



**MINUTES OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF
THE COUNCIL OF THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
OPEN SESSION**

April 15, 2013 at 10:00 am room H-767

PRESENT

Ex-officio members: J. Beaudoin (Secretary), G. Beaudry, G. Carr, P. Wood-Adams (Chair).

Voting members: A. Awasthi, F. Crooks, E. Diamantoudi, A. Dolatabadi (for C. Mulligan), B. Ibrahim, M. Lefebvre, M. Mehmet Ali, B. Nelson, E. Peltier-Wagner, C. Skinner, S. Ullah, V. Venkatesh, B. Vorn, H. Wasson, R. Wuthrich.

Non-Voting members: O. Dyens, M.-C. Newman, M. Jordan (Recording Secretary).

Guests: H. Adams-Robinette, J. Didur, D. Dubiel, J. Locke, F. Martin, M. Mulrennan, M. Sharma, C. Tocco.

REGRETS

Voting members: N. Alatawneh, F. Al-Saqqar, A. Atia, G. Brown, S. Chauhan, A.-M. Croteau, M. Fritsch, E. Manning, D. Matthews, B. Pervez, S. Snow.

Non-voting members: W. Cheaib, J. Powlowski.

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Open Session was called to order at 10:00am.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved and seconded (O. Dyens, E. Diamantoudi). Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Meeting of March 18, 2013

Moved and seconded (E. Diamantoudi, B. Nelson). Carried.

4. Chair's Remarks

Dr Wood-Adams announced that we had received several high profile, national awards: one Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship and two Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships. The results were still embargoed but were to be publicized soon. The Chair offered a follow-up to a question posed at the previous meeting about university rankings; Dr Wood-Adams explained that there was an error in one of the indicators used for the reporting and that it has been corrected for upcoming data gathering exercises, and that this correction should provide a positive impact on Concordia's future ratings.

5. Question Period

There were no questions.

6. Consent Agenda

Proposed Graduate Curriculum Changes

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

6.1	GCC report from the Chair of GCC	CSGS 1213 6 D1
6.2	Centre for Engineering in Society (CES-0)	CSGS 1213 6 D2
6.3	GCC report from the Chair of GCC	CSGS 1213 6 D3
6.4	Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering (MECH-71)	CSGS 1213 6 D4

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

6.5	GCC report from the Chair of GCC	CSGS 1213 6 D5
6.6	Department of Education (EDUC-50)	CSGS 1213 6 D6

Moved and seconded (V. Venkatesh, C. Skinner). Carried.

7. Business

New Program Proposals

7.1	GCC report from the Chair of GCC	CSGS 1213 6 D7
7.2	<i>Graduate Certificate in University Teaching</i> (SGSG-2)	CSGS 1213 6 D8

Dr Venkatesh explained that this proposed certificate, an initiative by the School of Graduate Studies and the first English-language 'for credit' program of its kind in Canada, will be open to current Concordia PhD students and will use an apprenticeship approach where students are

mentored by a faculty member. It is not intended for students who already receive significant pedagogical training as part of their doctoral program. Students are expected to complete the program over 3 terms and will be required to pay tuition fees; conversely, the teaching seminar is remunerated. The certificate builds on a partnership with the Centre for Teaching and Learning and will be under the directorship of the INDI program. It will rely on current resources, however, should enrolments increase, the current personnel situation in INDI will be complemented accordingly.

Moved and seconded (V. Venkatesh, C. Skinner). Carried.

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----------------|
| 7.3 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1213 6 D9 |
| 7.4 | <i>PhD in English Literature</i>
(ENGL-19) | CSGS 1213 6 D10 |

Dr Venkatesh requested speaking privileges for Prof. J. Locke, Dr M. Sharma and Dr J. Didur. Dr Didur explained that the proposed PhD program has been a long time in the making and builds on a highly successful master's program. The Department of English has a strong record of acquiring external grants including a Concordia University Research Chair in Media and Contemporary Literature, and a scheduled CURC in the Digital Humanities. The program differentiates itself markedly from others in the Montreal area by allowing for a stronger focus on literary studies yet its structure is fairly open to accommodate current and varied research themes as well as those that are emerging.

Moved and seconded (V. Venkatesh, C. Skinner). Carried.

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----------------|
| 7.5 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1213 6 D11 |
| 7.6 | <i>PhD in Geography, Urban and Environmental Studies</i>
(GEOG-29) | CSGS 1213 6 D12 |

Dr Venkatesh requested speaking privileges for Dr M. Mulrennan. Dr Mulrennan provided Council with an overview of the program and explained that it builds on the department's current MSc as well as its MEnv program. She further noted that the PhD responds to an urgent need in the department not only to maintain its excellent ranking amongst its peers across Canada and internationally, but also to provide supervision opportunities for faculty members which, in turn, benefit faculty retention. The program has been designed to encourage timely completion and is well slated to provide employment to graduates in the 'green economy'. Dr Mulrennan stated that internal funding for potential candidates is key but that the bulk of students in the field tend to be self-funded.

Moved and seconded (V. Venkatesh, C. Skinner). Carried.

Presentations

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 8. | Graham Carr – Strategic Research Plan | CSGS 1213 6 D13 |
|----|---------------------------------------|-----------------|

Dr Carr provided a brief overview of the Strategic Research Plan and explained that all institutions are required by the tri-council to develop a 5-year plan, and that Concordia's plan is up for renewal. The Strategic Research Plan retains two clusters within each of the three themes and is designed to be more aspirational and future orientated. The text is intended to be both

descriptive and flexible. Council members were invited to send their comments and questions to Ms Adams-Robinette or Mr Jordan before April 19, 2013.

Other Business

Next Meeting: Graduation lists - May 13, 2013 from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon, H 767

9. Adjournment

It was moved and seconded (V. Venkatesh, C. Skinner) to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Jordan
Recording Secretary, Council of the School of Graduate Studies