

**Summary Minutes of a Meeting of the
COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
Held in the Council Chamber, University Hall
Friday, November 10, 2006, 2:00 pm**

Attendance

MRT Dale in the Chair	M Shirvani
M Allen	J Varsava
L McGann	H Hogg, Secretary

Department Representatives

E Bork, Ag, Food & Nutri Sciences	A Samek, Library and Info Studies
O Beattie, Anthropology	T Nadasdi, Linguistics
J Greer, Art & Design	P Minev, Math & Stat Sciences
B Lemire, Biochemistry	L Penrod, Mod Lang and Cultural St
H McDermid, Biological Sciences	J Mill, Nursing
B Hayes, Chem & Mat Eng	B Dussault, Nursing
J Takats, Chemistry	R Godbout, Oncology
M Verdicchio, Comp Lit	S Dunn, Pharmacology
N Amaral, Computing Science	S Petersen, Physical Education & Recreation
P Erdmer, Earth & Atmos Sciences	R Marchand, Physics
R Short, Educational Psychology	P Dixon, Psychology
M Adria, Extension	P Hagler, Rehab Medicine
M Cavanagh, Faculte Saint-Jean	E Macdonald, Renewable Resources
H Madill, Health Promotion Studies	S Jeffrey, Rural Economy
M MacGregor, Internetworking	W Johnston, Sociology
S O'Byrne, Law	P Schneider, Speech Path & Audiology

Graduate Student Representatives

C Delling, GSA President	L Harris, Neuroscience
T Brisbois, Ag, Food & Nutri Sciences	B Jensen, Earth & Atmos Sciences
C Stefanescu, Business	C Shaoul, Psychology

Regrets

A Schmitter, A Schmude, K Adams, A Greenshaw, P Defraeye, P Lacy, A Underhill

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

a. Approval of the minutes of September 15, 2006

The minutes were approved.

b. Matters arising

None.

3. NEW BUSINESS

Approval of the list of graduands for Fall Convocation 2006

MOTION: It was moved by L Penrod and seconded by P Schneider that the Fall 2006 convocation list be approved.

VOTE: The motion was PUT and CARRIED, unanimously.

4. INFORMAL BUSINESS

a. Discussion Topic—Arm's length examining committee members

FGSR Council discussed the definition of 'arm's length' members for the composition of doctoral candidacy and final oral examinations because the interpretation of arm's length is inconsistent across campus. Following the discussion, the FGSR agreed to review the Graduate Program Manual and make editorial revisions to clarify the definition.

b. Question Period

A councillor asked FGSR to provide figures comparing the number of applications for admission prior to and after the implementation of the graduate application fee for admission.

A councillor asked if the proposal for RSCH 900—tabled at the September 2006 meeting—would be coming back to council. The Chair advised FGSR will be meeting with the GSA to discuss the proposal and then will bring the matter back to council.

A councillor asked if the University has guidelines on determining supervisory capacity and what methods other departments use to measure supervisory capacity. The Chair advised there is no University-wide policy and councillors said methods for measuring capacity are usually specific to the discipline.

A GSA representative called for more transparency from University administration when planning for increased graduate student enrolment because the GSA will be required to provide services to this increased student population.

c. Announcements and Reports by the Chair and Councillors

J Varsava reminded councillors about the FGSR's 10 international scholarship agreements which allow international students to attend the UofA. Costs are shared by the UofA department and the partner organization/institution.

d. Other Business

The Chair advised that in his term as president of the Canadian Association of Graduate Studies several lobby efforts were made, including direct visits with federal Members of Parliament, a presentation to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance and meetings with federal granting agencies.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.