

**MINUTES**  
**November 25, 2021**  
**Zoom meeting**  
**2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

Chair: R. Yates  
 Recording Secretary: H. Waqar  
 Attendance:

| <b>Members Present</b>  |  |  | <b>Members Absent</b>  | <b>Faculty of Graduate Studies Officers Present</b>   |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| Achari, G. (SSE)<br>Anderson, D. (CSM)<br>Amedegnato O. (LLAC/FISL/GSEA)<br>Beattie, T. (CSM)<br>Bertram, J. (BMEN)<br>Blue, G. (GEOG)<br>Bonni, S. (MDSC)<br>Boyd, J. (CPSC)<br>Braun, A. (MDCV)<br>Brown, J-A (PHAS)<br>Campbell, L. (LAW)<br>Clarke, M. (ENCH)<br>Cobb, J. (BMB)<br>Colpitts, G. (ARTS)<br>Cunningham, C. (FGS)<br>Dambrowitz, A. (Registrar)<br>De Koning, J. (MBBC)<br>Dimitropoulos, G. (SOWK)<br>Dolata, P. (HIST)<br>Drefs, M. (FGS)<br>Ducey, A. (SOCI)<br>Fapojuwu, A. (ENEC)<br>Field, J. (EDER)<br>Forlini, S. (ENGL)<br>Greenberg, M. (Data Sci/Math)<br>Hastings-Simon, S. (SEDV)<br>Halek, M. (MGMT)<br>Hexham, I. (GRST/RELS)<br>Hiebert, M. (CMSS) | Hunt, J-D (ENCL)<br>King-Shier, K. (NURS)<br>Keller, J. (CMMS)<br>Krawetz, R. (MDBT)<br>Lashewicz, B. (MDCH)<br>Leblanc, J. (ART)<br>Levey, A. (PHIL)<br>MacCallum, J. (CHEM)<br>MacDonald, J. (MBBC)<br>McCafferty, D-M. (FGS)<br>McLaughlin, A-M (SOWK)<br>McGrath, D. (PSYC)<br>Morton, C. (ENME)<br>Neprily, K. (GSA)<br>Nguyen, M-D (MDNS)<br>O'Brien, M. (FGS)<br>Oehlberg, L. (CPSC)<br>Paquette, A. (GSA)<br>Pounder, A. (LING)<br>Priest, J. (SSE)<br>Radford, L. (MUSI)<br>Ryan, C. (SCIENCE)<br>Sherer, P. (MGMT)<br>Schroeder, M. (EDC)<br>Shandro, T. (GSA)<br>Simmons, M. (EDC)<br>Shutt, T. (CSM)<br>Stefanakis, E. (ENGO)<br>Thundathil, J. (VMS)<br>Tombe, T. (ECON)<br>Tomfohr-Madsen, L. (CPSY)<br>Welling, J. (ARTS)<br>Wilson, W. (ANTH/ARKY) | Wu, L-A (CPSC/DataSci)<br>Wu, J. (MATHS)<br>Wylant, B. (SAPL)<br>Wasmuth, J. (GRAD COLLEGE)<br>Vamosi, J. (BISI)<br>Yates, R. (FGS)<br>Zhang, M. (GSA) | Baral, K. (GSA)<br>Hedges, P. (MGMT DBA)<br>Colicos, M (MDNS)<br>Doyle-Baker, T. (KNES)<br>Hamel, C. (SAPL)<br>Heggerud, C. (MBA)<br>Moody, C. (MGMT)<br>Snider, B. (MGMT-EMBA)<br>Spencer, B. (EDER)<br>Jacobson, M. (CPSC)<br>McCauley, E. (UCAL)<br>Terriff, T. (POLI)<br>Wright, Jim (MPATH)<br>Young, L. (PPOL) | McLeod, C.<br>Nathoo, S.<br>Stiven, C.<br>Waqar, H.<br><br><b>Guests</b><br>Burciaga, E.P. (Provost's Office)<br>Revington, J. (Provost's Office) |

**1.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Chair called the meeting to order with a Territorial Acknowledgement and asked for approval of the agenda.

**MOTION: Moved /Seconded**  
 That FGS Council approve the agenda for the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council Meeting of November 25, 2021.

