

Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

Attendance at FGSR Council – May 26, 2021

DEPARTMENT/UNIT FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES

Present:

esent:	
Anthropology	Marko Zivkovic
Art & Design	Joan Greer
Biochemistry	David Stuart
Biological Sciences	James Stafford
Biomedical Engineering	Alan H. Wilman
Business (non-departmentalized) - MBA	Michael Maier
Business (non-departmentalized) - PhD	Trish Reay
Cell Biology	Richard Wozniak
Chemicals & Materials Engineering	Vinay Prasad
Chemistry	Michael Serpe
Communication Sciences & Disorders	Esther Kim
Computing Science	Greg Kondrak
Computing Science - Multimedia Program	Greg Kondrak
Dentistry (Medical Sciences)	Carlos Flores Mir
Drama	Stefano Muneroni
Earth & Atmospheric Sciences	Tom Chacko
East Asian Studies	David Quinter
Economics	Heather Eckert
Educational Policy Studies	Evelyn Steinhauer
Educational Psychology	Veronica Smith
Educational Studies	Douglas Gleddie
Electrical & Computer Engineering	Yindi Jing
Elementary Education	Trudy Cardinal
English and Film Studies	Mark Simpson
Faculte Saint-Jean (non-departmentalized)	Samira El Atia
Heatlth Sciences Education	Douglas Gleddie
History & Classics (inc. Religious Studies)	Heather Coleman
Human Ecology	Adam Galovan
Internetworking (MINT)	Michael MacGregor
Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation (non-departmentalized)	Normand Boule
Laboratory Medicine & Pathology	Monika Keelan
Law (non-departmentalized)	Linda Reif
Library & Information Studies	Dinesh Rathi
Linguistics	Johanne Paradis
Mathematical & Statistical Science	Jochen Kuttler
Mechanical Engineering	Christopher Dennison
Medical Genetics (Medical Sciences)	Rachel Wevrick
Medical Microbiology & Immunology	Edan Foley
Medical Sciences Graduate Program - FoMD	Elena Posse de Chaves
Medicine	Nadia Jahroudi
Modern Languages & Cultural Studies	Irene Sywenky
zangaagas a saitarar staares	

Music	Maryam Moshaver
Native Studies (non-departmentalized)	Sean Robertson
Nursing (non-departmentalized)	Dianne Tapp
Obstetrics & Gynecology (Medical Sciences)	Denise Hemmings
Occupational Therapy	Shaniff Esmail
Oncology	Alan Underhill
Pediatrics (Medical Sciences)	Sujata Persad
Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences (non-departmentalized)	Arno Siraki
Philosophy	Ingo Brigandt
Physical Therapy	Marguerite Wieler
Physical Therapy	Mark Hall
Physics	Craig Heinke
Physiology	Zamaneh Kassiri
Political Science	Siobhan Byrne
Psychiatry	Allen Chan
Psychiatry	Andrew Greenshaw
Psychology	Chris Westbury
Radiology & Diagnostic Imaging (Medical Sciences)	Lawrence Le
Rehabilitation Medicine - Rehabilitation Sciences	Esther Kim
Resource Economics & Environmental Sociology	Henry An
School of Public Health (non-departmentalized)	Ruth Wolfe
Secondary Education	Bonnie Watt
Sociology	Gillian Stevens
Surgery	Fred Berry
Women's and Gender Studies	Felice Lifshitz

Regrets Sent:

Pharmacology

Absent:

Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science
Civil & Environmental Engineering
Digital Humanities
Neuroscience
Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (Medical Sciences)



Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

ASSOCIATE DEANS (GRADUATE) REPRESENTATIVES FOR DEPARTMENTALIZED FACULTIES

Present:

Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES)	Leluo Guan
Arts	Kim Noels
Education	Doug Gleddie
Medicine & Dentistry	Greg Funk
Science	Mark McDermott
Rehabilitation Medicine	Trish Manns

Regrets Sent:

Engineering Jason Carey

EX-OFFICIO REPRESENTATIVES

Present:

