

**COUNCIL OF GRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES (CGPS)**

James Administration Building, Room 301

Date: Monday, November 13, 2017

Time: 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\*For meeting attendance list, please see last page.\*

Guest(s):

Dr. Danielle Groleau, Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Robert Platt and Dr. Jonathan Chevrier, Faculty of Medicine

\*Cookies were passed around

**Order was called at 2:32 p.m.**

Dean Nalbantoglu confirmed quorum.

**1.0 Adoption of the Agenda**

**CGPS-AGD\_2017.11.13**

Motion was made by Marta Kobiela, and seconded by Samer Faraj, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

**2.0 Approval of previous Minutes of Meeting**

**CGPS-MoM\_2017.09.11**

It was noted that page 4 of the previous minutes should specify that Quantitative Life Sciences is an ad hoc program. Motion was made by Jean-Benoit Charron, and seconded by Sonia Semenic, to approve the minutes of Monday, September 11, 2017, with this change. Motion carried.

**Business Arising**

None

**For Approval**

**3.0 New Graduate Programs:**

**3.1 Ph.D. in Mental Health**

**CGPS-NP-Ph.D.MentalHlthRes\_R00**

Presented by: Dr. Danielle Groleau, Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Danielle Groleau provided an overview of the proposed Ph.D. program. The overall goal is to create an official Ph.D. program to replace the ad hoc Ph.D. in Psychiatry, which closed admission in December 2016. The name of the new program, “Ph.D. in Mental Health”, was chosen to better reflect research activities and to avoid confusion with professional medical occupations in Psychiatry (i.e., “doctors in psychiatry”).

The new program has three research streams: 1) Mental health services and policy, 2) Social and cultural psychiatry and 3) Translational and clinical psychiatry. Regardless of their research streams, all students are required to take two multidisciplinary courses (PSYT 605: History and Philosophy of Psychiatry (3 credits) and PSYT 606: Mental Illness: Diagnostics and Determinants (3 credits) to ensure that they acquire similar core knowledge in the field.

Dr. Groleau spoke about the admission requirements. She highlighted the fact that the new program will only accept students with guaranteed internal or external funding, or with funding from their supervisor’s research grant (at least \$20,000/year). Moreover, students are expected to select their research supervisor(s) at the time of admission.

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CGPS commentary:

- Considering the new program has only two required courses, concern was raised as to whether or not students would receive sufficient research methodology training. Dr. Groleau explained that students enrolled in the new Ph.D. program are expected to have a Master's degree, wherein the majority of basic methodology training is supposed to be done. In addition, students will gain additional quantitative and qualitative methodology training with the second required course, PSYT 606: Mental Illness: Diagnostics and Determinants.
- Dr. Groleau also highlighted the fact that the program offers many informal training opportunities for students (e.g., summer schools with credit/non-credit courses; advanced studies institutes; Aboriginal health institute, weekly research round table, etc.) It was suggested by a committee member that these informal training opportunities be quantified or formally listed.

CGPS requests:

- The program description in the proposal should clearly mention all the informal and formal training opportunities for students in the dossier, as well as on their website;
- The department should include examples of other universities offering similar programs and demonstrate how the new Ph.D. in Mental Health compares to these programs in their dossier to the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES).

New program approved with the majority of votes following the above-mentioned changes; it will be reported to SCTP for approval.

**3.2 M.Sc. in Epidemiology (Non-Thesis): CGPS-NP-M.Sc.Epid-NT\_EnvOccHlth\_R00  
Environmental & Occupational Health**

Presented by: Dr. Robert Platt and Dr. Jonathan Chevrier, Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Platt and Dr. Chevrier presented the new option. Dr. Chevrier explained that new faculty members have been hired in the field of Occupational Health; however, there is no official program. The addition of the new option in the M.Sc. Non-Thesis program will be a step towards establishing a Ph.D. program in the future.

Students enrolled in the new option will be required to take a minimum of 48 credits of M.Sc. courses. Some of these courses will be seminar courses, such as Principles of Environmental Health Sciences, which has been offered in collaboration with different departments. The course has been cross-listed with four departments for three years.

CGPS commentary:

- A question arose pertaining to pre-existing non-thesis programs in Epidemiology. Dr. Chevrier replied that the department had a M.Sc. (Non-Thesis) in Occupational Health Sciences, a program which is currently in a "dormant status". The department has a M.Sc. in Epidemiology (Non-Thesis) program with a Pharmacoepidemiology option; now the department would like to create another option, Environmental & Occupational Health. This new option will have a similar structure to the Pharmacoepidemiology option, offering basic 'epidemiology' training in the first year; however, students will diverge based on their individual streams in the second year.
- There was a question regarding the types of courses students will be taking. Dr. Chevrier replied that undergraduate training in Epidemiology currently cannot be found anywhere. Therefore, students enrolled in the program are expected to take extensive research training courses.