**CARRIED with one amendment**

*Secretary's Note: The Chair added the addition of the Report from the RSL Committee Chair as an amendment.*

**2.0 Approval of FGS Council Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION: Moved/Seconded**

That FGS Council approve the minutes for the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council Meeting of October 28, 2021.

**CARRIED with one amendment to the attendees list**

*Secretary's Note: Tara Beattie was not present at the October 28, 2021 meeting.*

**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 presentation, highlighting current topics of interest. The following points were noted:

- The Chair briefly talked about Budget Planning 2022-23. He discussed the anticipated cut to the Campus Alberta Grant as well as the anticipated cut to the FGS Operating budget (which is approximately 2.2%).
- The Chair talked about the on-going consultation with regards to tuition process. Thesis based students are still at a 2% and EdD and Master of Music have been included in this category. We originally had the student services fee at 10% but it has now been adjusted to a 7% increase across the board. There is an exception to athletic fee which has been reduced to a 4%. This will now go the BOG for approval.
- Vaccine compliance mandate was also discussed. All students must be fully vaccinated and have provided proof through the THRIVE App to be able to register into the classes for the upcoming Winter term.
- Course based Graduate students who are noncompliant will be deregistered. They can, however, register in courses that are coded as online, take an official leave of absence, stay in their program with 0 units (they will be charged general fees) or voluntarily withdraw from the program. If students have been provided formal accommodation under protected grounds, then these students will be allowed to continue in program with an accommodation.
- Non-compliant thesis-based students will be involuntarily withdrawn from their program. This will be shown as 'administrative requirement to withdraw' from their programs. Non-compliant students can complete a Winter 2022 off campus attestation (i.e., the student/s will be off campus and will not use any research facilities etc. that require them to be on campus). The supervisor will also have to attest that they can continue their scholarly endeavours without disruption. If students have been provided formal accommodation under protected grounds, then these students will be allowed to continue in program with an accommodation.
- All employees regardless of their work location are mandated to be vaccinated and their information uploaded onto the THRIVE App.
- The Chair also talked about GAT planning for Winter 2022 and how to navigate it with regards to the COVID mandate.

**5.0 Report from the Associate Deans**

Main points of each of the AD reports are as follows:

**Mary O' Brien (FGS Associate Dean)**

- Thanked everyone on completing survey on capstone courses. Mary will present the results to the FGS Council soon.

- Asked the programs to schedule a meeting with her if there were questions or concerns after the presentation on FGS Funding Operating Standards.

#### **Donna Marie McCafferty (FGS Associate Dean)**

Quota of applications for the CGS-D has been forwarded to the national competition

- The IGA competition is currently under adjudication
- The Deadline for the CGS-M is Dec 1<sup>st</sup>
- The GAC competition is open and active: includes the Entrance, Killam and AB-I. Check

Programs for internal deadlines

- There is a GAC workshop next Friday Dec 3rd at 10 am
- GLC has scheduled a number of Cafes and drop-in sessions to help students with their applications. Students need to sign up for these.

#### **Michelle Drefs (FGS Associate Dean)**

- Nothing to add at this point.

#### **Clifton Cunningham (FGS Associate Dean)**

- 40 new supervisors have signed up for the upcoming Supervisor's workshop.
- Clifton also mentioned that a new Graduate Advisor is joining their team.

### **6.0 Report from the Graduate College Head**

The main points of the presentation by the Graduate College Head are as follows:

- The Graduate College Head mentioned that they are currently going through the applications for the Graduate Scholars. They are hoping for a diverse and interdisciplinary intake.
- The Graduate College is looking forward to holding in-person events in 2022.

### **7.0 Report from the Graduate Students' Association**

The main points of the presentation by the GSA Rep are as follows:

- November is advocacy month for the GSA
- Numerous events are being set up for the students. All students are encouraged to attend.
- Labour union basic event which is useful for anyone holding a GAT is also being conducted
- Q&A is posted to the GSA page for the Labour Union side of things presented by the Chair.
- GSA is also the Labour Union for the Graduate Students
- Fall intake for quality money has just been closed.

### **8.0 Report from the General Faculties Council**

The main points of the presentation by the GFC Rep are as follows:

- GFC has started to include an 'inclusive practice moment' at the start of the meetings.
- Advocacy efforts at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels were discussed.
- Student at Risk Annual Report and the Student Academic Misconduct Report was presented.
- 2021 Institutional Sustainability Report, The International Report and the Report on Continuing Education Enrolment were also presented.
- The GFC Representative also reminded everyone that there are currently 4 senior leadership searches that are on-going University wide.

