

**MINUTES**  
**Thursday, November 16, 2017**  
**ST 147 Main Campus 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

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Chair: **L. Young**  
Recording Secretary: S. Larsen  
Attendance:

**Members Present**

Achari, G.  
Afyouni, T.  
Apple, J.  
Azaiez, J.  
Bertram, J.  
Braun, A.  
Curtin, S.  
Dawson, P.  
Dyck, R.  
Egberts, P.  
Fapojuwo, A.  
Field, J.  
Franceschet, S. (*R. Huebert*)  
Gadbois, D.  
Hagen, G.  
Hansen, D.  
Humble, N.  
Jacobsen, M.  
Klumpenhauer, W.  
Lucas, A.  
Manzocco, C.  
McCafferty, D.

Mendaglio, S.  
Mohammadi, N.  
Monteyne, D.  
Moorhead, G.  
Nelson, F.  
Norman, A.  
O'Brien, M.  
Oddone Paolucci, E.  
Paris, B.  
Raffin Bouchal, S.  
Roy, S.  
Sallis, F.  
Samavati, F.  
Saweczko, A.  
Sideris, M.  
Spangler, J.  
Ware, A.  
Warsame, H.  
Wilson, R.  
Winters, S.  
Wright, M.  
Wulff, D.  
Yates, R.

**Members Absent**

Aycock, J.  
Beattie, T.  
Brodie, I.  
Campbell, T.  
Cannon, E.  
Childs, S.  
Clarke, M.  
Colicos, M.  
Donovan, E.  
Dueck, C.  
Hettiaratchi, P.  
Johnson, J.  
Johnston, R.  
Magesan, A.  
Mains, P.

Mayr, S.  
McDermid, G.  
Pexman, P.  
Ryan, C.  
Sandalack, B.  
St. George, S.  
Tepperman, C.  
Thangadurai, V.  
Thundathil, J.  
Wiley, P.  
Woiceshyn, J.  
Wright, Jim  
Wright, John  
Zach, R.

**Faculty of Graduate Studies  
Officers Present**

Nathoo, S.  
Robinson, G.  
Srivastava, A.  
Stiven, C.

**Faculty of Graduate Studies  
Officers Absent****Guests**

Steve Zimmerly  
Dru Marshall  
Ed McCauley  
Courtney McVie  
France Goulet  
Jackie Sieppert  
Frank Maurer  
Philip Fong  
Jim Stallard  
Ray Patterson  
Tyler Williamson  
Kelly Hogle  
Coral Taylor

**1.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Chair called the meeting to order and asked for approval of the agenda, noting one revision: the removal of proposal 10.1b Master's in Engineering, Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation.

**MOTION: Moved /Seconded**

That FGS Council approve the agenda for the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council Meeting of November 16, 2017

**CARRIED**

**2.0 Approval of FGS Council Meeting November 2, 2017 Minutes****MOTION: Moved/Seconded**

That FGS Council approve the minutes for the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council Meeting of Nov. 2, 2017.

**CARRIED**

### **3.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters raised at this time.

### **4.0 Report from the Chair**

The Chair provided a slide presentation, and additional information included:

- Two meetings have been arranged to discuss the Funding Allocation proposal. Program specific information has been sent out and programs with significant changes have been contacted.
- Feedback on the new Future Student Site was requested, and the information will be pulled together in the new year.
- FGS Council members were invited to participate in a book club focused on “Inside Graduate Admissions” by Julie R. Posselt. Conversations will take place in the new year and will be particularly relevant to programs with admissions committees.
- Related to the Indigenous Strategy, events focused on “Decolonizing the Dissertation” will take place throughout the year. Upcoming is a panel discussion with new indigenous faculty on campus sharing their PhD experience. Also, a mentorship group is being started by Vicki Bouvier utilizing a grant from the GSA.
- Information will be sent out soon regarding one-time funding opportunities for International Research.

