



Western Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GRADUATE EDUCATION COUNCIL

October 2, 2013

The meeting was held at 12:00pm in Room 147, University Community Centre

Attendees:

Andy Watson	Erika Chamberlain	Melanie Caldwell
Benjamin Hill	Estee Fresco	Mihaela Harnos
Beth MacDougall-Shackleton	Jan Polgar	Nanda Dimitrov
Carol Beynon	Jason Brown	Pam Bishop
Carol Jones	Jennifer Hutchison	Pam McKenzie
Cathy Nolan	Jim Dickey	Peter Simpson
Cheryl Harding	Kevin Godbout	Robin Keirstead
Clayon Hamilton	Lorraine Davies	Ron Wagler
Doug Jones	Meagan Seale	Susan Scollie

1. Approval of the Minutes of May 13, 2013

The Minutes of the meeting were approved as circulated

2. Business arising from the Minutes – none

3. SGPS Announcements and Information (Carol Beynon)

- New SGPS graduate application and admissions' process - live October 7
- OGS online application process – opens October 7

Reports from GEC Committees

• Operations/Agenda and Nominating (Peter Simpson)

Recommended that the Graduate Education Council accept and approve the following membership in the GEC

1. **Faculty Representatives** (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2015 -2 year term)

Education - J. Brown

2. **Postdoctoral Association at Western representative**

Kalin Penev

3. **Graduate Assistant Representatives** (July 1, 2013 to July 2015 - 2 year term)

Melanie Caldwell, Meagan Seale, Cheryl Harding, Arzie

Approved as presented

4. **SUPR-G Faculty Representatives Required** (nominees from the floor)

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

Jim Dickey, Graduate Chair, Kinesiology (terms ends June 30, 2014)

Approved

- **Policy, Regulations and Graduate Program Membership** (Lorraine Davies) – see attached That SGPS Membership Policy be amended as presented with the word “automatically” removed from the Emeritus Membership section.

CARRIED

• **Post Doctoral Policy, Regulations and Program Membership Committee** (Peter Simpson)

1. Negotiations with PSAC Local 611 for postdoctoral associates will start this month. The current collective agreement expired September 30, 2013.

2. Over the summer, an intensive search using Google Scholar analytic identified over 900 peer reviewed publications of active Postdocs at Western.
 3. Postdoctoral Appreciate Week (September 16-20) organized by SGPS and PAW was a great success, with more than 15 events/workshops offered.
 4. During the Canadian Association of Postdoctoral Administrators meeting in Montreal in November, a presentation on the 2013 National Postdoc Survey will be delivered by MITACS and the Canadian Association of Postdoctoral Scholars, and will provide information regarding the situation of Postdocs in Canada.
- **Mentorship & Professional Development** (Nanda Dimitrov)
 1. Grad Path, launched in August, is a new resource for graduate student professional development.
http://www.uwo.ca/tsc/resources/resources_graduate_students/GradPath.html
 2. Upcoming graduate program *Learning Outcomes* Lunch & learn sessions – October 24 & November 26 – fully subscribed
 3. The new Lead-GTA initiative set up by SGPS with the GTA Union is now running and off to a highly successful beginning

4. Adjournment

MOTIONS TO AMEND SGPS MEMBERSHIP REGULATIONS:

SGPS Membership

In accordance with Senate regulations, only members of the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies may be involved in graduate student education. For each student writing a thesis, the program must provide a Thesis Supervisory Committee, consisting of a Supervisor, who must have membership in the graduate program of the student, and at least one additional SGPS member who may or may not be in the student's program. For students in professional or course based research programs, supervisors must have SGPS membership in the student's graduate program. In each case, the Graduate Chair for each program nominates individuals for Membership in SGPS.

Three categories of SGPS membership exist: Core Membership, Non-Core Membership and Emeritus membership. Compared to Core Membership, Non-Core membership involves limited educational activities for limited periods of time. Emeritus membership is reserved for retired professors.

Core Membership Three types of Core Membership exist: 1. Non-Thesis Membership, 2. Master's Supervisory Membership and 3. Doctoral Supervisory Member.

