

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

**April 10, 2017 at 10:00 am room EV 2.184**

**PRESENT**

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

Voting members: A. Aghdam, M. Akbar, J. Berzowska, P. Bianucci, S. Chauhan, M. Debbabi, E. Diamantoudi, A. Dolatabadi, M. Mehmet Ali, B. Nelson, P. Pawelek, U. Saif, K. Schmitt, G. Vaillancourt.

Non-Voting members: M. C. Bolton, L. Hughes, M. Jordan (Recording Secretary), D. Therrien.

Guests: B. Freedman.

**REGRETS**

Voting members: R. M. Azad, S. Bhagwati, H. Bin Jawaaid, A.-M. Croteau, B. Freiwald, T. Gould, B. Jaumard, E. Monson, E. Peltier-Wagner, A. Poteete, K. Sawchuk, M. Watson.

Non-voting members: W. Cheaib.

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of the Agenda

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

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Meeting of February 27, 2017.

Moved and seconded (M. Akbar, S. Ullah). Carried.

#### 4. Chair's Remarks

Dr Wood-Adams informed Council members that the School of Graduate Studies held on March 23 this year's Three-Minute Thesis and Project (3MTP) competition. This year's winner, Darian Stahl, also competed at a similar competition in New York City organized by the Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools (NAGS) where she took first prize. She will now go forward as our contender at the regional 3MT competition in New Brunswick and possibly to the nationals at the Canadian Association for Graduate Schools' annual conference in the Fall. Nadia Naffi, our French-language 3MTP People's Choice winner, will be representing Concordia at the *Ma thèse en 180 secondes* contest put on by Acfas (*l'Association francophone pour le savoir*).

In collaboration with the Canadian Association for Graduate Schools, the School hosted two focus groups on the future of the PhD in the Humanities. A report will be drafted on their findings. The School also recently held a workshop on conflict resolution conducted by invited speaker Jan Morse, Ombudsperson and Director of the Student Conflict Resolution Center at the University of Minnesota. Dr Lorrie Blair, Professor in Art Education, also presented her work on student-supervisor relationships at the workshop. The Chair hoped that more faculty members will participate events of this nature in the future.

#### 5. Question Period

There were no questions.

### Consent Agenda

#### **Faculty of Arts and Science**

6.1	GCC report from the Chair of GCC	CSGS 1617 4 D1
6.2	Department of Communication Studies (COMS-23)	CSGS 1617 4 D2
6.3	GCC report from the Chair of GCC	CSGS 1617 4 D3
6.4	Département d'études françaises (FRAN-29)	CSGS 1617 4 D4
6.5	Department of Applied Human Sciences Master of/Magisteriate in Arts (Youth Work) Course Table	CSGS 1617 4 D5

#### **Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science**

6.6	GCC report from the Chair of GCC	CSGS 1617 4 D6
6.7	Department of Building, Civil & Environmental Engineering (BLDG-84)	CSGS 1617 4 D7
6.8	GCC report from the Chair of GCC	CSGS 1617 4 D8
6.9	Department of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering (MECH-95)	CSGS 1617 4 D9

## **John Molson School of Business**

6.10 GCC report from the Chair of GCC

CSGS 1617 4 D10

6.11 Master of Science in Management (MSCA-14)

CSGS 1617 4 D11

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

## **Business**

7. Proposal for revising curriculum review and approval procedures

CSGS 1617 4 D12

Dr Nelson gave an overview of the current curriculum pathway and explained that the purpose of these changes is to streamline curriculum approvals and to improve efficiency. Presently, curriculum changes typically require eight months before implementation; this proposed process will reduce the timeline by one month which can have a significant impact.

There was some discussion about the necessity to increase the number of faculty members on the committee beyond the associate deans, research and graduate studies in the Faculties. It was decided that in order to ensure good governance, the committee would need input from the professoriate in addition to administrators.

Dr Nelson moved that the Council of the School of Graduate Studies delegate final approval authority for curriculum proposals to the Graduate Curriculum Committee, with the exception of new graduate program proposals. Seconded (K. Schmitt). Carried.

Dr Nelson moved that the Council of the School of Graduate Studies that the composition of the Graduate Curriculum Committee be modified to reflect its expanded authority and responsibilities. There was a friendly amendment to increase the number of graduate student representatives on the expanded committee from one to two. Seconded (M. Debbabi). One opposed. Three abstentions. Carried, as amended.

8. Proposed Graduate Calendar Changes

8.1 Transfer Credit Regulation

CSGS 1617 4 D13

Dr Aghdam explained the rationale behind the change explicitly allowing for the possibility of transferring credits from a graduate certificate or diploma to another graduate program. He further noted that the existing regulations for financial credit will apply. The word “graduate” was removed from the third line of the new text.

Moved and seconded (A. Aghdam, E. Diamantoudi). Carried, as amended.

## **Presentation**

9. Bram Freedman, Vice-President, Advancement and External Relations  
*Why a Campaign? Why now?*

Me Freedman continued by painting a picture of the different types of donors and the reasons for giving. Experience shows that future-thinking ambitious initiatives garner the most interest and often result in larger gifts. This comprehensive campaign is divided into two phases, the first lasting until May 2019 and the second continuing for three additional years until 2022.

10. Renewal of the Strategic Research Plan – request for feedback CSGS 1617 4 D14

**Other**      Next Meeting: May 18, 2017 from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon in LB 362

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