Graduate Education Council Meeting  
Minutes  

Date: October 28th  
Time: 12:30pm– 2:00pm (Pizza lunch starting 12:30 pm)  
Place: International and Graduate Affairs Building Room 1N05  

Attendees:  
Jaime Brenes Reyes Alicia Garcia Catherine Nevin Kristen Reilly  
Erika Chamberlain Maya Kumar Cheryl Harding Lori Johnson  
Robert Wood Greg Kopp Tilottama Rajan Liz Webb  
Gordon Irvine Jim Dickey Abdallah Shami Arzie Chant  
Kyle Fricke Doug Jones Kate Choi Tamara Hinan  
Jan Plug Joanna Quinn Nanda Dimitrov Rebecca Kasperavicius  
Pam Bishop Susan Knabe Janet Holmes Andrew Johnson  
Lee Ann McKivor Kamran Siddiqui  

Regrets: Margret McGlynn, Catherine Steeves, Stephanie Barton, Jessica Esseltine, Catherine Nolan, Pauline Barmby  

1. Approval of the Minutes of May 5th, 2015 (attached)  
The Minutes of the meeting were approved as circulated  

2. Business arising from the Minutes – none  

3. SGPS Announcements and Information (Linda Miller)  
Dr. Miller provided background information regarding the Medical Leave bursary that went into effect September 1, 2015.  
The Doctoral Excellence research award was also discussed; beginning September 1, 2016 Western University will launch the Doctoral Excellence Research Awards. The Doctoral Excellence Research Awards represent a new investment in graduate student support, in addition to the funding already invested by the University and Faculties in this area. A new doctoral student who is also a new tri-agency doctoral scholarship recipient will receive up to $15,000 during their first year, and up to an additional $10,000 for each subsequent year of the tri-agency scholarship. A continuing doctoral student who is a tri-agency doctoral scholarship recipient, will receive up to an additional $10,000 for each remaining year of their tri-agency doctoral scholarship. Dr. Doug Jones expressed that there were concerns coming from the students in his Faculty who would prefer that funding be more equitably distributed among graduate students.  

4. Reports from GEC Committees (Lorraine Davies, Miriam Capretz)  
   • Policy Committee  
   1. Recommended that the Graduate Education Council accept and approve the following membership in the GEC  
      a. Graduate Chair Representative July 2015-June 30 2018 (3 year term)  
      1. Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry - Dean Betts
b. Faculty Representatives (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2018) (3 year terms)
   1. Engineering – Abdallah Shami

c. Graduate Assistant Representatives (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017) -(2 year terms)
   - Arzie Chant
   - Lori Johnson

d. Graduate student Representatives (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016) (1 year term) with an option on a second year
   Arts – Jaime Brenes Reyes
   Music – Chantel Lemire
   Education – Eric Smiley
   Health Science – Kristen Reilly
   FIMS – Rebecca Kasperavicius
   Law – Andi Ghosh
   Ivey – Maya Kumar
   Schulich – Catherine Nevin
   Engineering – Kyle Fricke
   Science – Gordon Irvine
   Social Science – Stephanie Barton

Approved as presented

e. SUPR-G Graduate Student Representative Required – Term ends June 30, 2017)
   (Nominees from the floor)
   http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/senate/cttees/supr-g.pdf
   i. Jenna Lorusso, Graduate Student (term ends June 2017)

2. Operations and Agenda Committee
   Motion approved: That effective September 2015 the Graduate Education Council Operation/Agenda and Nominating Committee be discontinued
   September 15, 2015

Approved as presented

The issue of bringing agenda items forward to the Graduate Education Council was discussed. SGPS agreed that an email can be sent out indicating that members of the Graduate Community can bring items forward to their Associate Dean, who can convey them to the Policy Committee of GEC.

5. Dr. Karen Campbell
   a. Graduate Student Funding: solicitation of input
      Open discussion related to Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.