COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES
MINUTES
Three Hundred-and-Fortieth Meeting
Wednesday, 18 May 2005
ST 147    2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Chair: W. L. Veale, Interim Dean
Recording Secretary: Gillian Robinson

Attendance:

Members
Bryant, T.
Cameron, E.
Collins, J.
Dawson, P. (for Oetelaar, G.)
Davison, J.
Dickin, J.
Elkins, W.
Goddard, T.
Greenberg, S.
Haines, V.
Hebert, M.
Hiller, H.
Hodgins, D. (for P. Brennan)
Johns, C.
Keely, J.
Kertzer, A.
MacIntosh, B.
Martin, Y.
Peers, D.
Perron, D.
Pexman, P.
Pyryt, M.
Reid, J.
Ritter, E.
Ross, T.
Sesay, A.
Shrive, N.
Sicotte, P.
Sideris, M.
Skone, S.
Smith, B.
Stell, W.
Storey, D.
Thompson, R.
Van der Hoom, F.
Walker, D.
Wieser, H.
Woods, D.

Regrets
Azuz, J.
Bohac Clarke, V.
Bond, R.B.
Brown, C.
Calhoun, A.
Chen, W.
Cook, F.
Duncan, N.
Emery, H.
Edwards, M.
Ereshefsky, M.
Eslinger, L.
Este, D.
Evans, S.
Hawkes, R.
Herzog, W.
Johnston, D.
Johnston, D.

Faculty of Graduate Studies Officers
Abernethy, L.
Fisk, M.
Sloth, R.
Stroud, M.

340.1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA
The Chair called the meeting to order and asked for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: PYRYT/ CAMERON
That Council approve the agenda for the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council Meeting #340 of 18 May 2005
CARRIED

340.2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: SICOTTE/ KERTZER
That Council approve the minutes of the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council Meeting #339 held 16 March 2005
CARRIED

340.3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
The Chair noted that some matters arising from the minutes would be included in his report.

340.4 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR
The provincial budget was approved on April 13. It included a re-affirmation of the target of 60,000 new students by 2020 and funding in endowments to support the Access to the Future fund ($3 billion). In addition to $1b allocated to scholarships, AHFMR will receive support of $0.5 b, as will the Ingenuity fund. The university budget is impacted as the base budget will see an increase of 6% over the next three years. There is a commitment of other support to students, proportionate to the base increase. The performance envelope will be re-instated. This year a one-time tuition rebate has been implemented. Over the next three years $90m will be available for Access Growth funding, $12m is available for immediate proposals. Overall this is very good news for the University of Calgary.

FGS has taken a 5% reduction in operating costs. The university has allocated $600,000 for the support of graduate students. Some of this will be available to restore GA(T) funds in teaching units and some for new initiatives.

The Chair noted that Bill 1, Clause 2.1 could be interpreted as a direct invasion of university autonomy...
and will be questioned.

NSERC results have been announced: 85% of U of C Master’s students were funded; 37 received a PGS M and 18 a CGS M. 84% of PhD students received funding, 32 a PGS D and 11 a CGS D. The University of Calgary had a quota of 53 for the SSHRC doctoral competition. 34 were awarded for a success rate of 64%. Of those, 19 were CGS D and 15 were Fellowships. The quota for the Master’s competition was 44 and the success rate 100% for a CGS M.

Trudeau Foundation Scholarships were established three years ago and 15 are offered annually. In 2004 Colleen Davison (MDCH) was a recipient and 2005 winners will be announced in June. The award is valued at $50,000 for three years. (Administrative Note: Emma Stewart – GEOG – received this award in 2005.)

The Scientist published the results of its survey of the best places to work as a postdoctoral fellow. The University of Calgary placed 8th of all institutions in the ranking outside the US.

The Faculty of Graduate Studies will undergo an operational review, probably in the Fall of 2005, mandated by the University Budget Committee. This is timed to precede the search for a new Dean, which will occur late in 2006 or early in 2007. The report will go to the Provost and then to the University Planning Committee.

Michael Sideris, Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies will go on sabbatical leave from July 1, 2005. Abu Sesay (Electrical and Computer Engineering) will replace him for the year.

