

COUNCIL OF GRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES (CGPS)

James Administration Building, Room 301

Date: Monday, December 11, 2017

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

For meeting attendance list, please see last page.

Order was called at 2:35 p.m.

Dean Nalbantoglu confirmed quorum.

- 1.0 Adoption of the Agenda** **CGPS-AGD_2017.12.11**
Motion was made by Samer Faraj, and seconded by Marta Kobiela, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.
- 2.0 Approval of previous Minutes of Meeting** **CGPS-MoM_2017.11.13**
Motion was made by Lena Weman Ericsson, and seconded by Russell Steele, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, November 13, 2017. Motion carried.

Business Arising

None

For Approval

- 3.0 New Graduate Programs:**
- 3.1 Ph.D. in Psychology (Thesis):** **CGPS-NP-Ph.D.Psych-T_BehavNeuroSci_R00**
Behavioural Neuroscience Option
Presented by: Dr. Debra Titone, Council Member, Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Titone presented the new program proposal. She explained that there has been increased interest in the intersection of behaviour and neuroscience with the introduction of new hires in Behavioral Neuroscience (BNS) and other areas of Psychology (clinical, cognitive, social). Furthermore, students have expressed a desire for formal training in this area, and to have it reflected on their transcripts. As a result of this expanding focus and student demand, the department would like to formalize training with a Ph.D. in Psychology (Thesis): Behavioural Neuroscience Option.

The BNS concentration will require students to replace two of their normally required area seminars with two new courses: PSYC 781 – BNS Special Topics (3 credits) and PSYC 782 – BNS Advanced Seminar. In addition, students will be required to complete a dissertation that addresses BNS themes as determined by the graduate program director.

The Department of Psychology formally consulted Integrated Program in Neuroscience (IPN) and the Biology Department. IPN noted that there is no significant overlap between the proposed BNS courses and the IPN core or elective courses; however, both IPN and Biology raised issue with the fact that PSYC 781 and PSYC 782 would be restricted to Psychology students, as these courses could be of relevance and interest to their students. In response, the Department of Psychology has removed this restriction, making it possible for any McGill graduate to enroll in these courses. The Department of Biology also suggested BIOL 530 as an appropriate complementary course for BNS students; however, as Psychology students are already permitted to enroll in courses outside the department, the course list has not been amended.

The Department of Psychology anticipates an enrollment of 8 to 12 students in the BNS concentration in the next 2 to 5 years. With regard to similar programs offered at peer institutions, Dr. Titone's online research found that the University of Toronto has no track, whereas Western and UBC have a specialized track pertaining to the intersection of Psychology and behaviour. Although these specialized courses are somewhat more distinct than what is being proposed here, they are relatively similar.

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Dr. Titone explained that the BNS concentration will be specifically targeted to Psychology students, emphasizing in-depth, high-intensity studies of behaviour, whereas IPN is more suitable to students interested in neuroscience in either a broader sense or more specifically (ex. human brain mapping, etc.), thereby eliminating concerns of overlaps with IPN. Furthermore, since the intersection of brain and behaviour has always been studied in Psychology, the addition of a BNS concentration would simply be a formalization; therefore, Dr. Titone does not anticipate an increase in competition for jobs or funding between BNS and IPN students.

CGPS commentary:

- A council member asked how the retirement of the current M.Sc. (A) in Psychology (Non-Thesis) was relevant to the proposed BNS concentration. Dr. Titone confirmed that this is included on the proposal form as a formal administrative request and will not affect the program.
- A council member had a question pertaining to the additional credits that students without master's degrees from McGill would be required to take. Dr. Titone replied that McGill's Psychology Department requires students to complete at least two statistics courses, whereas some schools only require one. In cases where students with master's degrees from outside of McGill have completed the minimum number of statistics courses, the additional credits would not necessarily be required.
- A council member had a question regarding the number of courses McGill students would have to take in comparison to students at UBC or Toronto. Dr. Titone was unaware of these details; however, she emphasized the fact the Department of Psychology is more research-based than course-based. She also clarified the fact that the list of complementary courses on the proposal should not be crossed out, and that students would, in fact, be required to take 8 courses.
- A council member questioned why the department was not including IPN courses in their proposal, considering the breadth of diversity of courses offered by IPN. Dr. Titone replied that the intention is to capitalize on the critical mass of faculty that they already have. Furthermore, students are already permitted to take courses in other departments or universities if they have a rationale.
- A council member noted that the new proposal omits a note about language requirements that is found in the existing program. Dr. Titone responded that the department has no formal language requirements, and that this issue would only potentially apply to students who have already completed their degrees.
- A council member had a question regarding the advanced training in research methods that students would receive. Dr. Titone replied that research training occurs through the two statistics courses and that students also have the option of taking area seminars on advanced statistics; however, the bulk of this training is expected to take place in labs.

