

Minutes of Graduate Education Committee Meeting
Thursday, October 27, 2016
12:00 p.m.
Room 1210

Present: R. Macgregor (Chair), S. Angers, Z. Austin, R. Bonin, H. Boon, S. Cadarette, T. Chalikian, I. Crandall, C. Cummins, S. Guilcher, D. Hampson, J. Henderson, S. Kelley, M. Krahn, P. Lee, S. Pang, E. Paradis, K. Pardee, M. Piquette-Miller, B. Sproule, A. Taddio, A. Thompson, J. Wells, P. Wells, S. Wu, S. Bhatia, M. Dunne

Regrets: R. Bendayan, L. McCarthy, J. Utrecht

1. Items for Approval

a. Stipend Increase for International Students

The previous e-vote for the stipend increase did not explicitly specify the increase for the international students. This increase takes yearly increase of tuition and living cost into consideration. Accordingly, the proposal is to match the increase for the international with that of the domestic students.

MOVED: S. Cadarette; **SECONDED:** M. Piquette-Miller; THAT the same stipend increase is applied to the international students in the Graduate Department

CARRIED

b. Structure of the Graduate Education Committee

In the past few meetings, items that require approval could not be voted on due to a lack of quorum. The latest proposal was to make the Graduate Education Committee into a smaller committee following after the models of other committees of select few members, in contrast a group as a whole. The quorum does not include members whose primary appointments are not with the Department and those who are restricted members. It is essential to ensure the composition of quorum each time is consistent and representative of various areas in the Department.

MOVED: T. Chalikian; **SECONDED:** S. Cadarette; THAT the Graduate Education Committee be a smaller group (e.g. 20 voting members) with open invites to members with no voting privileges to participate in discussions

CARRIED

c. Hoffman-La Roche/Rosemarie Hager Graduate Fellowship Amendment

This award was originally intended to be given to students in the area of Drug Discovery, however historically it has been given to those in the area of Drug Delivery. Therefore to follow the original intention of the donors, a minor amendment is proposed to include the area of Drug Delivery in the criteria.

MOVED: C. Cummins; **SECONDED:** D. Hampson; THAT the criteria for Hoffman-La Roche/Rosemarie Hager Graduate Fellowship includes the area of Drug Delivery

CARRIED

2. Items for Information/Discussion

a. Alumni Tracking after Graduation

Currently we do not have any system in place to track our graduates beyond graduation. Tracking of the alumni would be a useful resource for future opportunities in the areas such as professional development or advancement. It will be valuable for the Department to stay connected with the graduates in various fields. By highlighting the recent graduates with interesting and diverse career paths, it can also act as a powerful recruitment tool. For these reasons, Exit/Annual Surveys that were initiated in the past should be continued. The recent review of the Graduate Department addressed the alumni tracking. It is important to consider the privacy implication when collecting information and accordingly graduates should have the ability to opt in to disclose the information.

b. Academic Planning and Graduate Studies

In response to the Academic Plan (2021 Forward Together), the Department is encouraged to bring forward a few implementable/demonstrable action items we can achieve in the next 18 months.

The following items were brought up:

- i. The Department's modified two-fields structure is already on its way;
- ii. Increasing professional development opportunities and various workshops to compliment them, with the support from SGS;
- iii. Increasing the number of graduate courses taught at the Faculty: This can be facilitated through partnerships with other graduate units, which may consequently increase the number of graduate courses available to our students and may potentially give enrolment priority for our students taking courses outside of the Department. This also creates diverse classes with students from various backgrounds; and
- iv. Graduate students wish that the Department considers offering its own statistics course that is relevant to the research they are doing.

c. Enrolment numbers for 2016 – 2017

d. GRIP 2017

The event date is set for Monday, June 19, 2017 and it will take place at the Hart House. The Department's four new faculty members – R. Bonin, S. Guilcher, E. Paradis and K. Pardee – will give talks and the GRIP Committee is still searching for a plenary speaker.

Meeting adjourned: 1:20 p.m.