

**Council of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies**

Minutes of the meeting of the CGPS held on  
Monday, September 14, 2015 2:30 pm  
James Administration Building, Room 301

**Attendance:**

*Officers:*

Josephine Nalbantoglu (Chair)  
Alison Crump (Acting Secretary)

*Elected Members:*

Michael Van Dussen, Prashant Keshavmurthy, Milica Popovich, Nancy Czettel, Louis Houle,  
Naguib Mechawar, Aimee Ryan, Derek Bowie, Lena Weman Ericsson, Sébastien Breau, Behrang  
Sharif, Hao Yu Chen, Andrea Price

*Ex-Officio:*

France Bouthillier, Jean-Jacques Lebrun, Robin Beech, Maggie DoCouto, Elisa Pylkkanen, David Syncox

*Regrets:*

Benoît Coté, Elaine Weiner, Meyer Nahon, Lara Braitstein, Stephanie Law, Natheer Alatawneh

*Absent:*

Vijaya Raghavan, Monzur Murshed, Dennis Jensen, Gordon Bloom, Samer Faraj, Peter Grutter

*Guest(s):*

Madhukar Pai

**Order was called at 2:35 pm**

**100 Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as presented.

**101 Approval of the Minutes**

**Minutes of the meeting of May 11, 2015**

**CGPS.14.43– MinMay11\_15**

The minutes of the May 11, 2015 meeting were approved. Motion carried.

**102 Introduction of Committee**

**CGPS.15.01-Mandate**

Dean Nalbantoglu introduced herself as the new Dean GPS and Chair of Council and provided a summary of the mandate and schedule of Council. Although in the past, monthly meetings were sometimes cancelled, she anticipates that this will not be the case this year due to the change in approval pathway, which means that courses now come to CGPS first, in addition to program proposals. She explained that when CGPS does not have quorum (i.e., 17 voting members), there will be an electronic vote to ensure that approvals are not delayed. She emphasized the importance of voting members attending CGPS meetings or sending a delegate.

**Presentation****CGPS.15.02-Presentation**

Dean Nalbantoglu gave a brief presentation on Council, with examples of policies and regulations that have come through CGPS recently (e.g., progress tracking, supervision, failure policy). She alerted members to the increased interest in cotuelles and interfaculty programs, meaning that CPGS will be seeing more of these in the near future. She reminded Council members that they could bring forward any topics or issues to the Councilors' Forum, or suggest topics for short presentations.

**103 Business Arising****For Approval**

New Programs:

a) **MSc in Public Health – Non-Thesis – Global Health** **CGPS.15.03–MSc\_PubHeal\_NT\_GlobHeal**

Professor Madhukar Pai, Canada Research Chair in Translational Epidemiology and Global Health, Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health presented the Master's in Public Health, Non-Thesis, Global Health option.

Professor Pai explained that Global Health is an increasingly popular and well-funded area of research. While McGill has pockets of excellence with respect to Global Health offerings (e.g., McGill International TB Centre; McGill AIDS Centre), there is still no coherent program in Global Health. This is especially of concern since smaller Canadian universities are marketing themselves as “power houses in Global Health.” The option in Global Health, presented by Professor Pai, is the first small step in the right direction that will allow McGill to draw top students and meet a growing demand for graduate education in Global Health. In fact, Professor Pai opened a new graduate course in Global Health in Fall 2015, and reported that it quickly filled to capacity (50 students from diverse disciplines). Clearly, this is indicative of the growing trend in Global Health.

Members of Council asked about the number of students this option would serve. Professor Pai replied that it would begin small, with roughly 10 students, but would likely grow as capacity and resources grow among the faculty. Professor Pai clarified the program requirements in the MSc in Public Health Non-Thesis program will remain the same and that the Global Health option has the addition of the mandatory 500-level course in Global Health, and a list of complementary courses with a Global Health flavour.

On a motion by Derek Bowie, seconded by Sébastien Breau, all were in favour to approve the MSc in Public Health, Non-Thesis, Global Health option. Due to a lack of quorum, no motion was carried at the meeting. The recommendation for approval made by the 13 voting members present at CGPS will be sent to the absent voting members for electronic vote.

b) **Memorandum of Agreement** **CGPS.15.04-Cotuelle\_France\_Stras**

Joint Doctoral Degree McGill University and Université de Strasbourg, France

c) **Memorandum of Agreement** **CGPS.15.05-Cotuelle\_France\_Bord**

Joint Doctoral Degree McGill University and Université de Bordeaux, France

Dean Nalbantoglu presented the two cotuelles together, beginning with some background on cotuelles and McGill's MOUs with U21 universities and France (starting in 2013). McGill currently has 4 cotuelles with France and 2 with U21 universities, and Dean Nalbantoglu repeated that we will see more cotuelles in the near future. She highlighted some of the key issues related to cotuelle arrangements: e.g., oral defence committees; location of defence. In response

to a question about fees, it was explained that students pay fees where they are registered. In addition, Dean Nalbangtoghlu clarified that students receive a parchment from each institution, which clearly indicates the joint degree with the other institution; i.e., doing a cotutelle is not equivalent to completing two separate doctoral degrees.

On a motion by Hao Yu Chen, seconded by Derek Bowie, all were in favour to approve the Joint Doctoral Degree McGill University and Université de Strasbourg, France and the Joint Doctoral Degree McGill University and Université de Bordeaux, France. Due to a lack of quorum, no motion was carried at the meeting. The recommendation for approval made by the 13 voting members present at CGPS will be sent to the absent voting members for electronic vote.

**104 Councilors' Forum**

No items were submitted for discussion.

**105 Other Business**

There being no further business, all were in favor to adjourn the meeting at 3:25 p.m.