### 340.5 REPORTS FROM ASSOCIATE DEANS

Mr van der Hoorn reported that Sherri Fraser, Postdoctoral Coordinator will be leaving and a replacement is being sought.

Mr Wieser reported that he is working on behalf of FGS, in cooperation with the GSA, on workshops for training graduate supervisors. Three events have been held and one is planned. A workshop on the supervisor/student relationship was held at the request of the GSA. It was very well received by those attending and was videotaped. Thirty-one attended from twelve faculties, mostly Graduate Coordinators and administrators. A workshop on academic integrity is planned for mid-June 2005. Graduate Coordinators are asked to encourage more students to attend.

Ms Haines had no issues to report.

Ms Kertzer reported that a survey is being conducted on GA(T) levels over the last two years. The aim is to discover whether all five levels are being used and are needed. Surveys are due back by July 15 but replies as soon as possible are welcome.

Mr Sideris had no issues to report.

### 340.6 QUESTION PERIOD

Mr van der Hoorn asked whether FGS/GSA workshops could be faculty-based and travel around campus. Mr Wieser noted that, after the workshop, faculty members from Medicine expressed interest in a Medicine-based workshop. Ms Johns noted that funding is aimed at the training of supervisors and therefore the intention is not, primarily, to attract graduate students. Dr Oakleaf suggested that the timing of the workshop in April might have been a factor in the attendance. Mr Greenberg asked whether the presentations could be webcast or archived to eliminate the timing issue. Mr Hiller noted that Sociology is considering block week as a useful time to place events that might be lost in more busy months.

Mr Thompson asked whether the search for the postdoctoral coordinator is open. Mr van der Hoorn confirmed that the competition is open and will remain so until the right candidate is found. The position is advertised on the FGS website.

Mr Sesay asked how graduate fees had increased despite the government fee remission. Ms Stroud explained that Canadian and Permanent Resident fees will be assessed at the 2004 rate. International students will be assessed the approved 2005 fee rate and the 2005 differential because they are not covered by the government’s remission. The Chair noted that next year rates will appear to have doubled for students with 2005 fee remission.

The Chair introduced and welcomed Christine Johns as the new Chair of the GSA and Jennifer Reid as Vice-President (External).

### 340.7 ELECTIONS

The Chair thanked the Striking Committee for their excellent work.

#### 340.7.1 URGC Graduate Awards Subcommittee

One nomination was received from the floor and added to the ballot:

*Gerald Oetelaar, Archaeology*
Yvonne Hebert (GDER) and Jun Yan (Physiology and Biophysics) were elected.

340.7.2 **Policy Committee**
Herb Emery (ECON) was elected.

340.7.3 **Scholarship Committee**

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<tr>
<th>MOTION: DAVISON/ D. WALKER</th>
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<td>That the revised Terms of Reference for the Faculty of Graduate Scholarship Committee be accepted.</td>
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<td>CARRIED</td>
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Nine members were elected due to a tie in the voting. Michael Antle (PSYC), Bart Beaty (COMS), Penny Farfan (DRAM, ENGL), Richard Frayne (MDNS), Olga Mladenova (GSEA), Mary Polito (ENGL), Barbara Schneider (COMS), Pamela Valentine (MDNS) and Warren Wilson (ARKY) were elected.

340.7.4 **Striking Committee**
Douglas Peers (HIST) was elected by acclamation.

340.7.5 **Academic Program Committee**
Lisa Higham (CPSC), Tamara Seiler (COMS) and Wilf Zerbe (MGMT) were elected.

340.8 **SCHOLARSHIPS**
The Terms of Reference for new awards were presented for information by Ms Abernethy. Mr Shrive asked for clarification regarding the inclusion of citizenship status. Ms Abernethy explained that all Terms of Reference were in the process of being rewritten to facilitate the construction of a new searchable awards database.

340.9 **OTHER BUSINESS**
The Chair announced that the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council meeting schedule would be reduced to three in 2005 – 2006, with one meeting in the Fall and two in the Spring.
The Chair introduced Don Woods, Graduate Coordinator for Microbiology and Infectious Diseases and Brian MacIntosh, Graduate Coordinator for Kinesiology.

339.11 **ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm.