

COUNCIL OF GRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES (CGPS)

James Administration Building, Room 301

Date: Monday, January 15, 2018

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

For meeting attendance list, please see last page.

Order was called at 2:40 p.m.

- 1.0 Adoption of the Agenda** **CGPS-AGD_2018.01.15**
Motion was made by Aimee Ryan, and seconded by Lena Weman Ericsson, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

- 2.0 Approval of previous Minutes of Meeting** **CGPS-MoM_2017.12.11**
Motion was made by Eyal Goren to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, December 11, 2017, with the addition that the GPS website has been updated to reflect the revisions made to thesis preparation guidelines. Motion carried. After discussion, it was agreed that Council members would be sent a copy of the presentation “Preparation of a Thesis” from the CGPS meeting held on December 11, 2017.

Business Arising

Dean Nalbantoglu provided an update on program proposals previously approved by CGPS. The dossier for the Ph.D. in Urban Planning is currently being considered at the Bureau de cooperation interuniversitaire (BCI). The site visit for the Master’s (Non-Thesis) in Oncology is being planned, and the Kinesiology Ph.D. has its site visit planned for January 31, 2018.

For Approval

- 3.0 New Graduate Programs** **None**

- 4.0 Major Revisions to Programs** **None**

For Information

- 5.0 For Information:**
- 5.1 Report** **CGPS-RPTP_2018.01.15**
Minor/Moderate Revisions and Program Retirement [including Low Enrolment/Obsolete]

Program proposals are available upon request.

- 5.2 Report for Cotutelle Agreements** **CGPS-RPTCA_2018.01.15**

Cotutelle agreements available upon request.

Councilors’ forum

None

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Other Business**Cumulative Master's Presentation**

Associate Dean France Bouthillier gave a presentation on Cumulative Master's degrees.

CGPS commentary:

- Dean Nalbantoglu noted that before moving forward with a proposal for a Cumulative Master's degree, Faculties will have to provide a list of certificates and diplomas that are eligible to be assembled into a Cumulative Master's degree.
- A Council member questioned whether or not a Cumulative Master's degree would be equivalent to a regular Master's degree and if a student with a Cumulative Master's would be able to pursue a Ph.D. Associate Dean Bouthillier responded that a Cumulative Master's degree will be similar to Master's (Non-Thesis). The degree will be marked "Cumulative Master's"; however, this will not prevent a student from pursuing a Ph.D.
- One Council member expressed concern that students with Cumulative Master's degrees might be at a disadvantage when enrolling in Ph.D. programs and questioned whether there was a mechanism in place to transfer to a regular Master's degree. Associate Dean Bouthillier replied that this option is not under consideration yet. Furthermore, she advised that students with an interest in academia pursue a Master's (Thesis). Dean Nalbantoglu added that entry into the Ph.D. program will depend on the admitting unit.
- A Council member asked if the decision to offer a Cumulative Master's degree would be made at the departmental level. Dean Nalbantoglu replied that the decision will be made at the Faculty level and will then come to GPS.
- A Council member brought into question the value of the Master's program, voicing uncertainty that the 45 credits of courses required for the Cumulative Master's degree would be sufficient without the student-supervisor interaction of a regular Master's program. Dean Nalbantoglu indicated that several Master's (Non-Thesis) programs that do not require a project component already exist at McGill, therefore, the Cumulative Master's would be no different. Associate Dean Bouthillier reiterated that the introduction of the Cumulative Master's degree would provide a way of adapting to a new way of learning by facilitating and increasing opportunities in disciplines where professionals are encouraged to acquire new knowledge on a regular basis.
- A Council member had a question pertaining to the status of Cumulative Master's students. Associate Dean Bouthillier replied that Cumulative Master's students will have the same status and receive the same services as any student pursuing a graduate certificate or diploma. In terms of fee structure, Dean Nalbantoglu confirmed that Cumulative Master's students will be charged per credit.
- One member inquired about the difference between a part-time Master's and a Cumulative Master's. Associate Dean Bouthillier explained that the length of a part-time Master's is 5 years, whereas that of a Cumulative Master's is 10 years. Students have a maximum of 10 years to complete the degree, and it will likely be on a part-time basis as it is geared toward professionals.
- A member asked about McGill's plans to spread awareness about Cumulative Master's degrees. Associate Dean Bouthillier responded that the path will be advertised on Department and Faculty websites.

Joint Ph.D. Program between Kyoto University and McGill University

Dean Nalbantoglu presented the Joint Ph.D. Program between Kyoto University and McGill University. The program has been launched after a long-term collaboration between Mark Lathrop from the McGill University and Génome Québec Innovation Centre and Fumihiko Matsuda from the Kyoto Centre for Genomic Medicine. The Joint Ph.D. differs from a Cotutelle in that the cohort takes the same courses and follows the same program

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throughout. The first cohort will begin with two McGill students and two Kyoto students in May. Students are required to take 30 credits of courses, including one required core course at McGill and several statistics and genetics courses. Participating students will spend a minimum of one year at the partner university. Upon successful completion of the program, the Ph.D. degree will be awarded jointly by the two universities.

CGPS commentary:

- A Council member had a question regarding the timeline of the program. Dean Nalbantoglu replied that the length of the program will be from 4 to 6 years. McGill students will not be required to pay Kyoto fees while studying there. Furthermore, it was specified that the thesis will be manuscript-based.
- One member asked about the amount of time that would be spent at each University. Dean Nalbantoglu replied that students will do 9 to 12 credits at McGill, while the rest will be completed in Kyoto. In addition, there will be a joint summer course.
- Associate Dean Jean-Jacques Lebrun called attention to the Comprehensive Examination. Dean Nalbantoglu explained that both McGill and Kyoto students will take their Comprehensive Examination in the third year. Students will be registered for Human Genetics 701 and the Ph.D. Seminar, and will be evaluated by one advisory committee.
- A Council member wanted to know if there are foundations in place for other disciplines to enter into agreements with Kyoto. Dean Nalbantoglu replied that a framework does exist for this and any professors with collaborations are welcome to take advantage of the opportunity; however, all new joint degrees require approval by the Japanese Ministry. Dean Nalbantoglu also noted that McGill has a general agreement with RIKEN in Japan, which provides additional training opportunities for Ph.D. students.

GPS Awards for Faculty and Staff Selection Committee

The following members were chosen to serve on the selection committee for the GPS Awards for Faculty and Staff:

Award for Excellence in Service:

- Monzur Murshed (Dentistry)
- Sanesh Iyer (PGSS – Engineering)

Carrie M. Derick Award for Graduate Supervision and Teaching:

- Sonia Semenic (Medicine)
- Timothy Jones (Agricultural & Environmental Sciences)
- Jean-Michel Marcoux (PGSS – Postdoctoral fellow)

David Thompson Award for Graduate Supervision and Teaching:

- Marta Kobiela (Education)
- Eyal Goren (Science)
- Eugene Kang (PGSS – Medicine)

There being no further business, all were in favor to adjourn the meeting at 3:42 p.m.

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***Delegate**

Q*	Name	Faculty/Department	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	Science	X		
8	Russell Steele	Science		X	
9	Lauren Chapman	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)			
-	(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	
-	Sabine Dhir	Interdiscip. Programs Officer	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