

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

**December 11, 2025 at 10:00 am in EV 3.309**

PRESENT

Ex-officio members: G. Dover (Chair), R. Johal.

Voting members: C. An, J. Arsenault, A. Champagne, F. Davis, K. Dunfield, D. Erol, F. Grond, E. Lagou, M. Legault-Rodrigues, P. Peres-Neto, C. Poullis, F. Scala, F. Yuen.

Non-Voting members: S. De Celles, M. Jordan (Recording Secretary), E. MacFadden (Secretary).

Guests: G. Beltran, N. Butt, J. Garand, C. Mancini, C. Raso.

REGRETS

Voting members: E. Adams, V. M. Ajmeri, M. Consalvo, A. Fakhir, M. Filipowich, C. Lesage, W. Linds, M. Salazkina, E. Tsabary, B. Vermeire, L. Yao.

Non-Voting members: R. Berger, W. Cheaib.

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved and seconded (F. Yuen, E. Lagou). Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Meeting of November 13, 2025

Moved and seconded (E. Lagou, A. Champagne). Carried.

4. Chair's Remarks

The Chair announced that the School of Graduate Studies would be taking over the stewardship of the Grey Nun's building. This will offer a dedicated space to the more than 200

workshops held by GradProSkills and will also service INDI and postdoctoral fellows who also lack facilities.

Dr Dover recently attended the Council of Graduate Schools' annual conference and was struck by the common challenges expressed by peer institutions including RAQ and expediting program approvals.

5. Question Period

There were no questions.

**Business**

6. Proposal for revising approval procedures for graduate diplomas and certificates at Concordia University

CSGS 2526 3 D1

In the context of institutional priorities related to enrolment growth and the development of flexible, short-format credentials, a proposal was presented to streamline the approval process for graduate diplomas and certificates. The objective is to enhance efficiency and timeliness while maintaining a commitment to shared governance and academic oversight.

The proposal recommends that CSGS delegate final approval authority for graduate diploma and certificate proposals to the Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC), prior to submission to APC. Under the revised process, GCC would assume full responsibility for review and approval of these proposals and forward them directly to APC, with CSGS receiving them for information.

Moved and seconded (E. Lagou, K. Dunfield). Carried.

7. Proposed Graduate Calendar Changes

7.1. Varia

CSGS 2526 3 D2

The proposed changes to the Graduate Calendar were primarily housekeeping in nature; corrections to grammar and usage.

Moved and seconded (K. Dunfield, E. Lagou). Carried.

**Presentations**

8. Volt-Age

*Jennifer Garard, Director of Engagement, Living Labs and EDI*

Volt-Age is a seven-year CFREF-funded research program supported by a significant Tri-Agency institutional grant and led by Concordia in partnership with Dalhousie University, Toronto Metropolitan University, and the University of Calgary. The initiative seeks to

accelerate Canada's transition to an electrified, sustainable society through interdisciplinary research and cross-sector collaboration.

The program is organized around three research themes (built environment; energy and transportation systems; planning and governance) and three cross-cutting platforms (electrification technologies; IoT and digitalization; living labs and knowledge mobilization).

As of September 2025, Volt-Age has funded 50 projects, engaging more than 170 researchers and 340 highly qualified personnel, and generating over 320 peer-reviewed publications.

#### 9. Conference Awards

*Charis Poullis, Associate Dean, Recruitment and Awards*

The allowance provides partial support for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows presenting at conferences, with established limits based on program level and clear pre- and post-conference documentation requirements.

Two updates were proposed. First, stricter enforcement of application and reporting deadlines: failure to submit required documentation within the prescribed timelines will result in forfeiture of the allowance. Second, requests will no longer be eligible for conferences hosted at Concordia where a Concordia faculty member serves as general or conference chair, in order to prioritize funding for students who must travel to present externally.

The overall purpose of the allowance remains unchanged; the revisions focus on compliance and targeted eligibility.

#### **Other**

#### 10. Adjournment

Moved and seconded (K. Dunfield, F. Davis). Carried.

Next Meeting: January 29, 2026 from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon in EV 2.309

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Jordan  
Recording Secretary  
Council of the School of Graduate Studies

**RATIFICATION OF CSGS MOTIONS**

Meeting Date: December 11, 2025

Meeting Business

Agenda items:

6. Proposal for revising approval procedures for graduate diplomas and certificates at Concordia University CSGS 2526 3 D1

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