### **9.0 Report from the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee of GFC Representative**

The main points of the presentation by the GAPS Rep are as follows:

- The following were brought forward to the last GAPS meeting – Improvement in changes to the admission requirements for Graduate programs in psychology and clinical psychology and the recommendation of the Doctor of Nursing program

**10.0 Report from the GFC Teaching and Learning Subcommittee Representative**

The main points of the presentation by the GFC T&L Rep are as follows:

- USRI recommendation report is out and ready for feedback.
- The Rep will be attending the Jan 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please talk to the Rep if you would like to have your views represented for this.

**11.0 Report from the RSL Subcommittee Representative**

- Alberta to become a national hub for the Quantum.
- Giving the opportunity to discuss and respond to the pilot plan for the EDI awards. All information available on the EDI website. Ample opportunity for consultation.

**12.0 Question Period**

- None.

*Secretary's Note: The Chair explained the process of the Council.*

**13.0 Creation of a Course Based Master of Arts in Sociology (Ducey/McLean)**

- The Department of Sociology proposes to create a 27-unit, course-based M.A. program in Sociology, to be offered alongside existing thesis-based degree.
- The major revisions being proposed for the M.A. (course-based) stream are to:
  - replace the thesis requirement with extra coursework and a research paper requirement; and
  - shorten the recommended time to completion from 20 months to 12 months.
- The proposed, course-based program would be an academic degree in Sociology and would reflect contemporary standards for M.A. degrees in Sociology across research-intensive universities in Canada.
- Students in the course-based and thesis-based program streams will be prepared to pursue doctoral studies should they choose to do so.
- The proposed program will provide a higher level of choice and flexibility to students, while enabling more tenured and tenure-track faculty members in the Department of Sociology to teach at the graduate level – thereby providing graduate students with access to the more complete breadth and depth of faculty expertise in our department.
- This program will allow increase in enrollments, to enrich student experience and to support EDI initiatives.
- The difference between the two programs was discussed (i.e., the structure of the course-based program is similar to other course-based programs at the Faculty of Arts).
- The structure of the final capstone project was discussed as was the ethics approval required.
- The EDI and Indigenous component of the strategy was discussed.

**MOTION**

That the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a course-based Master of Arts in Sociology, as set out in the proposal provided to the committee.

**CARRIED**

**14.0 Suspension of the Master of Music (MMus) Specializing in Conducting (Welling)**

- The School of Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA) proposed to suspend the Conducting

- specialization in the Master of Music (MMus) program.
- Currently, there are no students in this program.
- The University of Calgary also does not currently have any full-time faculty members who teach in this area, resulting in limited supervisory capacity.
- Faculty members who previously taught and supervised students in this area have since retired, and their positions have not been replaced.
- The SCPA proposed to suspend the specialization for the next three years, with the suspension period beginning immediately upon approval.
- This suspension period will provide the SCPA with the opportunity to review the specialization and determine a future course of action that addresses the specialization's current challenges.

**MOTION**

That the Faculty of Graduate Studies Executive Committee recommend that APPC suspend the Master of Music (Specialization in Conducting), as set out in the documents provided to the Committee.

**CARRIED**

**15.0**

**Suspension of PhD in Music (MMus) – Specialization in Composition, Specialization in Musicology, and Specialization in Sonic Arts (Welling)**

- The School of Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA) proposed to suspend three specializations in the PhD in Music. These three specializations are as follows: the Specialization in Composition, the Specialization in Musicology, and the Specialization in Sonic Arts.
- All three of these specializations are in need of reassessment, particularly with reference to their overall sustainability.
- Previously, there were a number of faculty members teaching in all three areas of study. Many of these faculty members have since retired, and their positions have not been replaced. Furthermore, small cohort sizes and limited supervisory capacity have significantly hampered the SCPA's ability to offer courses that enrich student learning.
- Based on enrolment and current teaching/supervisory capacity, none of these specializations are sustainable in their current form.
- The SCPA proposed to suspend these specializations for the next three years, with the suspension period beginning immediately upon approval.
- This suspension period will provide the SCPA with the opportunity to review the specializations and determine a future course of action that addresses current and associated challenges.

