

Minutes of the Meeting of the Graduate Education Council Meeting

December 9th, 2014

The meeting was held at 12:00pm – 1:30pm in Room 1N05 International and Graduate Affairs Building

Attendees:

Rebecca Waldie	Daniel Vaillancourt	Mohammad Bhuiyan
Carol Jones	Kalin Penev	Maya Kumar
Andrew Johnson	Bob Wood	Alison Allan
Chantal Lemire	Alison Shott	Bhavin Prajapati (Guest)
Pam Bishop	Matt Thomson	Kamran Siddiqui
Joanna Quinn	Julie Shang	Beth MacDougall Shackleton
Arzie Chant	Alicia C. Garcia	Candace Loosley
Catherine Nolan	Erika Chamberlain	Ron Wagler
Jason Brown	Lizhen Guo	Nanda Dimitrow
Carol Beynon	Linda Miller	Peter Simpson
Nandi Bhatia	Debra Dawson	Pam McKenzie
Eric Smiley	Melanie Caldwell	

Regrets:

Catherine Steeves, Gregory Kopp, Cheryl Harding, Ruth Martin, Paul Ragogna, Janice Deakin, Randal Graham, Liwen Vaughan, Doug Jones, Brian Timney, Shirley Wales, Jaime Brenes Reyes, Kristen Reilly, Estee Fresco

1. Approval of the Minutes of April 2, 2014 (attached)
The minutes of the meeting were approved as circulated
2. Business arising from the Minutes – none
3. SGPS Announcements and Information (Linda Miller)
 - Introduction of and welcome to graduate senators (Linda Miller)
 - Information about the Graduate Wellness Committee (Carol Beynon)
 - All thesis exams will be held in SGPS whenever possible, we hope that we can ensure a common standard across all PhD exams as well as be there for assistance.
4. Reports from GEC Committees

Operations/Agenda and Nominations Committee (Peter Simpson)

A reminder, please sign in on Council Attendance Sheet before leaving the meeting

1. **Recommended that the Graduate Education Council accept and approve the following membership in the GEC**
 - a. Graduate Chair Representative July 2014-June 30 2017) (3 year term)
 - Joanna Quinn, Director Transitional Justice Centre
 - Andrew Johnson Health Science
 - Paul Ragogna Science covering a sabbatical term ending June 30, 2015
 - Kamran Siddiqui, Engineering
 - b. Faculty Representatives (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2017) (3 year terms)
 1. Information and Media Studies – Liwen Vaughan
 2. Law – Randal Graham
 3. Ivey – Matt Thomson
 4. Schulich – Alison Allan
 5. Music – Robert Wood
 - c. Postdoctoral Association at Western representative
 - Kalin Penev
 - d. Graduate Assistant Representatives (July 1, 2014 –June 30 2016) -(2 year terms)
 - Cheryl Harding , Physical Therapy
 - Rebecca Waldie, Epidemiology and Biostatistics
 - e. Graduate Student Representative from each faculty 1 year term with option of 2
 - Graduate Student Representative – Faculty of Arts and Humanities – J. Brenes Reyes
 - Graduate Student Representative – Faculty of Music – C. Lemire
 - Graduate Student Representative – Faculty of Education – E. Smiley
 - Graduate Student Representative – Faculty of Health Science – K. Reilly
 - Graduate Student Representative – Faculty of Information and Media Studies – E. Fresco
 - Graduate Student Representative – Faculty of Law – S. Wales
 - Graduate Student Representative – Richard Ivey School of Business – M. Kumar
 - Graduate Student Representative – Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry – L. Guo
 - Graduate Student Representative – Faculty of Engineering– M. Bhuiyan
 - Graduate Student Representative – Faculty of Science –
 - Graduate Student Representative – Faculty of Social Science – A. Shott

(Bishop/Quinn) Carried

Notes: Dr. Jones will be bringing forward a Graduate student Representative for the Faculty of Science.

2. Recommended that the Graduate Education Council accept and approve the following membership in the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee

- a. Faculty Representatives (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2017) (3 year terms)
 - R. Martin – Faculty of Health Science
 - M. Thomson – Richard Ivey School of Business
 - D. Jones – Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry
 - G. Kopp – Faculty of Engineering
 - A. Garcia – Huron College

(Bishop/Johnson) Carried

3. Recommended that the Graduate Education Council accept and approve the following membership in the Mentorship and Professional Development

- a. Faculty Representatives (July 1, 2014 –June 30, 2016) 2 year term
 - Faculty Pam Bishop, Education
 - Margaret McGlynn, History
 - Andrew Johnston, Health Science
 - Beth Mc-Dougall Shackleton, Biology
 - Burns Cheadle (nomination from the floor)
- b. Graduate Student Representative (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015) 1 year term
 - Jaime Brenes Reyes
- c. Postdoctoral Association at Western representative (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015) 1 Year term
 - Kalin Penev, Postdoc

(Jones/Bishop) Carried

- **SUPR-G Faculty Representatives Required – Term ends June 30, 2015.**

Nominee from the floor – Andrew Johnson

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/senate/cttees/supr-g.pdf>

(Bhatia/Jones) Carried

Mentorship and Professional Development Committee Report (Nanda Dimitrow)

- Announcement of Graduate Education Day on Tuesday, February 10th, 2015 with guest, Dr Lynne McAlpine; several sessions organized related to graduate supervision and comprehensive examinations (poster distributed)

Postdoctoral Committee Report (Peter Simpson)

- No Report at this time

- **Academic Policy and Regulations Committee Report (Carol Beynon)**

Moved that GEC accept the recommended changes to the graduate faculty membership categories as attached.

(Johnson/McKenzie) Carried

Other business

For information only -

Recently Western's English Language Centre (WELC) received approval to be used for Graduate applicants in lieu of providing an official English Proficiency Test score. Additionally The School of Graduate Studies will now allow programs to make conditional offers based on the completion of the English for Academic Purposes Program through WELC.

Each program can make the decision of whether or not they would like to make conditional offers based on the program offered through WELC. To help your program decide if it is something you are interested we have attached an information sheet provided to us by WELC. If you need more information on the program please contact Matt Bazely, The Administrative director of the English Language Centre.

Administratively the process would be very similar to CultureWorks. Eligible students would receive a conditional offer based on the completion of the English Language program. They would not be permitted to register until that condition was met.

If this is something your program is interested in pursuing please Teri Hern and she will provide more detailed information on the administrative process.