The Chair provided background on the creation of the Funding Policy, Program Policy Template and the Funding Allocation Proposal. The following information was noted:

- Two half day funding retreats were held in the winter of 2017 to gather thoughts and develop a common understanding of the complexity of funding students.
- Regarding the new Funding Allocation proposal, three changes have been made to present practice:
  - Moving partially away from treating the three tri-councils differently.
  - Eliminating the rule that a program will not go up or down more than 10% as it has caused enormous inequity over time.
  - Awarding funds based on merit has been largely abandoned (e.g. rewards for time to completion).
- Regarding the program specific information provided to programs to add clarity to the Funding Allocation Proposal, the following should be kept in mind:
  - Students in year 5 and beyond in PhD should not be included.
  - Students in year 3 and beyond in Master’s should not be included.
  - A PhD student should be counted as “1” and a Master’s student as “.8”.
  - Students should be counted from the last week of September of this year.
  - Regarding student transfers, the following example was noted: if a student has two years in one program and transfers to another, it would be considered the third year.

### **5.0 Reports from the FGS Assistant/Associate Deans**

#### **5.1 Suzanne Curtin, Associate Dean (Student)**

S. Curtin reported the following:

- Jaya Dixit is on Maternity Leave and Michelle Speta has taken over as Graduate Academic and International Specialist.
- There were 52 new cases added since September with 64 active student related cases overall.
- Extended Graduate Orientation is ongoing with a session on the first Thursday of each month. The program has been well received and attended by a diverse group of students.

#### **5.2 Dave Hansen, Assistant Dean (Supervisory Development)**

D. Hansen provided information on two upcoming workshops on resolving conflicts: one for supervisors and one for students.

### **5.3 Jalel Azaiez, Associate Dean (Policy)**

J. Azaiez reported on the status of Candidacy Regulations noting the expectation that all programs will have completed their regulations before January 1, 2018. Also, GPDs were asked to make sure their colleagues are aware of deadlines and regulations pertaining to this time of year.

## **6.0 REPORT FROM THE GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT**

W. Klumpenhauer, on behalf of B. Paris, reported that:

- Graduate Citizenship Award winners have been chosen and names were sent to the province.
- A workshop on Labour Relations will be held for graduate students early in the new year.
- A Labour Relations Pilot Committee is being formed for the purpose of ensuring we comply with the changes required by Bill 7, which was passed last year.
- Graduate student groups based on common interests have been formed, and FGS Council members may receive requests to be advisors or sponsors.
- Audits have been taking place at the Last Defence Lounge with positive results.

## **7.0 REPORT FROM THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**

This report was postponed to the next FGS Council meeting.

## **8.0 REPORT FROM THE GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE**

L. Young reported that upcoming GAPS meetings will be very busy with the numerous proposals coming through for approval at present.

## **9.0 QUESTION PERIOD**

No questions were asked at this time.

## **10.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **10.1 Master of Engineering – Interdisciplinary – G. Achari**

Documents were circulated with the agenda.

G. Achari provided an overview of the proposal using a slide presentation and the following points were noted:

- Presently the course based Master of Engineering program has five different departmental routes.
- This proposal introduces an interdisciplinary program where two or more departments can create a program together (e.g. Environmental Engineering).
- The degree would be an MEng Interdisciplinary Engineering with the sub specialization noted.
- In this initial proposal, the sub-specializations are within Engineering, but they will be looking to broaden the scope.
- To add a new specialization (e.g. Computer Science; Mechatronics) a complete internal university consultation with associated programs/faculties and a detailed approvals process would take place. It would not need to go to the province, however, given the framework of this initial proposal.

### **MOTION: Moved/Seconded**

That the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council recommend the creation of the interdisciplinary Engineering specialization within the Master of Engineering program, as set out in the proposal provided to the committee.

**CARRIED** pending approval by all approval bodies in the Schulich School of Engineering (SSE) including SSE Council.

**Recorder's Note:** France Goulet and Courtney McVie joined the meeting in support of the speakers for the next agenda item.

### **10.2 Renewal of Academic and Research Plans - Dru Marshall/Ed McCauley**

Chair introduced D. Marshall and E. McCauley and offered congratulations on the Indigenous Strategy which was formally launched today.

D. Marshall and E. McCauley provided overviews of the Academic Plan and the Research Plan and the following points were noted in the discussion:

- Eyes High is very high level vision, and the Academic and Research Plans include goals, priorities and specific implementation strategies.
- Seven priorities from the previous plan were merged into three new priorities.
- Student Experience and Campus Culture have been added to the Academic Plan.
- A significant change in Eyes High was the addition of Innovation to enable creative and entrepreneurial thinking across all endeavors including pedagogy.
- Units will be supported in their growth, and the yearly institutional plans will include components from the units in the form of a table.

