

COUNCIL OF GRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES (CGPS)

James Administration Building, Room 301

Date: Monday, March 19, 2018

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

For meeting attendance list, please see last page.

Guest(s):

Dr. Kevin Wade, Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Dr. Valerie Gravel, Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Order was called at 2:32 p.m.

Dean Josephine Nalbantoglu confirmed quorum.

- 1.0 Adoption of the Agenda** **CGPS-AGD_2018.03.19**
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_2018.01.15**
Motion was made by Lena Weman Ericsson, and seconded by Sonia Semenic, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, January 15, 2018. Motion carried.

Business Arising

None

For Approval

- 3.0 New Graduate Programs:**
- 3.1 M.Sc.A. in Animal Science (Non-Thesis): Sustainable Agriculture Option** **CGPS-NP-M.Sc.A.AniSci-NT_SusAgri_R00**
Presented by: Dr. Kevin Wade from Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Dr. Wade explained that although the Master of Science, Applied (M.Sc.A.) in Animal Science has existed for quite some time, enrolment has been low due to a relatively unfocused program (apart from the project component, 10 courses can be taken within the department and/or relevant units). As a result of some courses only being offered every second year or others with low enrolment and not being offered at a specific time, it became difficult to find a core of 10 courses that was consistently available. Due to the uncertainty of the availability of courses and the potential mismatch this could cause, some supervisors expressed an unwillingness to take on students. The Department of Animal Science's interest in revising the M.Sc.A. over time was also recommended by the external committee during a cyclical review. The department had been discussing the topic of Sustainable Animal Production for a while, and upon consultation with the Department of Plant Science, who already had a proposed framework for the option, it was decided that the offerings would be consolidated into one option including 4 courses (ANSC 555, BREE 533, IGFS 611 and PLNT 602) in addition to a statistics course. The project component of the M.Sc.A. Animal Science: Sustainable Agriculture Option will remain the same, and students will have the choice of 5 other courses, mostly, but not restricted to, Animal Science.

CGPS commentary:

- A Council member asked how the M.Sc.A in Animal Science: Sustainable Agriculture option compares to similar programs at other leading universities. Dr. Wade replied that based on the feedback they received from cyclical reviews, their M.Sc.A. and Ph.D. programs are as good as any of their peers across Canada. Furthermore, the department has some of the top researchers in their field compared to any unit in Canada, and the quality of their M.Sc.A. and Ph.D. programs reflect that.

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CGPS requests:

- Include admission requirements in the “Rationale and Admission Requirements for New Proposal” section.
- Include the “Requires Resources” section of the new forms.
- Remove the last sentence in the “Program Description” section.
- Include the sentence listed under Program Requirements in the “List of proposed program for the New Program/Major or Minor/Concentration” section in the “Program Description” section.
- ANSC 611D1/D2 Advanced Reproductive Biology should be listed as 3 credits rather than 2 x 1^{1/2} credits.

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

**3.2 M.Sc.A. in Plant Science (Non-Thesis): CGPS-NP-M.Sc.A.PlSci-NT_SusAgri_R00
Sustainable Agriculture Option**

Presented by: Dr. Valerie Gravel from Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Dr. Gravel explained that the departments of Plant Science and Animal Science worked together to develop a curriculum for the Sustainable Agriculture Option that would provide students with an opportunity to develop a skillset, evaluate and develop sustainable agro-ecosystems. The Master of Science, Applied (M.Sc.A.) Plant Science: Sustainable Agriculture Option will include the same core courses as the M.Sc.A. in Plant Science with the addition of 9 required credits of courses more related to sustainability. The expected enrollment is 20 students, and the program will be targeting professionals working within government agencies (e.g. AAFC) or agronomes and members of professional orders (e.g. OAQ, BCIOA, OIOA). Both the M.Sc.A. in Plant Science and the M.Sc.A. Sustainable Agriculture Option in Plant Science are in line with similar programs offered at other high-ranking Universities offering agriculture-related programs (e.g. Purdue University, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Laval University in Quebec). A similar option to the M.Sc.A. Plant Science: Sustainable Agriculture Option is also available at UBC; however their program focuses on sustainability in general, as opposed to sustainability in relation to agriculture.

CGPS commentary:

- A Council member remarked the lack of flexibility for complementary courses (3 credits). Dr. Gravel explained that the goal of the Sustainable Agriculture Option is to have a program that is very structured and targeted, so graduate students will have the same basic knowledge at the end of their studies. Consequently, students interested in flexibility would be better off taking the M.Sc.A. in Plant Science program without the option.
- A Council member inquired about the time to completion of the program. Dr. Gravel replied that it will be 18 months.
- One Council member asked if the program is private/self-funded. Dr. Gravel confirmed that it is not.
- A Council member questioned if students would have to focus on the topic of Sustainable Agriculture for their research component. Dr. Gravel responded that the research component is open depending on the supervisor the student selects, and will be specific to the student's personal interests.
- In reference to the School of Environment and other individual units that are moving towards agro-ecology, biodiversity etc., one Council member questioned how interdisciplinary lines can be drawn. Dean Nalbantoglu addressed the challenges involved in launching interdisciplinary and interfaculty programs. She noted that the School of Environment currently has a proposal prepared for a Ph.D. in Environment and Sustainability; however, the view exists that options are able to cover enough material, thereby making the need for the creation of this Ph.D. unnecessary. Much discussion is

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required before it can be decided if the Ph.D. in Environment and Sustainability can the move forward. In the meantime, proposals, especially of non-thesis programs, will not be interrupted.