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- The question of overlaps between thesis and non-thesis programs was brought up. Dr. Chevrier replied that three 3-credit courses will be the same; however, the projects will be different. Students in both thesis and non-thesis programs will take courses to have basic training in Epidemiology in order to bring all students to the same level. Dr. Chevrier highlighted the fact that the students enrolled in programs take many courses in preparation; however, the majority of the training should be done through their projects, in addition to the two additional courses that they take in their second year.
- The status of the M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Occupational Health was questioned. Dr. Chevrier explained that the Ph.D. in Occupational Health is dormant, and the Master's program is a thesis-option with a small enrollment. The Master's program offers training related to industry and occupational settings, whereas the courses in the new option of the M.Sc. in Epidemiology (Non-Thesis) will be geared towards general settings with topics that are relevant to general populations.

CGPS requests:

- It was suggested that the program be advertised overseas (specifically China) and to polytechnic colleges, as there is a growing interest in the area of study.

Motion was made by Dean Nalbantoglu and seconded by Jennifer Fishman to approve the program.

The new program was unanimously approved; it will be reported to SCTP for approval.

**For Information**

**4.0 For Information:**

**4.1 Report**

**CGPS-RPTP\_2017.11.13**

Minor/Moderate Revisions and Program Retirement [including Low Enrolment/Obsolete].

Program proposals are available upon request.

**Councilors' forum**

Thesis guidelines will be discussed in December.

**Other Business**

None

**There being no further business, all were in favor to adjourn the meeting at 3:32 p.m.**

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**\*Delegate**

Q*	Name	Faculty/Departement	Present	Regrets	Absent
1	Prashant Keshavmurthy	Arts			<b>X</b>
2	Thomas G. Soehl	Arts	<b>X</b>		
3	<b>TBA</b>	Arts			
4	Jennifer Fishman	Medicine	<b>X</b>		
5	Aimee K. Ryan (Anna Naoumova)	Medicine	<b>X</b>		
6	Sonia Semenic	Medicine	<b>X</b>		
7	Eyal Goren	Science	<b>X</b>		
8	Russell Steele	Science	<b>X</b>		
9	Debra Titone	Science			<b>X</b>
10	Jean-Benoit Charron	Agricultural, Environmental & Science	<b>X</b>		
11	Timothy Johns	Agricultural, Environmental & Science			<b>X</b>
12	Lindsay Duncan	Education			<b>X</b>
13	Marta Kobiela	Education	<b>X</b>		
14	Aysenur Ipek Tureli	Engineering	<b>X</b>		
15	Daniel Varro	Engineering	<b>X</b>		
16	Monzur Murshed	Dentistry			<b>X</b>
17	Nancy Czermel	Law		<b>X</b>	
18	Samer Faraj	Management	<b>X</b>		
19	Lena Weman Ericsson	Music	<b>X</b>		
20	(Shufeng Zhou) for Secretary-General <b>TBA</b>	Secretary-General - PGSS (delegate)	<b>X</b>		
21	Jean-Michel Marcoux	Postdoctoral fellow		<b>X</b>	
22	Sanesh Iyer	Graduate Student - Engineering	<b>X</b>		
23	Eugene Kang	Graduate Student - Medicine	<b>X</b>		
24	Julia Gjebic	Graduate Student - Music			<b>X</b>
25	<b>TBA - Graduate Student</b>	<b>For : Arts, Education or Management</b>			
-	Jill Boruff	Libraries (ex-officio)	<b>X</b>		
-	(Anne McKinney) for Martha Crago	Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation) (ex-officio) (delegate)			<b>X</b>
-	(David Syncox) for Laura Winer	Director - TLS (ex-officio) (delegate)	<b>X</b>		
<b>Members with voice but no vote</b>					
-	Josephine Nalbantoglu	Dean of GPS - Chair	<b>X</b>		
-	Robin Beech	Associate Dean - GPS	<b>X</b>		
-	France Bouthillier	Associate Dean - GPS	<b>X</b>		
-	Jean-Jacques Lebrun	Associate Dean - GPS		<b>X</b>	
-	Elisa Pylkkanen	Director - GPS	<b>X</b>		
-	Maggie Do Couto	Academic Affairs Officer - GPS	<b>X</b>		
-	Eun-Ji Amy kim	Academic Project Administrator - GPS	<b>X</b>		
-	Cindy Smith	SCTP Secretary	<b>X</b>		
-	Sarah Curci	Committee Secretary	<b>X</b>		

\*Q = quorum (40%) = 10 on 25 members - Article 6.3.1 from Statutes of McGill University.

An ex-officio member is not counted in calculating the quorum, but he/she has the right to vote. - Robert's Rules of Order