

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

November 28, 2016 at 10:00 am room EV 2.184

PRESENT

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

Voting members: A. Aghdam, P. Bianucci, A.-M. Croteau, M. Debbabi, E. Diamantoudi, A. Dolatabadi, B. Freiwald, M. Mehmet Ali, E. Monson, B. Nelson, P. Pawelek, A. Poteete, U. Saif, K. Schmitt, G. Vaillancourt.

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

Guests: V. Bruce, D. Cossette, J.-F. Hamel, E. Maten-Fellows, A. Renaud, M. Riopel

REGRETS

Voting members: S. Bhagwati, S. Chauhan, B. Jaumard, E. Peltier-Wagner, S. Pilli, K. Sawchuk, M. Watson, A. Whitelaw, C. Wild.

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 (B. Nelson, A. Aghdam). Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Meeting of October 6, 2016

Moved and seconded (E. Diamantoudi, A. Aghdam). Carried, one abstention.

4. Chair's Remarks

Dr Wood-Adams informed Council members that she and Niem Huynh, Manager of Graduate Student Recruitment, had recently returned from a very successful PhD recruitment trip to Beijing and Shanghai, China. Together, they met over 250 potential students with excellent academic records and English language scores; most of whom also had publications. Candidates were particularly focused on programs in Engineering and Computer Science, the Sciences, Business Administration, and Education. Ms Huynh was to be in contact with departments over the coming weeks.

In November, the Chair also attended the Canadian Science Policy Conference in Ottawa on Achieving Diversity in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and had the opportunity to meet the Honourable Kristy Duncan, the new Minister of Science.

The Dean and the School's three Associate Deans as well as some staff members attended this year's Canadian Association of Graduate Studies (CAGS) annual conference in Toronto in early November. This conference allows the School to keep abreast of current trends and developments affecting graduate education across the country and internationally.

The Public Scholars competition had just closed and the Chair looked forward to announcing the selected candidates in January 2017. The School also concluded the second round of applications for the Horizon Postdoctoral Fellow competition, with over 40 applications. The previous Horizon postdoctoral positions have nearly all been filled.

The School will be implementing, in the subsequent weeks, a thesis writing service pilot project which will be coordinated by SGS but paid for by the supervisor or student.

5. Question Period

A member asked if the thesis writing service was limited to traditional theses only or if students could receive assistance for assignments or manuscript theses. The Chair explained that the pilot project was to focus solely on theses but that it could be expanded in the future to include manuscript theses, if manageable.

Consent Agenda

6. Proposed Graduate Calendar Changes

Faculty of Arts and Science

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------------|
| 6.1 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1617 2 D1 |
| 6.2 | Department of Political science (POLI-39) | CSGS 1617 2 D2 |
| 6.3 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1617 2 D3 |
| 6.4 | Department of Religion (RELI-45) | CSGS 1617 2 D4 |

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------------|
| 6.5 | GCC report from the Chair of GCC | CSGS 1617 2 D5 |
| 6.6 | Department of Building, Civil & Environmental Engineering (BLDG-81) | CSGS 1617 2 D6 |

- 6.7 GCC report from the Chair of GCC CSGS 1617 2 D7
- 6.8 Department of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering (MECH-90) CSGS 1617 2 D8

Faculty of Fine Arts

- 6.9 GCC report from the Chair of GCC CSGS 1617 2 D9
- 6.10 Department of Creative Arts Therapies (CATS-24) CSGS 1617 2 D10

John Molson School of Business

- 6.11 GCC report from the Chair of GCC CSGS 1617 2 D11
- 6.12 Diploma in Chartered Accountancy (CPA-1) CSGS 1617 2 D12

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

Business

7. Academic Regulation Changes

- 7.1 Academic Standing CSGS 1617 2 D13

Dr Aghdam provided an overview of the change, namely that academic assessment was until now processed manually and is now fully integrated into the Student Information System.

Moved and seconded (A. Aghdam, B. Nelson). Carried.

- 7.2 Grading System CSGS 1617 2 D14

Dr Aghdam explained that this change is being implemented to reflect the terminology of the Student Information System; IPL and IPM notations will now appear on the record. In-Progress Leave (IPL) is an administrative extension to indicate the student is on a Leave of Absence. In-Progress (IPM) is an administrative notation to indicate the student has been granted an exceptional extension until a specific date to complete the work.

Moved and seconded (A. Aghdam, B. Nelson). Carried.

Presentations

- 8. *Centraide Campaign*
 Emmy Maten-Fellows, Montreal Diet Dispensary
 Andrea Renaud, Project Coordinator, University Secretariat
 Michel Riopel, Centraide

Ms Renaud provided Council members with an overview of this year's Centraide/United Way campaign and its goals. This year Concordia's campaign goal was to raise \$190,000 to support grants that fund community projects. As of our meeting, there was a shortfall of \$30,000. Mr Riopel, a retired public servant, is in his second year of volunteering for Centraide. He reminded

Council that for every dollar raised, 85 cents goes directly to supporting our community. Ms Maten-Fellows is a dietician and lactation specialist working at the Montreal Diet Dispensary, an organization founded in 1879 that offers nutritional and social support to pregnant women in need to help them to give birth to, and raise, babies in good health. Ms Maten-Fellows shared several heartwarming anecdotes of her work with needy mothers over the years. Members were invited to contact Ms Renaud for further information on supporting Centraide.

9. *Budget Update*

Graham Carr, Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs

Denis Cossette, Chief Financial Officer

Jean-François Hamel, Senior Director, Financial Planning and Budgets

Dr Carr and Mr Cossette addressed Council as part of a tour to all of the Faculties in this third quarter of the fiscal year, the purpose of which was to update the community on the University's current financial position. They were pleased to report that the situation is better than expected and that the government has indicated that there will be a reinvestment in the education sector though the lion's share is likely to go to the secondary school sector. Despite these constraints, the University is committed to making financial decisions that move the community forward and is desirous to sustain positive growth. Mr Hamel provided Council with a summary of the key investments the University plans to undertake in the future and outlined areas of growth potential.

In response to a question about Concordia's efforts to encourage giving from alumni, Dr Carr explained that much of the donor funding is not illustrated in the budget as the funds are very often dispersed directly to students through bursaries and scholarships. He also stated that the University is working towards increasing donations and feels that we are moving in the right direction; we have begun to receive donations that we might not have in the past. It was suggested that Bram Freedman, Vice-President, Advancement and External Relations make a presentation to Council at a later date.

Other Next Meeting: January 16, 2017 from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon in H 763

10. 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