



SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND BURSARIES

MINUTES

July 17, 2023 ~ 10:30 am – 12:00 pm
MBC 3107

Attendees: C. Liu (Chair), M. Everton (Vice-Chair), K. Nordgren (Secretary), G. Agnes,
D. Coburn, J. McKenzie, T. Nault, C. Percival, R. Pyke, S. Santoso

Absent: M. Bhakthan, R. Dawson, P. Dhesa, O. Umukoro

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

2. Approval of the Minutes of June 19, 2023

There was a minor revision stating that an acting chair was elected first and immediately thereafter a vice-chair was elected.

The minutes were approved as amended.

3. Chair's Report

No report at this time.

4. New Business

a. PhD Research Scholarship (SPCSAB 23-09)

Motion 1

It was moved C. Percival and seconded by J. McKenzie

“that SPCSAB approve revisions to the original motion for #4 and #5 in the terms of reference to allow those students who are employed full-time and those who receive a tuition waiver, be eligible to receive the PhD Research Scholarship valued at zero dollars.”

CARRIED

Motion 2

It was moved by G. Agnes and seconded by M. Everton

“that SPCSAB approve the new revised terms of reference for the PhD Research Scholarship as amended, effective Fall 2023.”

CARRIED

G. Agnes provided a brief overview of the PhD Research Scholarship and much discussion ensued.

A concern was raised regarding the feasibility of implementing the terms of reference as presented for the Fall term, and the need for clarification of the criteria. G. Agnes provided further information regarding the scholarship, adding that he will attend future meetings with various departments to address this and any other concerns raised.

A concern was raised regarding the word “scholarship”, which appeared misleading and not in alignment with the criteria. It was suggested to change the name to “PhD Research Fellowship” as it captures what the criteria implies. G. Agnes and D. Coburn explained the definitions and all agreed scholarship is an appropriate name for this award and will review in a year’s time if the name still applies or is no longer appropriate.

A suggestion was made to revise the language for #4 and #5 in the terms of reference, regarding students who receive a tuition waiver or who are employed full-time, to allow those students to receive this award valued at zero dollars, which may allow them to include this scholarship on their CV.

All agreed to revise the original motion to include the revisions made to the terms of reference #4 and #5.

The revisions to read as follows:

- x Students who have a tuition waiver (e.g. employees, children of faculty members etc.) are eligible to be awarded this scholarship, but there is no dollar value to this scholarship in these instances.
- x Students who are employed full-time must declare this status, and may hold this scholarship, but there is no dollar value to this scholarship in these instances.

b. Graduate Fellowship Terms of Reference (SPCSAB 23-10)

Motion 3

It was moved by G. Agnes and seconded by J. McKenzie

“that SPCSAB approve the amendment made to the #1 – first paragraph adding an additional sentence regarding the publishing of additional departmental specific criteria and replacing the word less with fewer”

CARRIED

Motion 4

It was moved by G. Agnes and seconded by M. Everton

“that SPCSAB approve the amendment made to the #2 – revising the language by adding the words in an equitable manner, across their enrollment in master and PhD program.”

CARRIED

Motion 5

It was moved by G. Agnes and seconded by M. Everton

“that SPCSAB approve the revised changes to the Terms of Reference for the Graduate Fellowship, as amended.”

CARRIED

G. Agnes provided an overview of the changes to the terms of reference.

It was suggested to add language to the terms of reference regarding an equity requirement and also ensure the departments have flexibility to adjust allocations as needed.

The revisions made were as follows:

- x #1 paragraph
 - o At the end of the 2nd paragraph – add a sentence: Academic units must publish an additional departmental specific criteria
 - o Replace the word less with fewer

- x #2 paragraph
 - o ...in an equitable manner, across their enrollment in master and PhD program with a ...

5. Other Business

No other business

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm

Minutes prepared by R. Balletta