000 is planned for External Examiners in FGSR's 2007-8 budget, though \$140,000 was spent last year (\$59,000 on travel; \$79,000 on honoraria: \$2,000 on miscellaneous). What is council's advice on how to spend the \$60,000?

Recommendations from council included:

- Use external readers, rather than external examiners
- Divide the money by department, based on the number of thesis-based students, to keep money for those defending their thesis late in the year
- A loss of the \$200 honoraria will not affect examiner attendance
- Invest the money in smart classrooms with high-quality large screens, and promote including the examiner through phone or tele-conference

The Chair thanked council for their feedback, and planned to make an inventory of available smart rooms, and will work on a plan to proceed.

b. Question Period

A Councilor requested clarification on the new structure of the faculty reviews. The Chair said that the new reviews are now coordinated by the Office of the Provost. Also, GRAF was removed from the FGSR two years ago, and is also be distributed by the Office of the Provost.

c. Announcements and Reports by the Chair and Councillors

1. Graduate financial support data

The Chair presented statistics on grad student financial support.

2. Establishing a graduate policy review committee

No formal graduate policy review committee has ever been in place. The chair is seeking two to three council members, two to three FGSR staff, and members of the GSA to review policy and bring motions to council. This will be established at September's council meeting.

3. Establishing advisory user groups

Names of anyone interested in participating in focus groups can be forwarded to Randy Lievers.

4. Research 900 update / reminder

Students participating in Research 900 should contact Heather Hogg or Carmen Pallett. Applications to Research 900 need to be done with a paper form, and the FGSR will pay the \$100 application fee.

5. Nominees for the Graduate Scholarship Committee

Nominations for the Graduate Scholarship Committee can be sent to The Chair or to Lynne Blair.

6. Communicating with Departments

The Counselors gave positive feedback concerning the E-bulletins coming from the FGSR. Possible improvements included fewer attachments, and having more web-based information.

7. Suspension of the Research Abroad program

Due to the FGSR budget deficit, this program has been suspended.

d. Other Business

M Allen asked the Chair to convey to mark Dale our profound gratitude for his time as Dean of FGSR. This was passed unanimously by council.

The Chair announced that Dr Peter Schiavone will be taking a post as Associate Dean in the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.