

University of Waterloo
SENATE GRADUATE & RESEARCH COUNCIL
Minutes of the 12 December Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Jessica Brake, Robert Bruce, Jeff Casello, George Dixon, Bernard Duncker, Lowell Ewert, Rhona Hanning, Bruce Hellinga, Sarah Hildebrandt, Robert Hill, Srinivasan Keshav, Dave Kingston, Raymond Legge, Jannet Anne Leggett, Bruce Muirhead, Simron Singh, Richard Staines*, Jackie Stapleton, Mike Szarka, John Thompson, Linda Warley

Secretariat: Mike Grivicic

Resources: Jennifer Kieffer, Amanda McKenzie

Regrets: Thouheed Abdul Gaffour, Raouf Boutaba, Adam Dor On, Claude Duguay, Anwar Hasan*, Richard Kelly, Tim Kenyon, Samantha Shortall, Aaron Thompson, Lucy Vorobej*
*regrets

Organization of Meeting: Jeff Casello, co-chair of the council, took the chair, and Mike Grivicic acted as secretary. The secretary advised that due notice of the meeting had been given, a quorum was present, and the meeting was properly constituted.

1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. MINUTES OF 14 NOVEMBER 2016 AND BUSINESS ARISING

A motion was heard to approve the minutes as distributed. Hellinga and Leggett. Carried.

a. Graduate Engagement on Research Centres and Institutes. Bruce and Dixon discussed the matter and noted that while there is interface with centres and institutes, more could be done and it is up to individual centres and institutes to engage with graduate students. Going forward, a memo will be sent out with centre/institute renewal notices to encourage this activity on an ongoing basis.

b. Lead Time for Companies to Review Doctoral Theses. Szarka observed that it is possible to accommodate notification of contract sponsors with ten days' notice and review period. The company can request an *in camera* defence, and it would be good to have a change to the protocols for thesis submissions to affirm support from the company via the primary investigator; activity on this will be ongoing.

3. CO-CHAIRS' REMARKS

Casello thanked associate dean for navigating scholarship activity in recent weeks. Dixon noted: the upcoming Canada Excellence Research Chairs competition; the expected report of the federal review of research mechanisms; the provincial mechanisms for entrepreneurship and innovation support are unlikely to complete review and will likely continue under the existing regime for one more year.

4. CURRICULAR SUBMISSIONS

a. Applied Health Sciences. Council heard a motion to approve the submission as presented. Hanning and Staines. Carried.

b. Arts. Warley provided an overview of the submission and noted that the SOC course effective dates will be Winter 2017. Council heard a motion to approve the submission as amended. Warley and Hill. Carried.

c. Engineering. Hellinga spoke to the submission and clarified for item 1 that students graduating from non-Canadian institutions would always require a cumulative average calculated over four years. Council heard a motion to approve the submission as presented, with Engineering to provide clearer language for item 1. Hellinga and Bruce. Carried.

d. Science. Hill introduced item 1 and members discussed: adequacy of programs requiring two courses, and supervisory committee sets courses with two being the minimum and the actual number will be based on a student's background; two courses would be in addition to master's level courses; in UK, technically no number of courses are required. Council heard a motion to recommend approval of item 1 to Senate as presented. Hill and Duncker. Carried. Members discussed item 2: change to name of joint program is merely a name change since it was not a true institute; unclear of what constitutes "outstanding" for direct entry to doctoral studies, and this is

best left to admissions committees; discussion of direct entry criteria should occur among associate deans. Council heard a motion to approve items 2 and 3 as presented. Hill and Duncker. Carried.

5. NEW MEMBERSHIP TO HUMAN ETHICS RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Council heard a motion to approve the new appointment as presented. Leggett and Warley. Carried.

6. GRADUATE AWARDS

Hildebrandt presented the submission and observed that the range of the award was likely based on the status/performance of the fund. Council heard a motion to approve the new award as presented. Hildebrandt and Warley. Carried.

7. AMENDMENT TO PHD THESIS REGULATIONS

Hildebrandt noted that this item is brought forward via Graduate Operations Committee. Council heard a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Hildebrandt and Bruce. Carried.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Monday 16 January 2017 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon in NH 3318.

11 January 2017

Mike Grivicic
Assistant University Secretary