

COUNCIL OF GRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES (CGPS)

James Administration Building, Room 301

Date: February 13th 2023

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

For meeting attendance list, please see last page.

Guest(s):

Stéphane Lemelin, Chair, Schulich School of Music

Thomas Duchaine, Professor, Goodman Cancer Institute and Department of Biochemistry

Luke McCaffrey, Associate Professor, Goodman Cancer Institute and Department of Oncology

Order was called at 2:32 p.m.

Dean Nalbantoglu confirmed quorum.

1.0 Adoption of the Agenda**CGPS-AGD_2023.02.13**

Motion was made by Jason Opal, and seconded by Fackson Mwale, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

2.0 Approval of previous Minutes of Meeting**CGPS-MoM_2023.01.16**

Motion was made by Stéphanie Chevalier, and seconded by Bernhard Lehner, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, January 16, 2023. Motion carried.

No business arising**For Approval****3.0 New Graduate Programs:****3.1 Ph.D. in Cancer Sciences (0 credits)****CGPS-NP-CancSciPhD_R00**

Presented by: Thomas Duchaine and Luke McCaffrey

The new PhD program in Cancer Sciences was presented. It is designed to train the next generation of leading cancer scientists across all pillars of cancer research. This interdepartmental program will provide students with a comprehensive understanding of cancer, including the breadth of cancer research and how integration of multiple disciplines can advance the field. Given the overall paucity of thesis-based graduate programs in interdisciplinary cancer sciences, the high demand, and the growth of interdisciplinary cancer research, the PhD in Cancer Sciences will position Quebec and Canada at the forefront of training future leaders in this field.

Students may take courses in a broad range of disciplines but will come together in the fundamental (EXMD635 or ONCO610) and cornerstone (CANC621) courses. In addition, students will attend mandatory activities such as Cohort Training Days and Interdisciplinary Cancer Sciences Research Days, which aim to reinforce the interdisciplinary nature of cancer research/cancer care.

Discussion

- A Council member asked who would teach the 1-credit courses and supervise the students. The presenter clarified that this would be handled at the Faculty level. The courses were developed by people who have already committed to teaching them. In addition, the 1-credit course offerings will rotate annually. With regards to PIs, faculty members in each consulted department are interested in supervising students. PIs who take on students will be asked to contribute to the administration of the program.
- A Council member asked if it would be possible to accept students without a supervisor given current regulations around funding. The presenter explained that students must have a supervisor by the time they are accepted into the program. The program proposers are actively investigating funding mechanisms.

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- A Council member inquired about the possible challenges when writing a thesis in an interdisciplinary program. The proposer noted that training days include a writing curriculum and someone dedicated to reading students' work and guiding them. They will also seek counsel from TLS.
- A Council member inquired about enrolling students into existing courses with high demand. The proposer explained that it is difficult to anticipate which courses will be taken, but when the time comes, they hope to expand course capacity if needed, through the employment of additional teaching assistants. This Council member also recommended considering applications from Human Nutrition students to widen the pool of eligible trainees.
- A Council member asked whether co-supervision is common in this field; as this is an interdisciplinary program, this might occur. The proposer explained that co-supervision is indeed common, but that the program will insist on a clear commitment from at least one principal supervisor.
- A Council member stated they like the inter-departmental and interdisciplinary nature of the program but questioned whether there would be administrative difficulties for students, such as, knowing which administrator they can turn to. The proposer noted that GPS has experience with interdisciplinary programs which can inform the administrative structure for Cancer Sciences. The proposers will address this through an organigram.
- A Council member asked if there are barriers or skepticism in the field that could make candidates less desirable by industry and academia. The proposer responded that there are many pathways a student can take, that they might vary based on the chosen career trajectory. If they are applying to something that caters to interdisciplinarity, then this program will strengthen their application. The program will help students highlight their competencies for the market.
- The Chair provided additional context about the program, supervision, and governance.
- A Council member added that this program will likely attract a new group of students.

Motion was made by Fackson Mwale and seconded by Maria Sierra Cordoba Serrano to approve the program. The new program was approved with 19 votes (0 abstain, 0 against). It will be reported to SCTP for approval.

3.2 Post-Graduate Artist Diploma; Performance CGPS-NP-PGArtDipP_R00

Presented by: Stéphane Lemelin

The presenter explained that the Schulich School of Music wants a 3rd cycle Post-Graduate Artist Diploma; Performance, which will be a doctoral-level certificate in terms of admissions and expectations. They currently have two diplomas for performance: the artist diploma is the one that always sets higher expectations for their students. The 3rd cycle diploma would bring McGill in line with other institutions. There were no questions. Dean Nalbantoglu offered clarifications on funding and 3rd cycle diplomas.

