

Council of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

Minutes of the meeting of the CGPS held on
Monday, October 18, 2013, 2:30 pm
James Administration Building, Room 301

Attendance:

Officers:

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

Elected Members:

Benoît Coté, Roger Cue, Nicole Couture, Simon Tran, France Bouthillier, Nathaniel Quitarano
Derek Bowie, Josephine Nalbantoglu, Louis Houle, Eleanor Stubley, Bettina Kemme, Adam
Bouchard, Isabelle Rouiller, Patricia Kirkpatrick, Yuhan Ma and Moksha Serrano.

Ex-Officio:

Jean-Jaques Lebrun

Regrets:

Kristin Norget (Nicole Couture as a replacement), Angela Campbell, David Wolfson, Peter Grutter,
Emily Yung and Susana Gabriela Torres Plata.

Absent:

Jeff Gostick, Ned Schantz, Ingrid Sladeczek, Saibal Ray, Greg Brown, Heather Goad, Laura Nilson,
Lissa Matyas, Mohammad Hajizadeh and Giselle Boukhaled.

Guests:

Jonathan Mooney, Joel Deshayé, Maggie Do Couto and Michael Krause.

Order was called at 2:35 pm

108 Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

109 Approval of Minutes

a) Minutes of the meeting of May 21, 2013 CGPS.13.01

The minutes of the May 21, 2013 were approved. All in favour.

b) Minutes of the meeting of September 16, 2013 CGPS.13.10

The minutes of the September 16, 2013 were approved with one modification. Benoît Coté confirmed that he was present at the last meeting but was recorded as being absent. All in favour.

110 Business Arising from the Minutes

- a) Revised Recommendations on Supervision CGPS.13.11

Dean Kreiswirth re-introduced the adapted recommendations from the 2012-13 Supervisory Surveys and the Working Group on Supervision at GPS and Dr. Joel Deshayé remarked that various revisions to the recommendations were made to acknowledge views expressed in Council.

At the previous meeting of Council, some members questioned the efficiency of the proposed changes involving progress tracking and supervisory committees and Dr. Deshayé said that the latest version of the recommendations was revised to avoid recommending the duplication of processes. He also noted that three members had provided written feedback following the previous meeting. It was suggested that experienced supervisors who have not supervised in 5 years or more should not be required to attend an orientation, that the definition of “supervisor” be broadened to include non-professors with commensurate expertise and supervisory roles and finally, that progress tracking forms should not include space for an agreement on expectations unless the forms can be put into practice in the first term of a student’s degree.

Further discussion of the recommendations on supervision ensued, particularly focused on evaluation and incentives. In discussing incentives, it was suggested that a departmental point system for encouraging supervisors to reduce the times to completion of their students could be used to quantify outcomes that are partly within the control of supervisors.

There was also discussion about supervision being acknowledged in both teaching and research categories in tenure and merit decisions. In addition, members of Council discussed if supervisory orientation should be mandatory. Some argued that orientation for experienced supervisors should be optional (but mandatory for new hires), and others argued that it could be “strongly advised” but not mandatory. A member from PGSS suggested that the orientation could be mandatory but waived by the chair and Dean Kreiswirth agreed that consultation with the chair would be a good compromise.

111 New Business

- a) Student Exchange Agreement – Schulich School of Music CGPS.13.12

Dean Kreiswirth presented the Student Exchange Agreements – Schulich School of Music. He briefly explained the approval process.

**All were in favor to approve the Student Exchange Agreement - Schulich School of Music.
Motion carried**

112 For Information:

- b) SCTP Summary Report 3 – New and Revised Courses CGPS.13.13
c) SCTP Summary Report 3 – Revised Programs CGPS.13.14

These documents were presented for information to members.

113 Councilor's Forum

114 Other Business

There being no further business, all were in favour to adjourn the meeting at 4:03 p.m.