FGSR Dean & Vice-Provost (FGSR Council Chair)	Brooke Milne
	Catherine
President (or Delegate)	Swindlehurst
FGSR Vice-Dean	Bryan Hogeveen
	Janice Causgrove
FGSR Associate Dean	Dunn
FGSR Associate Dean	Tracy Raivio
FGSR Associate Dean	Ali Shiri
FGSR Associate Dean	Victoria Ruétalo
Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian (or Delegate)	Dale Askey
Vice-Provost and University Registrar (or Delegate)	Carlo Dimailig

Absent:

Vice-President (Research) (or Delegate)

Chair, FGSR Academic Appeals Committee*

Director, Centre for Teaching & Learning*

Janice Miller-Young

GRADUATE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS COMMITTEE (GPAC) REPRESENTATIVES

Present:

Department of Dentistry	Dalyce Barss
Department of Neuroscience	Amber LaPointe

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION (GSA) DIRECTLY ELECTED OFFICIALS (3) & GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION (GSA) COUNCIL (20) REPRESENTATIVES

Present:

GSA President	Anas Fassih
VP Academic	Kathy Haddadkar
VP Labour	Jessica Grenke
Agricultural and Resource Economics	Meghan Lim
Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science	Klevis Haxhiaj
Biomedical Engineering	Amir Adel
Civil & Environmental Engineering - PhD	Salam Khalife
English & Film Studies	Shashi Kumar
Library & Information Studies	Lindsey Chochula
Mechanical Engineering PhD	Armin Norouzi Yengeje
Neuroscience - PhD	Nicole Dittmann
Nursing	Sania Amiri-Ishani
Oncology	Andrew Locke
Pediatrics	Claudia Holody
Pediatrics	Shubham Soni
Pharmacology, PhD	Nayiar Shahid
Pharmacy	Yasser Tabana
Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences	Amanda Greenwell
Psychology	Tiffany Kung

Absent / Alternates:

Mohd Tahsin Bin Mostafa VP External (Alternate) VP Student Services (Alternate) Paresh Kumar Biomedical Engineering, PhD **Kevin Solar** Economics, PhD Christian Kwarkye **Educational Policy Studies** Alleson Mason **Electrical and Computing Engineering** Puruhithika Kunde Mechanical Engineering Sai Swaroop Reddy Pogalla Political Science - PhD Meagan Auer Surgery Kasra Shayeganpour Surgery Mukt Patel Biomedical Engineering, PhD **Kevin Solar** Economics, PhD Christian Kwarkye **Educational Policy Studies** Alleson Mason **Electrical and Computing Engineering** Puruhithika Kunde Mechanical Engineering Sai Swaroop Reddy Pogalla



Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

OBSERVERS - NON-VOTING

FGSR, HR & Operations Coordinator*	Medha Samarasinghe
FGSR Executive Assistant & Operations *	Andrea Riewe
FGSR, EA to the Associate Deans*	Dena Giroux
FGSR Professional Development & Community	
Volunteer Program Director*	Deanna Davis
FGSR, Admissions and Program Services	
Supervisor*	Joyce Anderson
FGSR, Supervisor, Graduate Awards*	Amanda Brown
FGSR, Communications Coordinator*	Rob Desjardins
FGSR, Director, Professional Development*	Renee Polziehn
FGSR, Senior Financial Officer and IT*	Sylvia Fong-Wong
FGSR, Functional Analyst*	Justine Gill
FGSR, Team Lead, Program Services*	Kris MacManus
GFC Secretary*	Heather Richholt
	Remonia Stoddart-
Graduate Ombudsperson*	Morrison
Graduate Advisor, Sociology*	Patti Kim
Faculty Relations, Special Advisor*	Donna Herman
Faculty Relations Office, Office of the Provost*	Tyler Kuhnert
Program Director, MSc Multimedia*	Irene Cheng
Graduate Student, Faculty of Science*	Avni Patel
FGSR, Financial Administrator*	Barb Oneil
Graduate Advisor, Economics*	Christina Smith
Observer (incoming Grad Coordinator for	
Chemicals & Materials Engineering)*	Hao Zhang
Presenter, SPH*	Mary Beckie

^{*}Non-Voting

FGSR Council May 26, 2021

1.0 Call to Order at 2:01 PM

Vice-Provost and Dean, Brooke Milne, called the meeting to order.

She welcomed members of Council, and reminded everyone of the process of using Zoom. She noted that members requiring further support with this platform can reach out to Andrea Riewe for help. Those with voting abilities received an email with links. They were asked to have this open and ready to go.

