Graduate Education Council Meeting

Date: April 27, 2016.
Time: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm (Pizza lunch starting 12:30 pm)
Place: International and Graduate Affairs Building Room 1N05

Lorraine Davies  Jason Brown  Pam Bishop  Nanda Dimitrov
Christopher Circelli  Chantal Lemire  Catherine Nolan  Janet Holmes
Cheryl Harding  Arzie Chant  Jessica Esseltine  Kyle Fricke
Sheila Macfie  Pam McKenzie  Lenny Guizzetti  Krystyna Locke
Miriam Capretz  Jaime Brenes Reyes  Jim Dickey  Bob Wood
Liwen Vaughan  Alison Allan  Lee Ann McIvor  Abdallah Shami
Joel Armstrong  Jamie Baxter  Joanna Quinn  Ron Wagler
Kamran Siddiqui  Nandi Bhatia  Lori Johnson  Shelly Koster
Rebecca Kasperavicius  Susan Schollie

Regrets: Linda Miller, Doug Jones, Erika Chamberlain, Greg Kopp, Jan Plug, Pauline Barmby, Kate Choi, Catherine Steeves, Deb Dawson, Andrew Johnson, Matt Thomson, Elizabeth Webb, Ruth Martin, Vanessa Sperduti, Kristen Reilly, Randal Graham,

1. Approval of the Minutes of February 24th, 2016

2. No Business arising from the Minutes

3. Reports from GEC Committees (Lorraine Davies)
   Policy Committee
   I. Withholding Signatures after Defense (Attached)
      I. 8.4.4.2 Stage Two: The Thesis Examination
      II. 8.5.4.2 Stage Two: The Thesis Examination
   Motion to approve these changes with a slight modification passed.

II. Changing Supervisor Regulations (Attached)
Motion to approve these regulations with some changes to the wording passed.

III. Membership and Supervision
    Motion to approve the following addition to the Graduate Regulations.
    Masters level membership is needed to have access to applications. (This requires a tenure/tenure stream appointment.) Program exceptions must be approved by the Vice Provost.
    Motion to approve passed with some changes to the wording.

A reminder, please sign in on Council Attendance Sheet before leaving the meeting
IV. **8.5.4.1: Stage One: The Preliminary (or Pre-Examination) Evaluation of the Thesis**

Motion to approve the following changes to 8.5.4.1 effective immediately.

The completed examiner reports are confidential to the Vice-Provost (Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies). SGPS must receive the completed forms from all of the Examiners at least three-five working days before the date scheduled for the candidate's Thesis Examination. All examiner evaluations are shared with the Supervisor after the examination.

Motion passed as presented.

4. **Grad Funding Report with Dr. Karen Campbell**

   [http://provost.uwo.ca/planning_reports/grad_funding_final_report.pdf](http://provost.uwo.ca/planning_reports/grad_funding_final_report.pdf)

Karen Campbell discussed the process of implementing the grad funding report with the committee.

**Other business**
From Stage Two: The Thesis Examination

Doctoral Section
8.4.4.2 Stage Two: The Thesis Examination

When the Thesis Examination is Successful

- On the "Doctoral Thesis Examination - Chair Report," the Chair:
  - Reports the Thesis Examination Board's decision for the Thesis Examination on page 1
  - With the assistance of the Examiners, lists the revisions/modifications, if any, required by a majority of the Examiners on page 2.
  - Dates and signs both pages of the Chair's Report.

- In the case that no revisions/modifications are required, the Chair, the Examiners, and the Supervisor(s) sign the Certificate of Examination. In the case that revisions/modifications are required, the Chair, with the help of the committee, determines which examiner will withhold her/his signature(s) until the required revisions/modifications have been made. Normally the Examiners sign the Certificate of Examination and the Supervisor(s) withhold his/her signature until the required revisions/modifications have been made.

- The Chair communicates the positive decision to the candidate. (See Communicating the Decision to the Candidate.)

Master's Section
8.5.4.2 Stage Two: The Thesis Examination

When the Thesis Examination is Successful

- On the "Master’s Thesis Examination - Chair Report," the Chair:
  - Reports the Thesis Examination Board's decision for the Thesis Examination on page 1
  - With the assistance of the Examiners, lists the revisions/modifications, if any, required by a majority of the Examiners on page 2.
  - Dates and signs both pages of the Chair's Report.

- In the case that no revisions/modifications are required, the Chair, the Examiners, and the Supervisor(s) sign the Certificate of Examination. In the case that revisions/modifications are required, the Chair, with the help of the committee, determines which examiner will withhold her/his signature(s) until the required revisions/modifications have been made. Normally the Examiners sign the Certificate
of Examination and the Supervisor(s) withhold his/her signature until the required revisions/modifications have been made.

- The Chair communicates the positive decision to the candidate. (See Communicating the Decision to the Candidate.)
CHANGING SUPERVISOR DRAFT REGULATIONS

A supervisor is required for all research-degree students. At admission, students are given an offer letter that outlines the contractual obligations between the student and the program. Each program will ensure that students receive appropriate supervision.

When the supervisor is determined (either at admission or some later point) the supervisor commits to assuming the roles and responsibilities specified by the School for Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies and the program. 

http://grad.uwo.ca/faculty_staff/viceprovost/supervision.html

The School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies is committed to resolving any conflicts between students and supervisors as early as possible. When the process breaks down, the following apply:

Students have the right to request a change of supervisor. If the student requests a change, he/she should contact their Graduate Chair.

Supervisors cannot unilaterally terminate the thesis supervisory relationship. If a supervisor initiates this change, then the appropriate processes must be followed. Questions about the process should be directed to the Graduate Chair or the Associate Dean (Graduate) of the Faculty.

Student and faculty member requests for changing supervisors will be reviewed by the Graduate program. If the supervisor and student agree that a change to the supervisory relationship is needed, normally the Graduate Chair will work with the student and supervisor to find a solution as early as possible.

The new supervisor, normally from the student’s program, will assume the roles and responsibilities specified by SGPS and the program. Normally, the normal duration of the degree program for the student will not be increased.