Motion was made by Isabelle Gélinas and seconded by Jason Opal to approve the program. The new program was approved with 19 votes (0 abstain, 0 against). It will be reported to SCTP for approval.

4.0 Major Revisions to Graduate Programs: M.Sc. Biological and Biomedical Engineering (Thesis) CGPS-MRP-BBME_R00
(45 credits)

Dean Nalbantoglu presented the change in degree designation from M. Eng. to M. Sc. for this program. This adjustment is a result of the Ministry's new definitions of master's degrees released in 2018-19. In Engineering, non-thesis programs are professional master's degrees and thus the designation is M. Eng., while thesis programs grounded in research are considered M. Sc. Via this proposal, the program's

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designation will be aligned with other programs at McGill and elsewhere. The Dean then explained that this type of revision will require Ministry approval.

Motion was made by Debra Titone and seconded by Maria Sierra Cordoba Serrano to approve the program. The new program was approved with 19 votes (0 abstain, 0 against). It will be reported to SCTP for approval.

5.0 Third cycle Diploma

CGPS-MM_2023.02.13

This was presented prior to the approval of the Music program. The Chair discussed the memo regarding the introduction of the third cycle diploma at McGill. She explained that these diplomas exist at our peer institutions and require students to already possess a 2nd cycle degree. The memo is being presented in parallel to the approval of the 3rd cycle diploma in Music. The Schulich School of Music partners with the Université de Montréal in a specific program where students can enrol at either University. Université de Montréal admit the students in this program through third cycle diplomas, thus McGill is aligning with their practice.

Motion was made by Stéphanie Chevalier and seconded by Benoit Gentil to approve the program. The new program was approved with 19 votes (0 abstain, 0 against). It will be reported to SCTP for information.

For Information

6.0 For Information:

6.1 Report

CGPS-RPTP_2023.02.13

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

Councillors' forum

None

Other Business

None

There being no further business, all were in favor to adjourn the meeting at 3:44 p.m.

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Q*	Name	Faculty/Departement	Present	Regrets	Absent
1	Eli MacLaren	Arts	X		
2	Eran Shor	Arts		X	
3	Jason Opal	Arts	X		
4	Fackson Mwale	Medicine and Health Sciences	X		
5	Isabelle Gélinas	Medicine and Health Sciences	X		
6	Pierre Moffatt	Medicine and Health Sciences	X		
7	Andrew Cumming	Science	X		
8	Barbel Knauper	Science	X		
9	Bernhard Lehner (interim)	Science	X		
10	Jean-Benoit Charron	Agricultural, Environmental & Science		X	
11	Stéphanie Chevalier	Agricultural, Environmental & Science	X		
12	Chiaki Konishi (interim)	Education	X		
13	Benoit Gentil (interim)	Education	X		
14	Jinhyuk Lee	Engineering	X		
15	Theodora Vardouli	Engineering	X		
16	Monzur Murshed	Dentistry		X	
17	Bianca Bourgeois (interim)	Law	X		
18	Samer Faraj	Management			X
19	Roe-Min Kok (interim)	Music		X	
21	María Sierra Córdoba Serrano	School of Continuing Studies	X		
21	Hossein Poorhemati	Secretary-General - PGSS (delegate)		X	
22	Claire Elizabeth Adams	Postdoctoral fellow	X		
23	Sogo Adegboyega	Graduate Student - AES			X
24	TBA	Graduate Student - Arts			
25	Ali Taqvi	Graduate Student - Med and Hlth Scis	X		
26	TBA	Graduate Student - Law			
27	April Colosimo	Libraries (ex-officio)	X		
28	Debra Titone (replacement) Benoit Boulet (for Martha Crago)	Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation) (ex-officio) (delegate)	X		
29	Carolyn Samuel (for Laura Winer)	Director - TLS (ex-officio)	X		
Members with voice but no vote					
-	Josephine Nalbantoglu	Dean of GPS - Chair	X		
-	Lorraine Chalifour	Associate Dean - GPS	X		
-	Nathan Hall	Associate Dean - GPS		X	
-	Russell Steele	Associate Dean - GPS		X	
-	Elisa Pylkkanen	Director - GPS	X		
-	Chloe Garcia	Manager, Academic Programs - GPS	X		
-	TBA	Academic Programs Officer - GPS			
-	Cindy Smith	SCTP Secretary		X	
-	TBA	Committee Secretary			