2.0 Approval of Agenda for May 26, 2021

Moved / Seconded: Greg Funk/ Trish Manns

A question was raised about putting forward a motion to delay an item, specifically items 9.0 A and B, from going to a vote. Dean Milne noted that the motion would need to be put forward when the agenda moved to the relevant item.

No objections to the agenda were raised.

Approved by consent.



Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

3.0 Approval of Minutes of April 21, 2020

Moved / Seconded: Dalyce Barss/ Sean Robertson

Amendments: The minutes did not note the presence of two GSA representatives: Amanda Greenwell, GSA student representative from Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Sania Amiri-Ishani, a GSA student representing Nursing. These names will be added to the minutes.

Approved by electronic vote.

4.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arising from the minutes.

5.0 Report from the Dean

Dean Milne informed members that the Fall 2021 Return to Campus Committee is working and will be sending out more information about how we can all prepare for the fall. She noted that the University is planning for an increased in-person presence.

As conversations about restructuring continue, Dean Milne requested that Council members reach out to FGSR if their faculties and departments are planning any graduate program reorganization. These changes, which pass through governance, have impacts on the operational side of graduate administration, and advance notice is useful for ensuring there are no delays with the systems and processes.

The GSA Collective Agreement update that was scheduled for the last Council meeting had to be moved due to time constraints, and due to scheduling, the guests were unable to attend this month's meeting. However, they will be holding two information sessions in the first week of June for graduate coordinators, administrators and contacts.

Dean Milne noted that the Spring convocation list will be circulated shortly. There is a short turnaround time to note any issues, so voting members were asked to keep an eye out for it in the inboxes.

Questions/ Comments: None.

6.0 GSA Monthly Report

The GSA shared their report and the new Executive members in attendance introduced themselves.

Questions/Discussion: None



Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

7.0 Proposal: Secondary Education Application Deadlines

Vice-Provost and Dean Milne introduced Dr. Bonita Walker, Associate Chair (Graduate Studies) in the Department of Secondary Education.

Dr Walker explained the rationale for consolidating the existing application deadlines of November 1st and February 1st for the doctoral program to January 15th.

Motion: Be it resolved THAT FGSR Council approve the calendar changes to the application deadlines for Secondary Education, as noted in the included attachments, and as requested for early implementation upon final approval.

Moved / Seconded: Evelyn Steinhauer /DineshRathi

Questions/Discussion: None

Approved by electronic vote

8.0 Proposal: Course-based MACE proposal

Dean Milne introduced Dr Mary Beckie, a professor and the Director of Community Engagement studies in the School of Public Health.

Dr Beckie presented to Council seeking approval for the proposal of a Course-Based Master of Arts in Community Engagement (MACE), which builds on the existing interdisciplinary thesis-based MACE. MACE was launched in 2016 through the Faculty of Extension and successfully transitioned to the School of Public Health in July 2020. MACE is grounded in the scholarship of engagement, which focuses on improving the practices and outcomes of community engagement, and contributes to the scholarly and professional understanding of them.

The proposed course-based program allows the unit to respond to ongoing demand for increased accessibility to graduate-level training and community engagement by professionals and those seeking to begin a career in community engagement. The program will consist of 27 total credits: four three-credit core courses, three three-credit electives or the equivalent, and a culminating six-credit capstone requirement, which will be a community-engaged applied research oriented project. This will be a one-year program offered in a flexible and accessible learning model.

Like the existing MACE program, the proposed program will acknowledge and highlight the importance of equity, diversity, and inclusiveness for effective engagement. Experiential learning is also a key component of the courses and is a central part of the capstone project. The program has a plan for yearly growth. There is widespread support across the institution for this program. The new program



Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

will respond to a growing demand for community engagement, as well as support the institutional objectives of facilitating such engagement and increasing course-based programming.

Motion: Be it resolved THAT FGSR Council approve the new course-based stream of the MA in Community Engagement (MACE), as presented in the included documents by the School of Public Health, for implementation upon final approval.

Moved/Seconded: Trish Manns/ Ruth Wolfe

Questions/Discussion: None

Approved by electronic vote.

9.0 Supervisory Initiatives

Dean Milne welcomed FGSR Associate Dean Victoria Ruetalo and Dr Deanna Davis to provide an overview of the content being developed as part of the supervisory development initiative.