**MOTION**

That the Faculty of Graduate Studies Executive Committee recommend that APPC suspend the PhD in Music (Specialization in Composition, Specialization in Musicology, Specialization in Sonic Arts), as set out in the documents provided to the Committee.

**CARRIED with an abstention**

*Secretary's Note: Laurie Radford abstained*

**16.0**

**Graduate Certificates in Advanced Engineering Practice (Achari)**

- The Schulich School of Engineering (SSE) proposed the creation of two graduate level certificates, Graduate Certificate in Advanced Engineering Practice I and II.

- Both certificates are 12-unit graduate level programs, which allow students to opt from three areas of sub-specialization: Software Engineering, Process Engineering Sustainability, and Process Simulation Analytics.
- All courses being offered as part of the certificate programs are existing courses that are being routinely taught at SSE.
- The SSE has identified a demand for graduate-level credentialing for professional engineers, as currently there are limited opportunities for professional engineers who wish to upskill or re-skill and who do not have the time and resources to commit to a two-year Master of Engineering (M.Eng.) degree.
- The proposed certificates will fill this gap, by providing a flexible and bite-sized offering in fields in high-demand.
- It was recommended to the proponent by the FGS Council to kindly ensure that the intention of the certificates to be laddered into a master's program and the timeline surrounding were clear in the proposal.
- It was recommended by the FGS Council to ensure that the intention of the certificates to be laddered into a master's program and the timeline surrounding was clear in the proposal.
- There was discussion around synergies with the data science program and the distinction between the Software Engineering (SSE) and Computer Sciences (Faculty of Science) courses offered through the two faculties. The proponent was asked to outline the distinctions between any specializations and existing programs/specializations in other Faculties. Specifically, consultation with the Computer Science department is required.
- The Data Engineering specialization was not considered by FGSC given the ongoing consultations with the Faculty of Science. Following thorough consultation, the proponent was asked to determine the next steps for the evaluation and approval of this specialization should it be decided to go forward.

**MOTION**

That the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of the Graduate Certificate in Advanced Engineering Practice I and Graduate Certificate in Advanced Engineering Practice II in the Schulich School of Engineering, as set out in the proposal provided to the committee with the requested amendments.

**CARRIED with three abstentions**

*Secretary's Note: Matthew Greenberg, John Hunt and one other GPD abstained.*

**MOTION**

That the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of the specializations in Software Engineering, Process Engineering Sustainability and Process Simulation Analytics in the Graduate Certificates in Advanced Engineering Practice I and Graduate Certificate in Advance Engineering Practice II pending their final approval.

**CARRIED with three abstentions**

*Secretary's Note: The specialization in Data Engineering was not included in this motion.*

*Secretary's Note: Amendments to the original motions were made. John Hunt, Matthew Greenberg and Lora Oehlberg abstained.*

**17.0 FGS Operating Standards (Paquette and O' Brien)**

- Current minimum PhD funding is \$18,000/year (\$22,000/year for international students) for 4 years. On the basis of feedback received at town hall meetings, the proposal is to increase this minimum amount to \$22,000/year for four years for all domestic PhD students and to \$24,000 for all international PhD students.

- There is currently no funding requirement for master's students. While many programs offer funding to their master's students, the funding varies greatly across campus. Funding, when it exists, can be as low as the value of a single GA assignment.
- On the basis of feedback received at town hall meetings, the revised proposal is to provide minimum funding of \$12,000/year to all thesis-based MA and MSc students for 2 years.
- Since the most recent revisions, the IGTA (i.e., additional scholarship funding of \$3,000 for all international graduate students), which will effectively bring the guaranteed minimum funding for international graduate students to \$27,000 has been launched.
- A non-binding straw poll was conducted at the meeting; the results of which are as follows:

Will your PhD program be able to handle a minimum of \$22,000 for domestic and \$24,000 for 4 years for international PhD students who start after August 2022? 73% participants responded as yes, the remainder as no.

Will your MA/MSc program be able to handle a minimum of \$12,000 for 2 years students who start after August 2022? 73% participants responded as yes, the remainder as no.

### **Other Business**

**Adjournment**    The FGS Council meeting ended at 3:55 pm