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Minutes of Meeting: Graduate Council, May 21, 2004

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GRADUATE COUNCIL
Friday, May 21, 2004, 1:30 p.m.
Council Chambers, Gilmour Hall 111

PRESENT: Dean C. Richards (Chair), Dr. N. Agarwal, Mr. M. Bliemel, Dr. D. Clark, Dr. J. Clark, Dr. C. Cuneo, Dean L. Finsten, Dr. M. Gauvreau, Dr. M. George, Dr. S. Porter, Mr. D. Sajic, Mr. J. Scime (Secretary), Dr. M. Stein, Dr. C. Swartz, Dr. W. Sword, Dr. D. Thompson, Dr. E. Werstiuk, Dr. C. Wilson, Mrs. M. Espiritu (Recording Secretary)

BY INVITATION: Dr. D. Goellnicht, Dr. M. O'Connor, Dr. B. Lynn, Dr. S. Ziada

REGRETS: Mr. L. Ariano, Mr. R. Bashir, Dean D. Capson, Dean F.L. Hall, Dr. A. Herring, Dean N. Rahimieh, Dr. G. Steiner, Mr. P. Waldron, Dr. C. Woodward

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Dean Richards chaired the meeting in place of Dean Hall, who was away from campus. There was no business arising due to the unavailability of the minutes of the meeting of April 13, 2004.

I. NEW GRADUATE PROGRAMS

B.Eng./M.Eng. in Manufacturing

Dr. Ziada presented the proposal for a five-year program that will allow students to obtain a combined B.Eng./M.Eng. degree in Manufacturing. The program will enable students to obtain an M.Eng. degree in Manufacturing based on course work and an industrial project. The requirements for the Master's component are: (a) six graduate half courses which may include a maximum of two 600-level courses that can be completed in year 4; and (b) an industrially based project in the 5th year. Dean Richards said that unlike the biomedical engineering program, the B.Eng./M.Eng. in Manufacturing requires students to do group projects. According to Dr. Ziada, the Faculty of Engineering approved the proposal with two amendments: (1) short courses will not be included in the program; and (2) a minimum of one half core course will be required in the M.Eng. component of the program.

In response to Dr. Xu, Dr. Ziada explained that although the objective is to complete the program in five years, students can extend completion up to six years. Mr. Scime commented that it is not a lock-in situation–students can apply as part time after completion of their undergraduate degrees. Dr. Thompson voiced his concern that the proposed program might be used as an "accelerated move" to the Ph.D. He suggested that there should be a statement in the graduate calendar explaining that programs such as the one being recommended cannot be considered as a means to promote Master's students to the Ph.D. level. Dr. Thompson's comment reminded Mr. Scime of a recent discussion he had with Dean Capson with regards to the M.Eng. and the M.A.Sc. degrees. Mr. Scime stated that the M.Eng degree is considered a "terminal" degree while the M.A.Sc. is a "research" degree, but there is no clear statement in the calendar about how the two degrees are different from each other. Dean Capson and Mr. Scime both agree that there should be some rules in the graduate calendar concerning the two degrees.

Dr. Swartz moved, and Dr. Thompson seconded,

"that Graduate Council approve the combined B.Eng./M.Eng. program in Manufacturing as outlined in the attached document."

The motion was **carried**.

B.Eng./M.Eng. in Design

Dr. Ziada then turned to the proposed B.Eng./M.Eng. in Design. The proposal is quite similar to the combined B.Eng./M.Eng. in Manufacturing with one exception: the B.Eng./M.Eng in Design has two core courses which will focus on design, technology and the philosophy of design. Students are required to take one core course in Term 1 and one core course in Term 2.

Dr. Thompson moved, and Dr. Swartz seconded,

"that Graduate Council approve the combined B.Eng./M.Eng. program in Design as outlined in the attached document."

The motion was **carried**.

II. FACULTY OF BUSINESS CURRICULUM CHANGES

Dr. Lynn referred to the report of the School of Business Graduate Curriculum and Policy Committee pertaining to curriculum changes. One of the recommendations is the creation of a new stream. Dr. Lynn pointed out that there were two errors in the document that was circulated earlier: (1) the correct name of the stream should be "*Strategic Business Valuation Stream*"; and (2) V703, not F748, should be listed as one of the required courses. Dr. Lynn explained that the students in the stream will take the required courses in the second year. In response to Dr. D. Clark's inquiry as to whether the fields in the proposed stream are consistent with OCGS regulations, Dr. Lynn replied that there are no fields in the proposed stream.

Dr. Agarwal moved, and Dr. Werstiuk seconded,

"that Graduate Council approve the *Strategic Business Valuation Stream* as proposed by the School of Business."

The motion was **carried**.

Dr. Lynn then drew attention to the remaining report of the Business Graduate Curriculum and Policy Committee for Graduate Council information.