Associate Dean Ruetalo presented the consultation pathway for the supervisory development proposal, which showcased the extensive and wide ranging discussions that had been undertaken related to the content. An advisory group composed of Council members from across the institution developed the key topics to include in the training and the key goals/objectives of the training.

The training is meant to take 10 hours to complete via e-Class. It is a hybrid format that combines flexible self-paced learning in modules one to six with a synchronous component at the end in module seven. The training is founded on research-based best practices in supervision and mentorship.

Dr Deanna Davis reviewed the seven modules that cover five topics that the advisory group developed, and there is an opportunity to participate in an optional, final discussion. The training includes resources for further follow up. The Council package has more detailed overviews of each module.

Dean Milne presented on the purpose, intent, and pathway of the supervision initiatives. At the core of these initiatives is the need to have positive graduate student supervision because good working conditions directly influence a student's overall experience, including their mental health and wellbeing. These initiatives recognize that the supervisory relationship is foundational to the student experience at the university over the course of a student's studies.

The initiatives aim to create equity in the graduate student experience for all of our graduate students. The frequency, focus, and outcomes of supervisor-student relationships and interactions vary across graduate programs. In order to support true equity, we need to establish and implement minimum institutional practices and standards so that we are elevating that common experience to be a positive one for every student in every program across the institution.



Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

Dean Milne outlined the timeline for these conversations and the various consultations that have occurred as well as the various changes the proposals have undergone to incorporate contributions and feedback.

She noted that these initiatives will benefit students, supervisors, and the institution. The notions of transparency and accountability are foundational for students as they establish clear communication, and clear expectations, that set out the working relationship between a graduate student and their supervisor. There are also benefits to supervisors. The progress report in particular offers a streamlined method to monitor a student's progress and to provide a record of that progress. The report also provides opportunities for early intervention related to student progress in their programs, so that they are able to access meaningful feedback to move forward. Currently, the U of A does not have institutional regulations to provide clarity and guidance when the supervisory relationship breaks down. These initiatives help to provide a baseline for these relationships.

Dean Milne reviewed some common questions that have come up over the course of the discussions. She also presented information from several faculty Q&A sessions held over the 10 days that preceded this meeting.

9A: Motion 1: THAT FGSR Council approve the Student-Supervisor Guidelines and the Progress Report as a requirement for all thesis-based graduate students, for implementation upon final approval, and inclusion in the 2022-2023 Calendar.

Moved/Seconded: Sujata Persad/ Sania Amiri-Ishani

A Council member moved to postpone the motion until restructuring for graduate administration is complete, noting that October 2021 might be a time when the institution will know more about graduate administration.

Dean Milne read the regulations related to deferring a motion:

Motion to Defer to Another Stated Time (i.e. postpone to a future meeting):

Such a motion enables the discussion of a substantive issue to be put off to a more convenient time. This may permit councillors to obtain more information on the issue, or perhaps to draft amendments. It may also enable the Council to set an issue aside to get on with more pressing matters. This motion is not debatable and amendments may only suggest an alternate time or date for the postponement. It must be seconded and requires a majority vote. If this motion is approved, the deferred motion is automatically included on the agenda of the meeting held on, or the first meeting held after, the date stated for deferral.

She asked the Council member to put forward a motion, asked for a mover and seconder before voting on it. Citing FGSR Council regulations, members were advised that the motion to defer is not debatable and must be voted on.



Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

Motion to Defer: Be it resolved that FGSR Council defer item 9A, until after the uncertainty of the restructuring and graduate advising has been settled, to the October 2021 FGSR Council meeting.

Mover/Seconder: Kim Noels/ Siobhan Byrne

Dean Milne reminded Council members that the proposals as they have been constructed, with FGSR having the oversight for those institutional regulations, will not change, irrespective of any future reconfiguration of administrative structure as it relates to graduate programs.

She clarified that voting "Approve" meant agreeing that the original motion (9A) should be deferred, while voting "Oppose" meant rejecting the motion to defer and affirming that Council should return to the discussion of the original motion.

The motion to defer was defeated by electronic vote.

Dean Milne opened the floor for discussion on Motion 9A.

