

**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

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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 5<sup>th</sup>, 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.