

Meeting minutes of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC) held on January 8, 2018 in the Thesis Defence Room, SFU Library

Present:

Jeff Derksen (Acting Chair)
Nicole White (Library)
Chantal Turpin (GSS Representative)
Shelley Gair (Associate Director)
Daria Babeshko (Secretary)

Faculty Chair:

Lisa Shapiro (FASS)
Andrew Gemino (BUS)
Stuart Poyntz (FCAT)
Allan MacKinnon (EDUC)
Dongya Yang (FENV)
Stephen Smith (HSCI)
Mehrdad Moallem (FAS)
Peter Ruben (SCI)

Graduate Students:

Erin Hogg
Sarah Lord Ferguson

Regrets:

Krista Gerlich-Fitzgerald (Curriculum)

Special Guest:

Richard Zhang (Computing Science)

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| 1. Approval of agenda | Approved |
| 2. Review of the SGSC minutes of December 4, 2018 | Approved |
| 3. Business arising from the minutes | |
| 4. Ejecta Tgr qtv | |

The Chair reported on the budget numbers for the upcoming fiscal year. There has been a slight increase in the amount of funding due to shifts in the Provincial Government.

to course catalogue and, therefore, should not cause any confusion among the students.

R. Zhang left the meeting

Moved by M. Moallem; seconded S. Poyntz

Approved

5.2 Faculty of Communications, Art and Technology

School for the Contemporary Arts

- 1) Course change (prerequisite): CA 813
- 2) Course change (description and prerequisite): CA 829, CA 822
- 3) Course change (prerequisite removal): CA 821, CA 822, CA 823, CA 825, CA 826, CA 827, CA 888

It was suggested to change course number from CA 822 to CA 830 to make the numbering chronological based on when a student would take the course in their program. S. Poyntz informed the committee that course numbers at the department of Contemporary Arts are commonly listed by the field or area and they do not necessarily follow chronological order. Concern was raised regarding students producing essays and prematurely submitting them for publication in journals in CA 822. S. Poyntz informed the committee that students are encouraged to submit work for publication; although this kind of work places burden on peer reviewed structures and editorial boards, the benefits gained by students are much greater than the drawbacks.

Moved by S. Poyntz; seconded E. Park

Approved

5.3 Faculty of Education

- 1) New program: Graduate Certificate in Leadership Studies (CA 108.02 336.M3)

- 1) Program change (addition of specialization): Master of Resource Management
- 2) New course: REM 697 MRM Thesis
- 3) Course change (units): REM 699

faculty will remain in place.

Moved by E. Park; seconded by P. Ruben

Approved

5.7 GGR Revisions

- 1) GGR 1.3.5a (Cohort Special Arrangements), GGR 1.4 (Enrollment), GGR 1.9.4 (Preparation for Examination of Doctoral Thesis) and GGR 1.9.6 (Notification of Doctoral Thesis Examination)
- 2) GGR 1.9.1 (Preparation for Examination) and GGR 1.9.3 (Examining Committee for Doctoral Thesis)
- 3) GGR 1.9.5 (The Role of the External Examiner)
- 4) GGR 1.10.2 (Classification of the Thesis)

A committee member questioned if there could be a possibility for external examiners having additional options pre-defence without deeming the thesis as not ready for defence. This will be brought up as a discussion item at a future SGSC meeting.

- 5) GGR 1.10.3 (Recommendation for the Award of the Degree)
- 6) GGR 1.10.4 (Submission of the Thesis to the Library)

Further rationale was provided that the deadline for thesis submission to the Library is intended to create clear expectations among the students and their senior supervisors. Once approved, all GGR changes will be advertised to departments and students highlighting the changes.

- 7) GGR 1.11.3 (Postponement of Publication)

E. Hogg left the meeting

Moved by E. Park; seconded by S. Smith

Approved

6. For Discussion

7. Other Business

- a) P. Ruben inquired whether there are any formal guidelines regarding the protection of students from the financial stand point in case they have a falling out with their senior supervisors. The Chair has responded that although there are no written guidelines, Graduate Studies typically recommends that the Faculty treats the letter of admittance as the contract and continues to hold the agreement even if there is a change in supervisory.

C. Turpin left the meeting

In the event that the funding comes from the ex-ugpklq't'lw' gtxluqt'w'i t'cpv.'Graduate Studies has a discussion with the Faculty. SGSC suggested creating a guideline to strengthen contractual obligations for students, research assistants and Faculties

N. White left the meeting

- b) The committee discussed the possibility of turning the office of Graduate Studies into a Faculty to provide it with more authority. The Chair has informed the committee that it has already been attempted twice previously and both times the proposal got tabled. The Chair will look into the reasons behind it and provide more information to the committee during one of the following meetings.
 - c) S. Poyntz brought the problem of co-authorship to the attention of the committee and inquired whether there has been any discussion, policy or practice around it. The Chair will look into the issue and seek advice from F wi cp'QØP gln'Cuuqekcyg'Xleg-President, Research and provide the committee with more information during one of the following meetings.
8. Next SGSC meeting scheduled for 2:30 PM on February 5, 2018 (*Material deadline January 18, 2018*)