

MINUTES
January 19, 2023
Zoom Meeting
2:30-4:30pm

Chair: R. Yates

Recording Secretary: I. Hernandez

Members Present Achari, G (SSE) Akbari, M (GSA) Anderson, D (CSM) Bakardjieva, M (CMMS) Beattie, T (CSM) Blue, G (GEOG) Bonni, S (MDSC) Bratishenko, E (LLAC) Brown, J (PHAC) Campbell, L (LAW) Clarke, M (ENCH) Dambrowitz, A (Registrar) de Koning, J (MBBC) Dimitropoulos, G (SOWK) Dolata, P (HIST) Doyle-Baker, P (KINES) Drefs, M (FGS) Du, K (MME) Ducey, A (SOC) Fapojuwo, A (ENEL/ENEC) Forlini, S (ENGL) Hall, D (VM) Hiebert, M (CMSS)	Johnson, J (MARCH) King-Shier, K (NURS) Knibbe, J (MMgmt) Lashewicz, B (MDCH) MacCallum, J (Science) MacDonald, J (MBBC) Martin, Y (MGIS) Martini, C (SCPA/Drama) McCafferty, DM (FGS) McGrath, D (PSYC) Monteyne, D (SAPL) Nguyen, M (MDNS) O'Brien, M (FGS) Osiyevskyy, O (MBA) Priest, J (SSE) Radford, L (SCPA) Saaka, S (GSA) Schroeder, M (EDC) Sherer, P (MGMT) Simmons, M (EDC) Spencer, B (EDER) Stark, T (ARTS) Staubli, S (ECON) Steele, J (GSA)	Stefanakis, E (ENGO) Toohey, P (Classics and Religion) Wasmuth, J (Grad College) Wilson, W (ANTH/ARKY) Woelfel, P (CPSC) Wu, J (MATHS) Zach, R (PHIL) Zaremborg, V (BISI) Zhou, Q (ENCI) Faculty of Graduate Studies Officers Present McLeod, Catherine Stiven, Cathie Hernandez, Ingrid Guests Leslie Reid Kim Grant
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1.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Moved/Seconded

That the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council approve the agenda for the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council Meeting of January 19, 2023.

CARRIED

2.0 APPROVAL OF FGS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Moved/Seconded

That the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council approve the minutes for the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council Meeting of December 15, 2022.

CARRIED

2 abstentions

3.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

- N/A

4.0 Report from the Chair

- **Welcome to the new year and happy lunar new year.**
- **Tuition:** 2023/24 has been approved by FPC, going to BoG Friday, Jan 20/23. The tuition will look very different. Working on simplifying the tuitions tables. There will be clear bands of tuition from which to choose when building budgets for program proposals. In the RO consulting students about the student financial statement. As part of this project, with new tuitions, new statements will be launched in student accounts.
- **CGPSS:** The dashboards are now available to everyone.
- **Applications from Iran:** New information. FGS will waive the application fee upon request by Iranian applicants to graduate programs, where online payment of the fee is a barrier.
- **GRADnet:** transition from old SharePoint to GRADnet.

5.0 Reports from Associate Deans

5.0 Mary O'Brien

- Met with representatives from the library, they are interested in ways to support GPDs. If you have any suggestions, contact Mary.
- Held several workshops last term and we would like to continue to offer workshops that you would find beneficial. If you have an idea for a workshop, contact Mary.

5.1 Donna-Marie McCafferty

- Currently CGSM competition is under adjudication. The graduate awards competition deadline coming up, make sure students are getting their applications in. New recruitment awards are live. You can use them for your recruitment processes. If you would like to meet with Donna-Marie, please reach out.

5.2 Michelle Drefs

- In academic standing review season. For those that you are recommending to withdraw from a program, please reach out to Clifton or Michelle.

6.0 Report from the Graduate College Head (Wasmuth)

- October 2022, we had a 2-day retreat with a series of speakers focusing on Alberta in the next 10 years. A group of graduate students attended CAGS and presented on the Graduate College successes and things we would do differently. This has led to follow-up from other Canadian universities interested in doing something similar. Welcome, 16 new scholars to the college. Started a partnership with the Calgary Drop-in Centre for a winter kit collection.