III. REVISION TO "STEPS FOR THE CREATION OF NEW GRADUATE PROGRAMS OR NEW FIELDS IN EXISTING DOCTORAL PROGRAMS"

Dean Richards referred to the document, *"Steps for the Creation of New Graduate Programs or New Fields in Existing Doctoral Programs"* which is recommended for revisions. The major change to the document is the addition of a section clarifying the approval process for interdisciplinary programs. The document was presented initially at the May 6th meeting of the Executive of Graduate Council. The comments made by the members of the Executive of Graduate Council were then incorporated in the document circulated to the Graduate Council members. Upon reviewing the document, two amendments were suggested by Graduate Council: (1) deletion of the last two sentences (enclosed in parenthesis) of paragraph 1, on page 3; and (2) correction of a typographical error on page 3, under B: line 3 should read *"steps 1-3."*

Dr. Wilson moved, and Dr. Stein seconded,

"that Graduate Council approve the revision of the document, *Steps for the Creation of New Graduate Programs or New Fields in Existing Doctoral Programs*, as amended above."

The motion was **carried**.

IV. TWO DEGREES FOR THE SAME WORK

Dean Richards drew attention to Dean Hall's memo (on behalf of the Executive of Graduate Council) recommending the creation of a regulation outlining the number of credits from a completed graduate degree that can be applied towards another graduate degree program. With the development of new interdisciplinary degrees, there is a possibility that the requirements for these degrees may also meet the requirements for another existing degree. The Executive of Graduate Council has recommended two options: (a) no credit from a completed graduate degree program can be applied toward any other graduate degree program; and (b) no more than half the credit from one graduate program (degree or diploma) can be applied to any subsequent graduate program, and no more than half of the requirements of the second can be met by work done toward the first. Mr. Scime circulated an additional document further explaining option *(b)*. Dr. Wilson was not in favour of students obtaining double credits from another degree. She feels this option implies that McMaster degree students will be treated differently in comparison to students coming from other universities. Dr. Cuneo commented that students will have less work in completing the second degree, and that the issue of antirequisites may also cause some problems. Mr. Scime explained that the question is not about taking a course from a degree program and counting it towards another degree. He added that one cannot count credit from a degree to a degree; rather, it is about counting credit from a degree to a diploma, or from a diploma to a degree. Dean Finsten commented that she foresees some conflict with the new programs because of courses that are cross-listed. Based on the comments made by the Graduate Council members, Dean Richards stated that the Graduate Council Executive's objective to clarify the issue was not accomplished. The matter will be referred back to the Graduate Council Executive for further discussion.

V. SPRING 2004 GRADUANDS

Faculty of Business

Dr. Wilson moved, and Dr. George seconded,

"that Graduate Council approve for recommendation to Senate, the list of the 2004 Spring Graduands for the Faculty of Business, with amendments/corrections to be made as necessary by the Graduate Registrar."

The motion was **carried**.

Faculty of Engineering

Dr. Thompson moved, and Dr. Swartz seconded,

"that Graduate Council approve for recommendation to Senate, the list of the 2004 Spring Graduands for the Faculty of Engineering, with amendments/corrections to be made as necessary by the Graduate Registrar."

The motion was **carried**.

Faculty of Humanities

Dr. George moved, and Dr. D. Clark seconded,

"that Graduate Council approve for recommendation to Senate, the list of the 2004 Spring Graduands for the Faculty of Humanities, with amendments/corrections to be made as necessary by the Graduate Registrar."

The motion was **carried**.

Faculty of Science

Dr. Xu moved, and Dr. Wilson seconded,

"that Graduate Council approve for recommendation to Senate, the list of the 2004 Spring Graduands for the Faculty of Science, with amendments/corrections to be made as necessary by the Graduate Registrar."

The motion was **carried**.

Faculty of Social Sciences

Dr. Cuneo moved, and Dr. Stein seconded,

"that Graduate Council approve for recommendation to Senate, the list of the 2004 Spring Graduands for the Faculty of Social Sciences, with amendments/corrections to be made as necessary by the Graduate Registrar."

The motion was **carried**.

VII. M.A. IN CULTURAL STUDIES AND CRITICAL THEORY

Dr. Goellnicht presented the proposed M.A. in Cultural Studies and Critical Theory as outlined in the attached document. Dr. Goellnicht drew attention to the list of core faculty and the list of courses that are cross-listed with other departments. Dean Finsten commented that the list of core faculty for the program was approved at the April 29th meeting of the Joint Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences Graduate Curriculum and Policy Committee. However, the inclusion of Dr. Michael Atkinson's name on the core faculty list is still subject to discussion and approval by the Department of Sociology. Dr. Goellnicht said the program will be submitted to OCGS at the end of June. Dr. Cuneo stated that the Department of Sociology is still discussing its involvement in the program.

Dean Finsten, moved, and Dr. D. Clark seconded,

"that Graduate Council approve the proposed M.A. in Cultural Studies and Critical Theory as outlined in the attached document."

The motion was **carried**.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.