



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

October 29, 2012 at 10:00 am room H-769

PRESENT

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

Voting members: F. Al-Saqqar, A. Awasthi, F. Crooks, A.-M. Croteau, E. Diamantoudi, M. Fritsch, M. Mehmet Ali, C. Mulligan, B. Nelson, B. Pervez, C. Skinner, S. Snow, S. Ullah, B. Vorn.

Non-Voting members: W. Cheaib, O. Dyens, S. Fontaine, M. Jordan (Recording Secretary).

REGRETS

Voting members: A. Atia, G. Brown, G. Dionne, B. Ibrahim, E. Manning, N. Rantisi, G. Saad, R. Saade, H. Wasson, R. Wuthrich.

Non-voting members: J. Powlowski, V. Venkatesh.

1. Call to Order and Welcome

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

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved and seconded (B. Nelson, M. Fritsch). Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Meeting of October 1, 2012.

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

4. Chair's Remarks

The Chair was pleased to distribute to Council members the inaugural edition of the School of Graduate Studies' Quarterly Newsletter whose goal is to make the community aware of initiatives and developments related to graduate studies at Concordia. Dr Wood-Adams called on members to submit ideas to the School for future editions. The Chair also informed Council that three committees are to begin their work over the next weeks – the Thesis Guidelines Committee, the Guidelines for Supervisors and Graduate Students Committee, and Graduate Program Standards and Procedures Committee – each to be chaired by an Associate Dean. It

was announced that an external evaluation committee from CRÉPUQ would visit the School of Graduate Studies for the proposed PhD in Industrial Engineering on December 2. The Chair was delighted to announce that five Vanier and 11 Banting applications have been put forth for the 2012-2013 competitions. Dr Wood-Adams reminded Council that Dr Anne-Marie Croteau would be making a presentation on new, targeted approaches to recruitment at a future Council meeting.

5. Question Period

There were no questions.

6. **Consent Agenda**

Proposed Graduate Curriculum Changes

Faculty of Arts & Science

- | | | |
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| 6.1 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1213 2 D1 |
| 6.2 | Department of Education (EDUC-48) | CSGS 1213 2 D2 |

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

- | | | |
|-----|--|----------------|
| 6.3 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1213 2 D3 |
| 6.4 | Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering (BLDG-56) | CSGS 1213 2 D4 |
| 6.5 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1213 2 D5 |
| 6.6 | Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering (BLDG-57) | CSGS 1213 2 D6 |
| 6.7 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1213 2 D7 |
| 6.8 | The Concordia Institute for Information Systems Engineering (CIISE-54) | CSGS 1213 2 D8 |

There was some discussion surrounding dossier EDUC-48, specifically the clarifications made to the minimum required GPA for entry to the program (3.0/4.3). The notion of a correlation between the admission GPA requirement and the success rate of future students was raised. Dr Wood-Adams agreed to examine existing data and report back to Council, if pertinent.

Moved and seconded (B. Nelson, A.-M. Croteau). Carried.

Business

7. *English Language Proficiency Requirements*; Cameron Skinner, Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Postdoctoral Studies

CSGS 1213 2 D9

The Chair asked Dr Skinner to provide Council with a brief overview of the changes outlined in the above document. Dr Skinner explained that with these modifications, language requirements for admission are no longer linked to an applicant's citizenship but rather to his or her mother tongue. Nonetheless, certain programs will be exempt such as, Hispanic Studies, Études françaises and some privatized programs in JMSB due to the particularities of their student populations. A Council member asked if examinations other than the TOEFL are considered for entry to our graduate programs. Dr Skinner replied that the vast majority of applicants submit TOEFL scores but that other exams would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Moved and seconded (C. Skinner, B. Nelson). Carried.

Discussion

8. *Thesis Guidelines*; Cameron Skinner, Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Postdoctoral Studies

Dr Wood-Adams requested that Dr Skinner initiate the discussion on Thesis Guidelines. Dr Skinner asked Council members for their input on questions that the Thesis Guidelines Committee are likely to face, such as required thesis length, research creation theses, non traditional theses, amongst others. Council members brought several issues to the forefront including the possible reluctance of thesis committee evaluators to note major modifications due to complexity and delays that often ensue, and the impact of copyrights on theses. Dr Skinner thanked Council members and encouraged them to contact their Faculty's representative on the committee should they have anything further to add.

Ratification

9. Ratification of Faculty Tribunal Pool Nominees CSGS 1213 2 D10

Moved and seconded (C. Skinner, A.-M. Croteau). Carried.

Other - Next Meeting: January 14, 2013 from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon, H-767

10. **Adjournment**

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

Respectfully submitted,

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