CGPS requests:

- The department should include benchmarking documentation, offering detailed examples of their program in comparison to other universities with similar programs.
- Include admission requirements in section 4.0.

Motion made by Russell Steele and seconded by Sanesh Iyer to approve the program. The new program was approved unanimously; it will be reported to SCTP for approval.

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**3.2 Graduate Certificate (Gr. Cert.) in Performance: CGPS-NP-Gr.Cert.Perf_ChoralConduct_R00
Choral Conducting**

Presented by: Prof. Lena Weman Ericsson, Council Member, Faculty of Music

Professor Ericsson presented the new Graduate Certificate proposal. She explained that the Graduate Certificate in Performance: Choral Conducting is intended to bridge the gap between undergraduate and graduate students. As the Graduate Certificate is targeted to active choral conductors, it is expected that students will complete their studies on a part-time basis, spreading their credits out over a year.

In terms of course work, the students must take 8 credits of required courses. MUIN 637 – Graduate Certificate Conducting Tutorial (3 credits), will take place in a group setting and will involve collaboration with masters and doctoral program students. The students are also required to complete a capstone project (MUPG 648 – Graduate Conducting Certificate Project (4 credits)), and MUPD 560 – Introduction to Research Methods in Music (1 credit) as a source of background information. The remaining 7 credits of complementary courses can be selected from a range of performance seminars and ensembles.

The anticipated enrollment target for this Graduate Certificate is three students. Whereas other universities offer Orchestral Conducting, McGill is currently the only music school in Montreal that offers Choral Conducting.

CGPS commentary:

- A council member questioned whether or not overlapping credits from B.Mus. degrees would be allowed. Prof. Ericsson replied that overlapping will not be permitted.
- A council member questioned why professional choral conductors would have to audition as part of the admission requirements. Prof. Ericsson replied that there is a distinction between active and professional choral conductors. Although active choral conductors could potentially have some professional activity, the proposed graduate certificate would enable them to refine their skills.
- A council member asked if the department plans to target conductors from the local Montreal area. Prof. Ericsson replied that this is the obvious choice; however, this is not a requirement.
- A council member asked how MUPG 580 – Rehearsal Techniques for Conductors (1.5 credits) should be categorized on the proposal form. Prof. Ericsson clarified that the course falls under the second set of complementary courses.
- A council member asked about the difference in content between Seminar courses 1 to 6. Prof. Ericsson replied that this varies from year to year.
- A council member had a question pertaining to funding and whether or not the program is private. Prof. Ericsson confirmed that the program is not private and financial consult had not been done as there is no funding required.

CGPS requests:

- In section 8.0, correct the title of the program to include the word “performance.”
- In section 8.0, replace the word “elective” with “complementary.”

Motion made by Aimee Ryan and seconded by Sonia Semenic to approve the program. The new program was approved unanimously; it will be reported to SCTP for approval.

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For Information

4.0 For Information:

4.1 Report

CGPS-RPTP_2017.12.11

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

Program proposals are available upon request.

Councilors' forum

5.0 Preparation of a Thesis

Associate Dean Jean-Jacques Lebrun proceeded to give a presentation on the guidelines for the preparation of a thesis. The first part of the presentation addressed the thesis components, which are required for both traditional and manuscript-based theses. One council member raised concern about receiving theses with incomplete introduction components. Discussion followed about the importance of explicitly stating the rationale and objectives at the start of the thesis process and maintaining this focus throughout.

Associate Dean Lebrun went on to discuss manuscript-based theses. He reinforced the fact that in the case of multiple-authored articles, the student must be the first author. Furthermore, in the case of co-first authored articles, only one student can use the article in a manuscript-based thesis and must be granted written permission to do so from the other co-first author student(s). A council member suggested that a standardized form of this written agreement be created.

Discussion ensued about the merits and drawbacks of traditional and manuscript-based theses. Questions surrounding the issue of authorship were also highly debated. It was reiterated that a manuscript-based thesis should include a list of authors detailing each one's individual contributions.

Other Business

None

There being no further business, all were in favor to adjourn the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

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***Delegate**

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

*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