Core Membership requires an Academic Appointment at Western as Assistant Professor or higher, OR a current Western Adjunct Academic Appointment. For more information about the definition of and procedures for Adjunct Academic Appointments, refer to http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies_procedures/section4/Adjunct.pdf

Criteria for, and privileges associated with each category are listed below.

Non-Thesis Membership: Appropriate for limited term appointments, teaching only faculty or adjunct appointments

Criteria

- Nomination by a Western graduate program offering an OCGS approved graduate degree
- Ph.D. degree or equivalent qualification appropriate to the discipline
- An appropriate scholarly and/or professional record commensurate with program activities and responsibilities

Privileges

- Participation as Thesis Supervisory Committee Member
- Participation as a thesis examiner:
 - Chair of a Master's Thesis Examination
 - Program Examiner
 - University Examiner
- Co-Supervisor of a Master's Thesis (with a Master's Supervisory Member)
- Graduate Course Activities: Includes all teaching activity incorporated under a graduate course number, such as instruction or service as a second reader on research projects (non-thesis), and instructor involvement in practicum courses, internships/co-ops, and field courses

Participation as a reader on a major research paper and/or Ph.D. comprehensive examination

Organizing/conducting/evaluating graduate colloquia, presentations, exhibitions, seminars, field trips/excursions, etc.

Serving as a general or curriculum advisor for a graduate student
(general mentoring/program counseling for students re: course selection, career paths)

Master's Supervisory Membership: Normally appropriate for new tenure-track faculty members

Criteria

(In addition to the criteria for Non-Thesis Membership)

- Nomination by a Western graduate program offering a Quality Assurance Council approved graduate degree with a Master's thesis
- An appropriate track record of peer-reviewed research publications or other evidence of peer-reviewed scholarly productivity appropriate to the discipline
- An established program of research or performance and, where appropriate, research funds from an external source
- A record of successful participation in graduate education (such as teaching a graduate course, serving on a supervisory committee, or thesis examination board)

Privileges

(Includes all privileges listed under Non-Thesis Membership)

- Supervisor or Joint Supervisor of a Master's Thesis
 - Co-Supervisor of a Doctoral Thesis (with a Doctoral Supervisory Member)
 - Chair of a Doctoral Thesis Examination (cannot be from the graduate program of the student)
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Doctoral Supervisory Membership

Criteria

(In addition to the criteria for Master's Supervisory Membership and Non-Thesis Membership)

- Nomination by a Western graduate program offering a Quality Assurance Council graduate degree with a Doctoral Thesis
- Satisfactory supervision of at least one Master's candidate (or other appropriate experience in graduate education and research)

Privileges

(Includes all privileges for Master's Supervisory Membership and Non-Thesis Membership)

- Supervisor or Joint Supervisor of a Doctoral Thesis

Non-Core Membership: Appropriate for faculty with limited duties or adjunct appointments

Describes individuals providing limited graduate educational activities for limited time periods.

Limited Membership

Criteria

- Appropriate scholarly and/or professional record commensurate with the program activities and the nominee's responsibilities and for the period of graduate activity (up to 3 years)

Privileges

- Participation as Thesis Supervisory Committee Member
- Participation as a thesis examiner:

- Program Examiner
- University Examiner

Graduate Course Activities: Includes all teaching activity incorporated under a graduate course number, such as instruction or service as a second reader on research projects (non-thesis), and instructor involvement in practicum courses, internships/co-ops, and field courses

Participation as a reader on a major research paper and/or Ph.D. comprehensive examination

Organizing/conducting/evaluating graduate colloquia, presentations, exhibitions, seminars, field trips/excursions, etc.

Emeritus Membership

All Professors Emeriti who, at the time of their retirement from the University, held either Doctoral or Master's level membership will be granted Emeritus membership upon request. Emeritus membership allows one to chair Master's or Doctoral thesis examinations. This membership is permanent and does not need to be renewed.

Note: Professors Emeriti may also request renewal of their membership at Doctoral, Master's or Non-thesis levels. Regular criteria will apply to such renewals.

Criteria

- To meet the criteria for Emeritus Membership, a professor, at the time of their retirement from the University, must have held either Doctoral or Master's level membership

Privileges

- Participation as chair of Master's or Doctoral thesis examinations

Resources

- Procedures for Adjunct Academic Appointments of Faculty at Western [[PDF File](#)]