As the Academic and Research Plans relate to graduate students, the following was noted:

- Professional degrees are being developed in response to community needs and the government is assisting by expediting the approvals process.
- Graduate certificates are important opportunities for students and Alberta Advanced Education has agreed to approve any coming forward in three months.
- The changing nature of Doctoral degrees will continue to be discussed.
- Increasing and protecting base funds for graduate education will continue to be a focus.
- Recruitment of international students will continue to be important. Fees for these students have not increased in the last few years and are very low compared to other institutions.
- Advocacy for international students is ongoing and challenging.
- The University of Calgary is a leader in professional development for students and the goal is to maintain this strong level of support.
- A suggestion was made to put "Prioritizing People" centrally on the overview chart (as opposed to on the side) as it is an overriding principle.

### **10.3 Indigenous Strategy – J. Sieppert**

J. Sieppert provided a presentation on the Indigenous Strategy. The following points were noted:

- The formal launch took place today and the document is available through the website.
- This needs to be a living strategy; a generational project which will be ongoing.
- 3 to 4% of our current student population are indigenous and most are in Education, Social Work, Arts and Community Health. The assumption is that this number needs to be much higher.
- There are recommendations aimed at supporting faculty and building capacity to teach indigenous students and to incorporate indigenous knowledge.
- Rethinking the protocols for thesis and dissertations to take into account the oral tradition was recommended.
- J. Sieppert, A. Srivastava and D. Wulff were congratulated for their work on the strategy. The path forward has been laid through the strategy and now implementation will begin.
- The university has set aside funds to support the Indigenous Strategy, a Vice Provost will be hired, and Shawna Cunningham was recently appointed Director, Indigenous Strategy.
- The University of Calgary's process in developing the strategy positions us to lead nationally in this endeavor.

***Recorder's Note: Information on the following two proposals 10.4 and 10.5 was shared in one presentation.***

**10.4 Data Science Certificate and Diploma – F. Maurer/J. Stallard/F. Samavati/E. Sharlin/R. Patterson**

Documents were circulated with the agenda.

F. Maurer provided an overview of the Data Science and Information Security proposals. Regarding Data Science the following points were noted:

- The overall, long range goal is to have a Professional Master's in Data Science.
- The first two steps of the process are in this proposal: the creation of a certificate in the fundamentals of data science, and the creation of a diploma that involves more advanced courses.
- A substantial demand for this program is expected as it can provide retraining to professionals in a broad range of fields who are looking for a career change.
- Initial connections are with the Cumming School of Medicine and Haskayne School of Business. The framework is set up so that other faculty specializations can be added.

Regarding Information Security the following was noted:

- A Professional Masters in Information Security is being planned. The first steps are the creation of the two certificates in this proposal: one in Network Security and one in Software Security. These are highly desired learning areas in the field of Information Technology.
- Designed for professionals wanting to upgrade their skills and for recent computer science degree holders.

The following applies to both proposals:

- Demand for Data Science programs is expected to be greater than Information Security as it is a means to changing fields or careers.
- Sessional instructors will be hired to teach undergraduate courses to allow full time faculty to teach the new Data Science courses.
- Greater clarity was requested in the budget notes for technology and infrastructure costs.

**MOTION: Moved/Seconded**

That the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council Committee recommend the proposal to create two new programs in data science and analytics: a) the Post-baccalaureate Certificate in Fundamental Data Science and Analytics; and b) the Post-baccalaureate Diploma in Data Science and Analytics, as set out in the proposals provided to the committee.

**CARRIED pending approval by the Faculty of Science Council, the Haskayne School of Business Council and the Cumming School of Medicine Council.**

**10.5 Information Security Certificates – F. Maurer/P. Fong/F. Samavati**

Documents were circulated with the agenda.

**MOTION: Moved/Seconded**

That the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council recommend the proposal to create two new programs in information security: a) the Post-baccalaureate Certificate in Network Security; and b) the Post-baccalaureate Certificate in Software Security, as set out in the proposals provided to the committee.

**CARRIED pending approval by the Faculty of Science Council.**

**10.6 Funding Policy and Template – L. Young**

Documents were circulated with the agenda.

This agenda item was postponed until the January 11, 2018 FGS Council meeting due to time constraints.

**11.0 Approved Candidacy Regulations**

The approved candidacy regulations for Mathematics and Statistics were provided for information.

**12.0 Scholarships**

The Terms of Reference for new scholarships were provided to FGS Council members as information in the meeting package.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**13.0** The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.