

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

February 1, 2016 at 10:00 am room H-763

PRESENT

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

Voting members: A. Aghdam, A. Akgundiz (for M. Debbadi), S. Bhagwati, K. Boies, S. Chauhan, A.-M. Croteau, E. Diamantoudi, A. Dolatabadi, B. Freiwald, M. Kanji, M. Mehmet Ali, B. Nelson, J. Neves, E. Peltier-Wagner, V. Peters, K. Sawchuk, K. Schmitt, A. Sebak, R. Raut, K. Riad, R. Waldie, A. Whitelaw, S. Zahabi.

Non-Voting members: M. Jordan (Recording Secretary), B. Tucker.

Guests: G. Beaudry, D. Dysart-Gale, J. Stollow.

REGRETS

Voting members: T. Gould, A. Piekny.

Non-voting members: M. C. Bolton, W. Cheaib, J. Powlowski.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved and seconded (K. Sawchuk, K. Schmitt). Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Meeting of November 30, 2015

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

4. Chair's Remarks

Dr Wood-Adams announced that, as of January, the School of Graduate Studies had been functioning with a full complement of Associate Deans with Dr Amir Aghdam and Dr Faye Diamantoudi having taken on the portfolios of Student Affairs and Postdoctoral Studies, and Recruitment and Awards respectively. She thanked Dr Brad Nelson for his willingness to steer the bulk of two of the portfolios during the Fall term.

The Chair reminded Council members that the Graduate Community Building Fund was officially launched in early January and that she was looking forward to seeing the proposals. Thanks to feedback from the community, the application form would be revised and clarified.

In upcoming events, Dr Wood-Adams mentioned the talk taking place on February 18 by Dr Alexandre Lehmann entitled 'What does one do with a PhD in 2016?' She also noted that the next meeting of the *Association des Doyens des études supérieures au Québec (ADÉSAQ)* was to be held at Concordia on February 19 and reminded Council that ADÉSAQ's role is to review policy and issues related to graduate education in Quebec. This year, the School of Graduate Studies will also be running the *Prix d'excellence de l'ADÉSAQ* competition whose goal is to recognize 'the doctoral thesis that has made significant and original contributions to its academic field in the preceding year.'

The Chair took the opportunity to encourage members to attend some of the monthly Thinking Out Loud events. The panel discussions usually involve a faculty member or members, a public figure and a prominent journalist. One of particular interest is on March 14 with former Associate Dean, Cameron Skinner and author Kathy Reichs. Additionally, The School will be hosting the launch of Dr Lorrie Blair's new book *Writing a Graduate Thesis or Dissertation* in late March.

5. Question Period

There were no questions.

Consent Agenda

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| 6. | Ratification of CSGS motions November 30, 2015 | CSGS 1516 3 D1 |
| 7. | Proposed Graduate Calendar Changes | |

Faculty of Arts and Science

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| 7.1 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1516 3 D2 |
| 7.2 | Department of Geography, Planning and Environment
(GEOG-37) | CSGS 1516 3 D3 |
| 7.3 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1516 3 D4 |
| 7.4 | Department of Journalism (JOUR-16) | CSGS 1516 3 D5 |

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| 7.5 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1516 3 D6 |
| 7.6 | Department of Journalism (JOUR-17) | CSGS 1516 3 D7 |

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

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| 7.7 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1516 3 D8 |
| 7.8 | Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering (BLDG-72) | CSGS 1516 3 D9 |

Moved and seconded (K. Schmitt, E. Diamantoudi). Carried.

Business

8. Proposed Graduate Calendar Changes

Faculty of Arts and Science

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| 8.1 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1516 3 D10 |
| 8.2 | Department of Communication Studies (COMS-22) | CSGS 1516 3 D11 |

Dr Nelson requested speaking privileges for Dr Jeremy Stolow of the Department of Communication Studies. Dr Stolow gave an overview of department's desire to withdraw from the Joint PhD in Communication program explaining that all levels of committees to this point have been supportive and that the department has done its due diligence to ensure their capacity to continue to run the program without its former partner institutions. He continued by stating that the program in this form will allow the department, its faculty members and students, to participate more fully in graduate studies at the university. The Joint PhD program was created in 1987 and profited over the years from what was a beneficial partnership. However, the department is now in a position to more than adequately steer the PhD on its own. While the joint nature of the program will end, faculty members will maintain and continue to forge relationships across institutional lines, students will also still be able to take courses at sister universities in the city. It was of important note that the original agreement permitted the withdrawal of a partner with one year's notice. Dr Stolow also assured Council that the remaining partnered universities would still be able to continue their relationship without a third member. A question was raised about the costing of the program; Dr Stolow agreed to revise the budget appendix in consultation with Associate Dean Sawchuk.

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

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

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| 8.3 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1516 3 D12 |
| 8.4 | Centre for Engineering in Society (CES-9)
New Program: <i>Graduate Certificate in Innovation, Technology and Society</i> | CSGS 1516 3 D13 |

Dr Nelson requested speaking privileges for Dr Deborah Dysart-Gale of the Centre for Engineering in Society. Dr Dysart-Gale gave an overview of the certificate's purpose in that it aims to teach students how to innovate outside of the university. This is the first program being

offered by the Centre for Engineering in Society, born of a collaborative effort with District 3. The program will continue to work closely with District 3 to help students develop entrepreneurial ideas. While there are many innovation certificates offered at other institutions, this is the only one in Canada to include a practicum.

Moved and seconded (B. Nelson, K. Schmitt). Carried.

9. Academic Success and Integrity Module (ASIM™)
Concordia University Libraries

Dr Aghdam provided Council with a historical overview of the steps leading to the creation of the Academic Success and Integrity Module (ASIM™). Several years ago, representatives from the Graduate Students' Association approached the then Associate Dean about developing an online tutorial to help graduate students better understand academic misconduct. The GSA's proposal included an examination required of all students. The Student Affairs and Postdoctoral Studies unit took on the initiative and consulted existing models at other universities, and reached out to the University Library as many of those offered elsewhere were developed and run by libraries. Interestingly, the majority of institutions surveyed require a training program on academic integrity of their students.

Dr Guylaine Beaudry, University Librarian, gave a presentation of the proposed Academic Success and Integrity Module, highlighting the types of interfaces students would see and the overall nature of the module's design. The roughly 30-minute module will be required of all students and they will be obliged to complete an exam. The exam is designed with a non-punitive teaching format in mind whereby students who select an incorrect answer receive an explanation, it is meant to be a learning exercise. Students who fail to complete the module in their first semester will not be permitted to register or make changes to future registrations; students already registered in semester two would not see themselves removed from courses. The staff at the School will ensure proactive monitoring of students to prevent an onerous situation for departments where students are unable to register. The School will also be able to readily lift registration blocks.

The consultative team did not currently have a member from the Faculty of Fine Arts; this will be rectified going forward. With the approval of Council, the proposal will go before the SIS User Committee to determine the logistical requirements, et cetera. The proposed launch date for ASIM is May 2017, with a generous built-in testing period.

Moved and seconded (B. Nelson, K. Schmitt). One abstention. Carried.

Other Next Meeting: March 7, 2016 from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon in H-763

11. Adjournment of the Open Session moved and seconded (B. Nelson, A. Aghdam).

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