A Council member spoke in strong support of the motion. The motions, he said, are about taking action now to address the long-standing problem that the University has had with the relationship between supervisors and graduate student relationship. The problems have been around for a long time, and we have not taken action on them. Supporting these initiatives, said the member, involves affirming that these issues matter to us, that it's critical to take action now, and that delaying them further does not serve any purpose nor do we gain anything from it. What we stand to lose is enormous. He noted that he asked all the graduate coordinators (19 total) in his faculty whether they supported the motions or not, and having heard back from 13 of 19 he could affirm that there is strong support for the initiatives. He also contacted all the other universities in Canada that have graduates or medical schools, and five universities require some sort of training at the beginning and two of the five require a renewal of supervisor status every five years. It is important to do something to show our support to grad students and ensure that they have an appropriate and equitable experience.

A Council member spoke in favour of the motion on behalf of the Office of Student Ombuds. She noted that in her role, she sees students at various points in their graduate career, but also as a last resort when significant problems have emerged in the relationship with a supervisor. When she was a graduate student herself, she thought that every supervisory relationship was great and similar to her own experience. In her role as the Ombuds for Grad Students, however, she came to realize that this was not the case. She encouraged members not to think about the motions as a way of pointing fingers or trying to see who is not doing their job right, but rather as a way to facilitate an environment where there is learning and ongoing support, and where the institution can build collegial relationships. What students learn within the institution is what they will take with them when they graduate. It is not just a parchment that they receive at the end of the program, it is also an experience to pass on to others. She noted that she is very proud of the initiative and congratulated the FGSR team for their work because it



Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

is addressing the task of building and growing the relationship between students and supervisors. The initiatives focus not only on ensuring respect, equity, safety and dignity for students, but also safeguarding supervisors by ensuring that graduate students understand their responsibilities. She noted that when students believe that they are fairly treated in any process, even if the outcome is not what they want, they leave feeling satisfied and can move forward. 60% of their cases deal with supervisor conflict; this, she said, is an important factor to consider.

A Council member spoke in strong support of the motion, as well as the upcoming one. He noted that he appreciates the work that FGSR has put in to modify the documents based on consultation through this process. He is confident that his Faculty has considered the initiatives carefully and there is strong support and mostly positive impressions of them. As a supervisor, he felt that the initiatives weren't going to change the way that he supervises and conducts his work. They are not going to cost him any more time. For those who already have positive supervisory relationships, there won't be any negative impacts on time or on the students' progress in their programs. However, they will have an impact on the student-supervisory relationships that need some positive impacts. He noted that a number of letters of support have been received from students, including the Science Graduate Student Association Council, which is a council made up of students from the executives from the various departmental student groups in Science. They are very much in favor of the initiatives and look forward to the increased transparency as well as the alignment of expectations and consistency of expectations across graduate programs.

The GSA president spoke in support of the motion. He stated that in his role as of May he has now seen the documentation that suggests that this issue has been a longstanding one for the GSA. It has been a focus of the association's strategic plans for many years, and it is a common topic of discussion with constituents and at Council meetings. The initiatives, he noted, are not punitive. Graduate students are critical to the university's mission: they are teaching assistants, they work as graduate assistants, and they conduct research. As the GSA President, he has seen the various cases and reports about graduate student mental health and was shocked to see the issues related to supervision.

A Council member did not think the initiatives will be a cure all for the issues between graduate students and their supervisors. These relationships are local, and for the Faculty of Arts, the relationships are based in a local culture that is internal to the department and the faculty. Issues should be addressed quickly and simply by those who know the students rather than an external third party.

A Council member was unclear on how the initiatives would solve existing problems. She stated that there are issues with the mechanics of how the initiatives would work. She also noted that she suspected that most student-supervisor relationships are probably ok.

Dean Milne noted that this question has been raised in the discussion through the consultations and FGSR has provided extensive data on those known problems that do exist and have persisted for a long time.



Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

A Council member noted that the Faculty of Education is supportive of the training. She noted that the progress reports are a source of hesitancy due to a potential duplication of work with existing accreditation reporting that has to happen at the disciplinary faculty level.

