

Council of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
Minutes of the meeting of the CGPS held on
Monday November 16, 2015 2:30 pm
James Administration Building Room 301

Attendance:

Officers:

Josephine Nalbantoglu (Chair)
Alison Crump (Acting Secretary)

Ex-Officio:

Elisa Pylkkanen, Robin Beech, France Bouthillier, Jacques Lebrun, Maggie Do Couto, Peter Grutter, Devin Mills (regrets), Laura Wine (regrets), Cindy Smith

Elected Members:

Natheer Alatawneh, Hao Yu Chen, Pengfei Guo, Dennis Jense, Cindy Kim, Cindy Lui (for Naguib Mechawar), Monzur Murshed, Meyer Nahor, Laura Nilson, Andrea Price, Vijaya Raghavan, Michael Wagner (for Elaine Weir), Lena Weman

Regrets:

Nancy Czettel, Louis Houle, Michael Van Dussen

Absent:

Gordon Bloom, Derek Bowie, Lara Braitstein, Sébastien Breau, Benoît Côté, Samer Faraj,

114 Business Arising

For Approval

New Programs

a) PhD in Family Medicine and Primary Care CGPS.15.07PhD_FamMedRev

Professor Gillian Bartlett Esquilant, Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director for the Department of Family Medicine, presented the PhD in Family Medicine and Primary Care

This program was presented at the last CGPS meeting. In light of the concerns raised at the last meeting about the lack of program requirements, Professor Bartlett presented a revised proposal. The revisions include 2 credits of courses, specifically knowledge translation (3 credits), participatory research (3 credits), three 1-credit advanced doctoral seminars, and 3 credits of an elective course. Students coming out of the Master's will take 6 credits at the minimum. There are currently 20 students enrolled in the Ad Hoc PhD program. Professor Bartlett expects enrollment to increase.

There was a question about the advanced research methods course that is listed as an elective. Cindy Smith, Secretary to Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching (SCTT), noted that this is the right approach because students have a choice of research methods courses and will be able to take a course outside the department, so a single course code can be listed under the required courses.

Another Council member asked a question about the projected increase in enrollment and whether there were any space or resource constraints on this growth.

b) PhD in Epidemiology – Global Health

CGPS.15.14 PhD_Epid_GlobHeal

Professor Madhukar Pai, Canada Research Chair in Translational Epidemiology and Global Health, Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health, presented the PhD in Epidemiology – Global Health option.

There is currently no graduate program in Global Health at McGill, yet the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health (EBOH) has 13 faculty members who are doing research in the area of global health, and graduate students.

Major Program Revisions:

a) Master of Sacred Theology (STM)–Non-Thesis CGPS.151MA_SacredTheo_NT (STM)

Professor Patricia G. Kirkpatrick, Graduate Program Director for the Faculty of Religious Studies presented the Master of Sacred Theology (STM) Thesis.

Professor Kirkpatrick explained that the STM was created in the 1950s and has not been updated since the 1970s. A few years ago, GPS informed the Faculty of Religious Studies that the thesis STM was not eligible for funding, so they saw this as an opportunity to revise the program and align it with the government requirements for eligibility for funding. They have verified with the theological colleges a (4)13 0.49 0 nr.5uw0.49 0 4 Tc -0.004 Tc 5uw0.49 orrbilieonsio(e)1(1-5(t)0.9(t)1(h)-c1(h)

Minor/Moderate Program Revisions:

a) MSc in Family Medicine – Thesis

CGPS.15.16MSc_FamMed_T

Professor Gillian Bartlett, Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director for the Department of Family Medicine, presented the MSc Family Medicine.

Professor Bartlett explained that some of the courses in the program are given in-house and the small changes made will give students more flexibility with respect to the courses they can take. There are 21 credits of courses in the MSc. Professor Bartlett explained that some courses are being retired due to low enrollment, but the material is still being covered in other courses.

Motion was made by Peter Grutter, and seconded by Monzur Murshed, to vote for approval of the minor program revisions. All 13 voting members voted to approve the revisions. As there was one voting member short of quorum, Dean Nalbantoglu confirmed that the program would be submitted for an evote to the members who were not present.

115 Councilors' Forum

a) Request for Supervisor signature on Oral Defence Form

A question was submitted regarding the new requirement for the supervisor's signature on the Oral Defence form. Lena Weman, who submitted the question, explained that using some challenges and delaying the Oral Defence process. Dean Nalbantoglu explained that some parts of the thesis submission and evaluation process were changed this summer in order to better streamline the process. She said that while GPS and digital signatures on the Oral Defence form is not a fillable pdf, because it is generated from Banner. She confirmed that some units are submitting the form without all the signatures to ensure that the OD process can get started while the rest of the signatures are obtained. In other words, there is some flexibility with this requirement for the supervisor's signature.

Another topic was raised. Dennis Jensen asked about the maximum amount of funding a student can have. He wants to reinvigorate the idea that when allocating funds, the applicants' external funding be taken into account. Dea Nalbantoglu notes that this is an ongoing conversation with all units and said that the Award holders guide is being written and will be put up on the website and will be available at the time of the allocations. The guide stipulates what are required to inform departments of other funding. Teaching Assistants do not count in the calculation of student funding.

b) Academic selection committee members for GPS awards

- Lena Weman
Dean Nalbantoglu will contact members who were absent regarding the other two openings

116 Other Business

There being no further business, all were in favor to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.