

**Summary of a Meeting of the
COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
Held in the Council Chamber, University Hall
Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 2:00 pm**

Attendance

R Poliquin, Vice-Dean in the Chair
J Harrington, Assoc Dean P Melançon, Assoc Dean

Department Representatives

A Palmer, Anthropology	H Julien, Library & Information Studies
D McLean, Art & Design	T Neary, Linguistics
D Stuart, Biochemistry	S Karapetrovic, Mechanical Engg
J White, Business MBA	D Burshtyn, Med Microbiology & Immun
D Cooper, Business PhD	J Despres, Music
B Hayes, Chemical & Mat Engg	K Moore, Nursing
T Lowary, Chemistry	S Persad, Pediatrics
I Sywenky, Comparative Literature	S Petersen, Physical Educ & Recreation
R Greiner, Computing Science	I Urquhart, Political Science
D Chovanec, Educ Policy Studies	A Joyce, Psychiatry
G Buck, Educational Psychology	N Galambos, Psychology
R McKay, Educational Studies	J Volden, Rehabilitation Science
T Zackodnik, English & Film Studies	W Braun, Religious Studies
F Swyripa, History & Classics	A Hamann, Renewable Resources
B Skrypnek, Human Ecology	M Luckert, Rural Economy
J Martin, Lab Med & Pathology	K Hughes, Sociology
L Reif, Law	P Schneider, Speech Pathology & Aud
T Hillen, Math & Stat Sci	

Graduate Student Representatives

T Korassa, V-P Labour Rel, GSA T Bureyko, Agric, Foods & Nut Sci
A Rawluk, V-P Academic, GSA S Al-Daghreer, Medical Sci (Orthodontics)

Ex officio

G Pavlich, Office of V-P (Research)
A Schmude, Office of the Registrar

Guests/Observers

M Horn, Secondary Education
T Krukoff, Associate Dean, Medicine & Dentistry
V Liefers, Renewable Resources
B Thomas, Postdoctoral Fellows' Association

1 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair proposed that agenda item 4a1 Teaching Development Initiatives be deferred to another meeting when Dean Shirvani could be present. The agenda was approved.

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

a Approval of the December 15, 2010 summary minutes

The minutes were approved.

b Matters arising

None.

3 FORMAL BUSINESS

3.1 Proposed Revisions to Section 8 of the Graduate Program Manual: Thesis Requirements

Council had before it proposed revisions to Section 8 of the Graduate Program Manual: Thesis Requirements. J Harrington presented an overview of the proposed revisions and the feedback received and incorporated into the final document.

It was moved by J Harrington and seconded by P Melançon that the proposed revisions to Section 8 of the Graduate Program Manual: Thesis Requirements be approved.

The motion was PUT and CARRIED, 32 – 1, 1 abstention.

3.2 Overlapping Dual Master's Degrees: Department of Renewable Resources

Council had before it a proposal from the Department of Renewable Resources to offer a dual master's degree program. A Hamann and V Liefers, Department of Renewable Resources, presented the proposal.

It was moved by P Melançon and seconded by A Hamann that the proposal to offer Overlapping Dual Master's Degrees: Department of Renewable Resources be approved.

A Hamann provided a brief introduction to the proposal. Council members offered the following comments/questions: 1) in response to several questions and concerns raised about the shift to award two degrees rather than one, it was noted that this was an incentive to attract and encourage excellent students

interested in an international perspective and that offering one joint degree between institutions is a much more complicated process than dual degrees; 2) offering dual degrees may potentially disadvantage the student with one degree; 3) thesis requirements and joint supervision would need to be worked out before the student is admitted, as well as issues such as recognition of supervisors for grant approvals, etc; 4) exchange programs resulting in dual degrees are an internationally well-recognized system of increasing internationalization and a way to remain competitive; 5) dual degrees recognize the significant effort and work required when studying abroad; 6) the institutions involved in the proposal are premier universities.

The motion was PUT and CARRIED, 36 – 2, 3 abstentions.

4 INFORMAL BUSINESS

a. Announcements and Reports by the Chair and Councillors

The chair announced a Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship Information Session on January 25 (secretary's note: details sent to departments by email on January 19).

In response to a question from the GSA regarding the status of the Report of the Quality of Supervision Committee, there was some further discussion about the outcome of this initiative: 1) some direction from FGSR Council members was needed as to where to proceed with the Report; 2) the current supervision model could be used as a benchmark for the development of further models; 3) since the report lacked a review of the current supervision issues; the GSA proposes this now be done; 4) one Faculty (Physical Education and Recreation) is using the report as a template to further explore what supervision should look like in that faculty.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.