UNIVERSITÉ
Concordia
U N I V E R S I T Y

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF
THE COUNCIL OF THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
OPEN SESSION

February 11, 2013 at 10:00 am room H-767

PRESENT

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

Voting members: A. Awasthi, G. Brown, S. Chauhan, F. Crooks, A.-M. Croteau, E. Diamantoudi, B. Ibrahim, M. Lefebvre, D. Matthews, M. Mehmet Ali, C. Mulligan, B. Nelson, E. Peltier-Wagner, C. Skinner, S. Ullah, V. Venkatesh. B. Vorn, H. Wasson.

Non-Voting members: S. Fontaine, M. Jordan (Recording Secretary).

REGRETS

Voting members: N. Alatawneh, F. Al-Saqqar, A. Atia, M. Fritsch, E. Manning, B. Pervez, S. Snow, R. Wuthrich.

Non-voting members: W. Cheaib, O. Dyens, 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 (B. Nelson, A.-M. Croteau). Carried.

3.   Approval of the Minutes of the Open Meeting of January 14, 2013

      Moved and seconded (V. Venkatesh, G. Brown). Carried.

4.   Chair's Remarks

      In the interest of advancing the rather full agenda, Dr Paula Wood-Adams waived her remarks.

5.   Question Period

There were no questions.

Ratification

6.   Ratification of CSGS motions January 14, 2013   CSGS 1213 4 D1

In the absence of quorum, it was necessary to pass a motion at this meeting to ratify those
motions passed at the January 14, 2013 meeting.

Moved and seconded (A.-M. Croteau, V. Venkatesh). Carried.

7.   **Consent Agenda**

Proposed Graduate Curriculum Changes

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

7.1   GCC report from the Chair of GCC   CSGS 1213 4 D2
7.2   Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering   CSGS 1213 4 D3
       (ELEC-56)

Faculty of Arts and Science

7.3   GCC report from the Chair of GCC   CSGS 1213 4 D4
7.4   Department of Economics   CSGS 1213 4 D5
       (ECON-21)

Moved and seconded (C. Skinner, C. Mulligan). Carried.

8.   **Business**

Proposed Graduate Curriculum Changes

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

8.1   GCC report from the Chair of GCC   CSGS 1213 4 D6
8.2   Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering   CSGS 1213 4 D7
       (ELEC-57)

This item was removed from the consent agenda prior to the meeting, and upon consultation
with the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, in order to highlight the creation of an
interfaculty course taught by professors from different faculties. Although collaborations exist
in many programs, the formalization of this practice is a positive step in fostering cross-
disciplinary approaches to curriculum. Dr Vivek Venkatesh gave a brief outline of the changes
in the document and congratulated the departments for their efforts.

Moved and seconded (A.-M. Croteau, V. Venkatesh). Carried.

9. **Discussion**

Draft Thesis Guidelines: Dr C. Skinner   CSGS 1213 4 D8

Dr Cameron Skinner gave an overview of the changes in the document and invited Council members to forward comments or questions to his attention. Dr Skinner also explained that the document would be presented at each of the faculty councils for input. A question concerning the necessity of translating theses into French or English for joint programs with other institutions was raised. There was some discussion about offering a translated abstract to the sister institution rather than a complete translation of the thesis. The composition of the Thesis Examining Committee as outlined in the document was discussed. Another member asked if a clearer definition of a master's thesis could be incorporated into the document; Drs Wood-Adams and Skinner agreed that a standard across disciplines does not currently exist at the master's level. Dr Wood-Adams made mention of a forthcoming document for discussion at Council relative to learning outcomes that may impact the notion of a master's thesis at Concordia.

10. **Presentation**

Perceptions of Technology Integration and Course Effectiveness in Universities: Implications for E-Learning Initiatives at Concordia

Drs V. Venkatesh and O. Dyens

In light of Dr Ollivier Dyens' absence, Dr Venkatesh altered slightly the emphasis of his presentation to focus on instructor and student perceptions of technology usage in the classroom in Quebec. The presentation consisted primarily of a detailed breakdown of the results of a survey conducted collaboratively between Concordia and UQAM on such perceptions. Dr Venkatesh invited Council members to send him ideas and encouraged the undertaking of pilot projects by departments and faculties using some of the techniques in the study. Some members asked how 'technologies' and 'teaching effectiveness' were defined and measured; the questionnaires used in the study were to be forwarded to Council members.

Other - Next Meeting: March 18, 2013 from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon, H 767

10. **Adjournment**

It was moved and seconded (V.Venkatesh, A.-M. Croteau) to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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