

Date: March 12, 2009

To: Ms Karen Roche
Secretary to Senate

From: Dr. Jane Crossman
Acting Dean of Graduate Studies

Subject: Graduate Council Report to Senate

The Faculty of Graduate Studies Council met on Friday, March 6, 2009. This report includes items recommended for approval and items included for information.

Part I – Items Referred to FGS from the February 27, 2009 Senate Meeting

1) Graduate Diploma in Health Services and Policy Research

Revision to Calendar Entry to include addition of Special Topics Course – Health Services and Policy Research 5111: Special Topics

Recommended for Approval

2) Faculty of Forestry and the Forest Environment – PhD Comprehensive Examinations

Revision to Calendar Entry regarding Comprehensive Exam, i.e., that a student who fails his/her comprehensive exam may change to the Master's program

Recommended for Approval

3) Faculty of Education – M.Ed. – Language Proficiency Requirements

Revision to Calendar Entry regarding entrance requirements re TOEFL score, i.e., to raise minimum requirement from 550 to 600 – Wording is:

“English is the primary language of communication and instruction in the program. Applicants from other countries who have not completed a degree at a university where the primary language of instruction is English must pass the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a minimum internet-based score of 100, or minimum 250 computer-based score, or minimum 600 paper-based score, or an equivalent demonstration of proficiency”

Recommended for Approval

4) Faculty of Education – Joint PhD in Education

Revision to Calendar Entry to indicate that the University of Western Ontario is no longer a member of the joint PhD program

Recommended for Approval

Part II – Items Brought Forward to FGS

1) Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies - Department of Computer Sciences
Final Calendar Entry regarding MSc in Computer Science as a separate program. This program was approved by Senate in principle, April 24, 2006, item #6, to go forward to OCGS.

Recommended for Approval

2) Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies - Department of Mathematical Sciences

Revision to Calendar Entry regarding Computer Science becoming a separate program. This is a housekeeping item, related to MSc. Computer Sciences, listed above.

Recommended for Approval

Information Items

The Council approved recommendations from the Leave Extension Committee.

Graduate Student Research Poster Competition – Jane Crossman reported that the event had been largely successful. She expressed sincere appreciation to judges for their time and attentive evaluations. They are: NSERC: Andrew Conly, Derek Kivi, Lada Malek; SSHRC: Chris Southcott, Harvey Lemelin, Ed Rawana and CIHR: Mary Lou Kelley, Bill Montelpare, Peter Brink. Dr. Crossman also noted that Raymond Neckoway joined her in judging the Aboriginal-themed posters. The format was new for this year and has room for improvement. Jane encouraged everyone to provide suggestions and feedback to her.

The High Output and Publication Excellence (HOPE) Award was presented at the Graduate Awards Luncheon, Feb 27, to one student for each term. Thanks are extended to Gautam Das, Brian McLaren, Greg Spivak and Andrew P. Dean for serving as adjudicators.

Ad Hoc Committee on Membership to the Faculty of Graduate Studies – the committee has had a second meeting and produced a summary that has been provided to all Graduate Council members and Deans. Dr. Crossman asked that all Council members submit comments to her regarding this document by March 20.

Government Increase to Graduate Funding – Dr. Crossman will look into this and provide more definite details at the April meeting.

Graduate Studies at Orillia – a discussion took place regarding Graduate Studies at the Orillia Campus. There will be further discussion at the next Graduate Council meeting.

/ljh