

Council of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

Minutes of the meeting of the CGPS held on
Monday, January 14, 2013, 2:30 pm
James Administration Building, Room 301

Attendance:

Officers:

Martin Kreiswirth (Chair)
Muriel Auberger (Committee Secretary)
Mona Sharafi-Razvand (Committee Secretary Assistance)

Elected Members:

Roger Cue, Robin Beech, Kristin Norget, France Bouthillier, Jeff Gostick, Louis Houle, Hugh Bennett, Josephine Nalbantoglu, Greg Brown and Bettina Kemme.

Ex-Officio:

Lisa Travis, Shari Baum and Lissa Matyas.

Regrets:

Helge Dedek, Eleanor Stuble, David Wolfson, Kedar K. Mate, Guillaume Lord, Maedeh Khayyat Kholghi and Laura Nilson.

Absent:

Ned Schantz, Carrie Rentschler, Simon Tran, Ingrid Sladeczek, Nathaniel Quitoriano, Saibal Ray, Isabelle Rouiller, Patricia Kirkpatrick, Adam Bouchard, Ali Jahanbani Ardakani, Ziad El-Katib, Adelina Artenie and Hatem Dokainish.

Guests:

Meaghan Thurston, Joel Deshayes and Jonathan Mooney.

Order was called at 2:30 pm

111 Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

112 Approval of Minutes

CGPS.12.14

The minutes of the November 19, 2012 meeting were approved with two modifications. Both France Bouthillier and Ali Janbani Ardakani confirmed they were present at the last meeting but were recorded as being absent. All in favour.

113 Business Arising from the Minutes

- a) Changes to: “Guidelines for Thesis Preparation, Submission and Examination”

Dean Kreiswirth informed members that the changes to the Guidelines for Thesis Preparation, Submission and Examination were presented and approved at the APC meeting held on December 12, 2012. The document will be presented at the next Senate meeting for final approval.

114 New Business

- a) SCTP Summary Report 5
Approved Revised Programs

CGPS.12.15

This document is being presented for information to members.

- b) SCTP Summary Report 5
Approved New, Revised and Retired Courses

CGPS.12.16

This document is being presented for information to members.

- c) SCTP Summary Report 6
Approved Revised and Retired Programs

CGPS.12.17

This document is being presented for information to members.

- d) **Appendix A – New program option for approval of M.A. in Art History.** **CGPS.12.18**

Dean Kreiswirth welcomed Dr. Amelia Jones from the Department of Art History and Communications Studies who presented the new program option.

Dr. Jones explained that prior to 2008, the Department of Art History had a thesis only M.A. program that was later modified in 2008 to a non-thesis M.A. program. The current proposal is for the Department to return to offering a thesis only M.A. in Art History.

Dr. Jones mentioned that the Department discussed keeping both options but in an effort to streamline and because a thesis program better suits students working towards a PhD program, it was decided that only the Thesis option would be retained.

All were in favor to approve the new option: M.A. in Art History: Thesis. Motion carried.

- e) SCTP Summary Report 6
Approved New, Revised and Retired Courses

CGPS.12.19

This document is being presented for information to members.

f) Leave of absence policy:**CGPS.12.20**

Associate Dean Baum briefly went through the Leave of Absence Policy and indicated that, in an effort to make both the undergraduate and the graduate leave of absence policies uniform, changes were made to the existing graduate policy. The primary difference is that formally two types of leaves existed: a) a leave of absence for health and parenting and b) a leave of absence for non-residence status for students studying abroad. Now, these two types of leaves of absence have been merged with no change to the policy. Associate Dean Baum announced that a submission form is now available to apply for a leave of absence.

On a motion by Professor Norget, seconded by Professor Cue, the revised Graduate and Postdoctoral Leave of Absence Policy was approved. All in favour. Motion carried.

115 Councilor's Forum

No items were submitted for discussion under this section.

116 Other Businessa) Application Fee:

Professor Gostick asked if the application fee process could be changed so that students are only required to pay a fee after their marks have been assessed and they have received confirmation from the department that their application will be considered.

Dean Kreiswirth indicated that it is not feasible to change the process as the application fee provides the University with a commitment on the part of the student and pays for all the administrative work done with each application received. He recommended that Professor Gostick write potentially interesting candidates and ask them to send an unofficial transcript prior to applying so the department can decide if it wants to consider a particular applicant.

b) Posting Course Syllabus on Website:

Professor Bouthillier inquired about existing guidelines regarding the positing of course syllabi on the McGill website as well as the availability of a researcher database. She indicated that having this type of information available would provide useful tools for prospective students when choosing their programs of study.

Dean Kreiswirth agreed and indicated that GPS is working with units to have a researcher database available, as well as course syllabi and lists of thesis topics.

There being no further business, all were in favour to adjourn the meeting at 3:20 pm.