

**Summary Minutes of a Meeting of the
COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
Held in the Council Chamber, University Hall
Thursday, March 27, 2008, 2:00 pm**

Attendance

MRT Dale in the Chair
M Allen

J Varsava

Department Representatives

E Bork, Ag, Food & Nutri Sciences
J Greer, Art & Design
H McDermid, Biological Sciences
D Cooper, Business PhD
C Lucy, Chemistry
I Sywenky, Comparative Literature
N Amaral, Computing Science
P Erdmer, Earth & Atmospheric Sci
S Wilson, Economics
C Rinaldi, Educational Psychology
J McMullin, Electrical & Comp Eng
M Adria, Extension (MACT)
M Cavanagh, Fac Saint-Jean
H Madill, Health Promotion Studies
A Oak, Human Ecology
M MacGregor, Internetworking
M Keelan, Lab Med & Pathology

M Yahya, Law
A Samek, Library & Information Studies
T Nadasi, Linguistics
L Guilbert, Med Micro & Immun
P Lacy, Medicine
B Dussault, Nursing
Y Bhambhani, Occupational Therapy
R Godbout, Oncology
S Dunn, Pharmacology
C Benishin, Physiology
N Galambos, Psychology
A Senthilselvan, Public Health Sciences
P Hagler, Rehabilitation Medicine
F Landy, Religious Studies
P Blenis, Renewable Resources
S Jeffrey, Rural Economy

Graduate Student Representatives

J Charchun, GSA President
C Prado, AFNS
R Shott, Biochemistry
D MacRitchie, Biological Sciences

K Cameron, Educational Psychology
M Robertson, GSA VP Communications
C Levesque, GSA VP Academic (incoming)

Ex Officio

A Schmude, Office of the Registrar
K Adams, Director of Libraries

Observer

C Hackett, Grad Student Ombudsperson

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. Approval of the minutes of November 9, 2007.

The minutes were approved.

- b. Matters arising

None.

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Proposal for PhD in Engineering Management

Council had before it the proposal for a PhD in Engineering Management from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, presented by P Flynn.

MOTION It was moved by P Flynn and seconded by M Allen that the proposal for a PhD in
VOTE Engineering Management be approved. The motion was PUT and CARRIED, 33-0, 2 abstentions.

3.2 Proposal for Course-based LLM

Council had before it the proposal for Course-based LLM from the Faculty of Law, presented by M Yahya.

MOTION It was moved by J Varsava and seconded by M Yahya that the proposal for a
VOTE Course-based LLM be approved. The motion was PUT and CARRIED, 34-0, 5 abstentions.

3.3 Proposal for MA in Native Studies

Council had before it the proposal for an MA in Native Studies, from the Faculty of Native Studies, presented by E Bielawski and C Andersen.

MOTION It was moved by M Dale and seconded by M Allen that the proposal for an
VOTE MA in Native Studies be approved. The motion was PUT and CARRIED, 37-0, 6 abstentions.

4. INFORMAL BUSINESS

a. Question Period

H McDermid raised concerns about the recent changes to the FGSR Travel Awards that require students to be actively presenting at the conference/event and the first-come-first-serve delivery of the program. She suggested reducing the amount of the awards so that all students are eligible to receive awards.

The Chair advised the FGSR is limited with the available funds, especially as travel costs increase. He encouraged department chairs and departments to lobby central administration for more funding to support graduate student travel.

K Cameron inquired about the FGSR's full-time registration policy and whether it applied across campus.

The Chair reminded Council that the policy applies to all thesis-based programs, and that thesis-based students who begin their programs full-time must remain full-time for the duration of their programs. This policy was approved in tandem with Thesis 919, which reduces the fees of full-time students in the latter years of their program.

b. Announcements and Reports by the Chair and Councillors

1. INTEL – Intensive English Language Initiative

N Amaral presented details of INTEL – Intensive English Language Initiative, a pilot project in which 30 incoming international students from Computing Science, Chemistry and Biological Sciences came to campus for four weeks in August for a variety of professional development sessions to prepare them for teaching and research at the UofA.

Each student was given a stipend and attended 20 hours of classroom instruction each week, plus social events were organized to ease the transition to the University of Alberta.

N Amaral advised that lab coordinators and professors noticed INTEL participants were more confident and better able to communicate when they began their graduate program in September.

He said the organizing departments will seek special initiative funding in hopes of expanding the INTEL program to all departments within the Faculty of Science.

2. University of Alberta/Ludwig Maximilians Universitat Munchen

J Varsava provided a brief overview of the new jointly-delivered doctoral degree agreement between the University of Alberta and Ludwig Maximilians Universitat in Munich, Germany. The agreement allows doctoral students in Arts and Education to take part of their program at Ludwig Maximilians Universitat with co-supervision from a UofA faculty member and an LMU faculty member. A single parchment, indicating the jointly-delivered structure, will be granted by the home institution.

J Varsava said he would provide information about the agreement to graduate coordinators in Arts and Education during an upcoming information session. Details on the LMU agreement would also be posted on the FGSR website in the coming weeks.

3. Killam Centre for Advanced Studies Update

The Chair advised Council that the FGSR and GSA have moved into the Killam Centre for Advanced Studies, and an open house event will take place on May 8. An invitation will be sent to the campus community.

4. FGSR Unit Review Update

The Chair advised that the FGSR has received the report of the unit review committee and the FGSR's response to the report is currently being prepared for the Office of the Provost. A public summary of the review is expected at a later date.

5. Interfolio Dossier Service

J Varsava advised Council of Interfolio, a third-party company that provides a dossier service on a subscription basis. He suggested departments advise students of the service because the University of Alberta currently does not have an institutional dossier service.

6. Application Deadlines

Item was removed from agenda.

7. Professional Development for Graduate Students Update

M Allen said the FGSR is currently compiling the results of a survey about department-level professional development activities to see if there are any gaps the FGSR can address with FGSR-level programming. She also presented the Professional Development Record Book, a document that allows students to record any professional development sessions they attend during their studies at the University of Alberta.

c. Other Business

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 pm.