A Council member noted that the students-supervisory initiatives won't be negatively impacting [the culture/environment at the departmental level] in any way, shape or form. Some students may feel that they can't necessarily go to their departments if they encounter issues. Having an open relationship with FGSR is a good thing. Even for current students, having that as a gateway for communication is crucial. Essentially, the member said, the supervisory development initiative is helping to support new faculty members. She suggested that the initiative would not take more time from professors or students if they are already doing the work they are supposed to do.

Approved by electronic vote.

9B: Motion 2: THAT FGSR Council recommend the UAPPOL FGSR Adjunct Academic Appointment and Graduate Student Supervision Policy, and the related Graduate Student Supervision Development Procedure, for implementation upon final approval, and inclusion in the 2022-2023 Calendar.

Moved/Seconded: Mark McDermott/ Alan Underhill

A Council Member made a motion to defer the motion.

Motion to defer: Be it resolved that FGSR Council defer item 9B until after the uncertainty of the restructuring and graduate advising has been settled to the October 2021 FGSR Council meeting.

Mover/Seconder: Kim Noels/ Heather Coleman

The motion was defeated by electronic vote.

Dean Milne asked for a show of hands in opposition to extending the meeting until 4:15 p.m.. The extension was approved.

A Council member noted that she was puzzled, as were members of her community, about what would be accomplished by having supervisors have an adjunct position within FGSR.

A Council member spoke in support of this motion. She noted that she had been a member of the UA's research community since 2013 and the amount of suffering and overall impacts to quality of life that is contingent on the supervisor relationship with graduate students is difficult to overstate. She observed that there are points in this proposal that could use improvement, but this is a place from which to grow. Many of our peer institutions have implemented similar initiatives already, and in some ways the FGSR version is the bare minimum that an institution of the U of A's caliber should be doing. She



Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

reiterated that the motions need to be passed and this conversation needs to continue in the coming years as the university grows together under some exceptional circumstances.

A Council member stated that she is not convinced the membership is necessarily going to improve relationships between students and supervisors. It is stated in the policy that the criteria for graduate students supervisors is that they must (1) be active in the general subject area of the graduate student's research, (2) demonstrate continuing scholarly or creative activity of an original nature, and (3) hold a degree equivalent to or higher than that for which the graduate student is a candidate, etc. She wanted to know who is going to decide if the person is adequately active. How is one going to demonstrate continuing scholarly or creative activity of an original nature, and who is going to make those decisions? If somebody isn't found to be living up to those expectations, what will happen?

Dean Milne noted that the policy that was just cited already exists within U of A regulations. The faculty member's department chair is the one who would be in a position to determine the details around the quality and nature of scholarship. Ultimately, graduate supervision is considered part of teaching duties and is assigned at the discretion of the department chair. They would be making the determination as to whether or not those criteria would actually be met, year over year.

A Council member asked how the impact of the initiatives would be measured and evaluated over time. She questioned whether the metrics used to determine outcomes would come for approval at some point in the future to Council.

A Council member spoke in favour of the initiatives. She stated that they set everyone up for success: the student and the supervisor. She noted that when issues currently arise between students and supervisors, it causes a tremendous amount of work. With the impacts of restructuring there won't be the same administrative resources and capacity to address issues, so these initiatives are very important to set us up at the beginning for success in the relationship.

A Council member noted that she was particularly convinced by the strong statements from students and continual statements over the years from different iterations of student groups. The student group in Business is very supportive of the initiatives. The member also circulated the info package with faculty and did not get negative backlash, which she takes as support. For these reasons she is in support of the motion.

Dean Milne wanted to note an amendment to the documents that were distributed. A Faculty member had requested a change to Section 3d. FGSR has amended the language in Section 3d in order to accurately capture that if a supervisor, as an employee of the university, resigned their position in order to take a position at another university, their adjunct academic status at FGSR would continue, so that they would be unencumbered in order to facilitate and complete the supervision of their graduate students. FGSR has worked with our colleagues in Faculty Relations to ensure that the wording accurately reflects existing practices wherein, if a faculty member or supervisor resigns a position to take a job elsewhere, they are able to continue with their supervisory role and relationship to allow their students to successfully complete their programs.



Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 to 4:00 pm Virtual Meeting

The motion was approved by electronic vote

10.0 Question Period

11.0 Adjournment

Dean Milne thanked Council members for their thoughtful engagement. She encouraged Council members to send in any questions should they have any that were not addressed or that come up over the coming weeks.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.