CGPS requests:

- Include Biotechnology and Parasitology's consultation form for BTEC 621 Biotechnology Management.
- Include admission requirements in the "Rationale and Admission Requirements for New Proposal" section.
- Include the "Requires Resources" section of the new forms.
- Remove the last sentence in the "Program Description" section.

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

4.0 Major Revisions to Graduate Programs:**4.1 M.Sc.A. in Plant Science (Non-Thesis)****CGPS-MRP-M.Sc.A.PlSci-NT_R00**

Presented by: Dr. Valerie Gravel from Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Dr. Gravel explained that although the Master of Science, Applied (M.Sc.A.) Plant Science has been in existence for a while, it hasn't been active in the past 10-15 years because it is outdated (courses no longer given in the Unit or the Faculty). This program revision is intended to address this issue and to meet the demands for a M.Sc.A. program in Plant Science in line with today's context and challenges when it comes to plant production in agriculture. The program is being redesigned to cover topics related to plant management based on plant breeding and improvement, integrated stress management and agro-ecology that are essential in today's workplace. The department would like to provide an opportunity for future students who already work in agriculture to obtain a Master's degree without having to complete the requirements for a thesis. In addition, the current program does not include a research component, which has been deemed essential for the students they want to target. This revision is also in line with the new vision for the Department of Plant Science based on new faculty that has been hired in the last 8 years. The Master of Science, Applied (M.Sc.A.) in Plant Science is a 45-credit program comprised of 30 credits of required courses, including a 15-credit research project and 15 credits of required courses focusing on Plant Science. The remaining 15 credits come from complementary courses which include a 3-credit statistics course and 12 credits of subjects linked to plant production and Plant Science, but also other courses dealing with water quality management, insect phylogeny and diversity etc.

CGPS commentary:

- One Council member noted that between 1985 and 1996, the original M.Sc.A. Plant Science program that was offered was self-funded and for a very specific cohort (Agriculture Canada Staff), thus explaining why the degree requirements cannot be found in any calendars. That being said, it is assumed that the program probably wasn't reported to the Ministry.

CGPS requests:

- Contact and inform the Ministry that the old self-funded program is being changed to a public program.

The major program revision was approved unanimously. It will be reported to SCTP for approval.

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4.2 M.Sc.A. in Nursing (Non-Thesis) Programs

Presented by: Associate Dean France Bouthillier from Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

Associate Dean France Bouthillier explained that these proposals are an attempt to reconcile the 10 different programs that the School of Nursing currently has by creating 3 generic programs (M.Sc.A. Nursing, M.Sc.A. Advanced Nursing and M.Sc.A. Nurse Practitioner) with a number of concentrations. The rationale behind this relabelling is to better attract students and to report to the professional order more easily. Dean Nalbantoglu also noted that the M.Sc.A. Nurse Practitioner program is being advocated by the Ministry as they budgeted for 2000 new nurse practitioners in the next few years.

Corresponding document numbers:

- | | |
|---|---|
| CGPS-MRP-M.Sc.A.Nurs-NT_AdvClinPrac_R00 | CGPS-MRP-M.Sc.A.Nurs-NT_NeoNursPrac_R00 |
| CGPS-MRP-M.Sc.A.Nurs-NT_DirEntNurs_R00 | CGPS-MRP-M.Sc.A.Nurs-NT_NursServAdmin_R00 |
| CGPS-MRP-M.Sc.A.Nurs-NT_GloHlth_R00 | CGPS-MRP-M.Sc.A.Nurs-NT_PedNursPrac_R00 |
| CGPS-MRP-M.Sc.A.Nurs-NT_GloHlthDirEnt_R00 | CGPS-MRP-M.Sc.A.Nurs-NT_PriCareNursPrac_R00 |
| CGPS-MRP-M.Sc.A.Nurs-NT_MenHlthNursPrac_R00 | |

CGPS requests:

- Report the M.Sc.A. Advanced Nursing and M.Sc.A. Nurse Practitioner programs to the Ministry as these new majors do not exist.
- Where title changes are concerned, a statement should be included in the rationale indicating that the existing program will be retired.
- Include existing course descriptions with the revised descriptions.

The major program revisions were approved unanimously. They will be reported to SCIP for approval.

For Information

5.0 For Information:

5.1 Report

CGPS-RPTP_2018.03.19

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

Program proposals are available upon request.

Councilors' forum

None

Other Business

A Council member inquired about the results of the GPS Awards. Dean Nalbantoglu replied that the committee met the last week of February, and the email announcing the results will go out this week. Council members were informed that this year, the recipients of the Carrie M. Derick and David Thompson Awards for Graduate Supervision and Teaching will have short video segments highlighting their philosophies on supervision showcased on the Graduate Supervision website. Both recipients and nominees will also have excerpts of their dossiers and testimonials from their students featured on the website.

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Associate Dean Jean-Jacques Lebrun informed Council members that the rules regarding the minimum number of papers required for manuscript-based theses have been clarified on the GPS website. A student can submit a Ph.D. thesis without any manuscripts; however, it must then be written in the traditional format. In the case of manuscript-based theses, doctoral theses require a minimum of two manuscripts and Master's theses require at least one. Associate Dean Lebrun also noted that the manuscripts do not necessarily have to have been published prior to thesis submission.

There being no further business, all were in favor to adjourn the meeting at 3:14 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	Bruno Belzile	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	
-	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