7.0 Report from the Graduate Student's Association President (Saaka)

- Tuition. TFCC – GSA has been in discussions with the provost team. Our GRC was able to provide feedback to the provost team. Plans are under way to improve the student experience for course-based students in Schulich School of Engineering.
- GSA strategic plan – we spent 6.5 months consulting with key stakeholders. Thank you to all those involved in providing feedback.
- Symposium – provides an opportunity for students to share their research work, taking place between Feb 11-12. Added a contest for conference design and graphics.

- GSA bursary and professional development grant being adjudicated. There were 278 applications for the GSA emergency, 43 approved, in the amount \$40,792.00. Working to make changes to the application process. GPA/GPD may have students that come to talk about the emergency bursary, and we think it's important to understand where our student's financial needs are. We would like some type of form of referral to increase the success rate. For the GSA Support Bursary, 101,068 applications were received, 634 were approved in an amount of \$537,160.00. Currently under 100K left for the academic year. College money – we received and adjudicated two intake periods, 43 received, and 28 approved, in an amount of \$107,617.99. This year we saw numbers increasing.
- In discussions with the gov't to share data and advocate on student issues. VP External and Policy Advisor have been working on grants for graduate students. Federal support for food security and affordable housing, we have been talking with MLA's.
- Updates to come on elections.

Comments:

- Assessing applications – realized most grad students do not necessarily qualify for approval. You cannot apply if you want to use it to pay fees. There is an information gap between what graduate students should know and how to apply for these funds.
- Are these numbers up from previous years? The numbers have increased, and we anticipate that they will continue to increase. There are several supports on campus. Make sure that students who are facing financial challenges speak to advisors. Reach out to grad.advisor@ucalgary.ca.
- Where are the pressure points? There is no specific reason that is driving the numbers for supports up. This is affecting both course-based and thesis-based students.

8.0 Urgent Business from GFC, GAPS, TLC, RSC

- Tara Beattie has served as the GFC rep for many years. Thank you for your service and for representing FGS Council. David Anderson was nominated and will be our new representative.
- **Reminder:** UCalgary undergoing a new strategic planning process. An email went out about workshops being held, encouraging members of the FGS Council to attend one or many of these workshops.

9.0 Revisions to Section R. Vacation (Time off from Studies) (O'Brien)

MOVED/SECONDED

That the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council recommend the revisions to Section R. Vacation of the Graduate Calendar with the appropriate clarification on fall and winter breaks.

CARRIED

Secretary's note: friendly amendment

Comments:

- Stipends will continue during the time off
- Fall and winter breaks – afforded to undergrads. GPD can intervene when a supervisor says it's not a good time to take time off.

- Term break not included, the university is still open, and grad students are conducting research.
- Reasonable accommodations – would fall under supervision guidelines, wellness advocate for your student.
- Effective date April 1st.

10.0 Transdisciplinary graduate credentials (O'Brien)

Comments:

- Students who are already working transdisciplinarily in established programs are welcome to be part of the cohort experience.
- These are new programs. If your specialization is working well, we don't want to change that. This is not about taking students away.
- We will work with programs to help students transfer into this program if needed.
- The composition of the committee will begin once this goes through APPC. As we move forward we are going to be calling volunteers to provide insight and input into this.
- The Graduate calendar provides guidelines on the role of the advisory members. These programs are eligible for tri-agency funding and other sources.
- Provide feedback to Mary O'Brien.
- **ACTION:** Send council members invitations for lunch and virtual discussions.

11.0 Curriculum review in thesis-based programs (Reid/Grant)

- PPT
- Reschedule for a more comprehensive follow-up.
- Introduced as a quality assurance process, it's run out of the Provost's office and supported by the Taylor Institute. It was developed in 2014.
- It was developed and driven by questions from the academic unit that ran undergraduate and course-based graduate programs.
- The process is driven by a handbook – Curriculum Review Handbook. Part of our responsibility as a post-secondary institution is to demonstrate that internally we have a mechanism to make sure that we are happy with the quality of programs.
- It was developed to be a process that was driven by questions out of the academic unit that ran the program.
- The value of the curriculum review – it provides an opportunity to clarify the aims of the program. What is it that is unique and valuable about our program?
- Develop a thesis-based side of curriculum review.
- **ACTION:** Invite proponents to return to council.

12.0 A. Revisions to Section A.5 – Offer of Admission

B. Revisions to Section A.6 – Advanced Credit and Course Exemption

Please reach out to Mary if there are any questions or concerns.

13.0 Questions

14.0 Scholarship ToR – for information on D2L

Other Business

Adjournment at 4:30pm