

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES  
FACULTY COUNCIL**

These minutes have been approved.

A regular meeting of Faculty Council was held at 11:30 am, Tuesday, April 28, 2015 in University Hall, MacDonald Building.

**Present:** J. Armstrong, S. Bearne, P. Bodorik, E. Denovan-Wright, P. Ellis, A. Fenety, L. Fitting, S. Gadbois, M. Gibson, D. Groulx, J. Kozey, M. Leonard, R. Martin-Misener, R. Mullin, P. O'Brien, D. Patterson, D. Pelzer, M. Rahman, N. Schepp, M. Scott (FGS), R. Singer (Chair), L. Spiteri, R. Stadnyk, S. Stone, S. Theriault (Secretary), P. Tyedmers

**Guests:** J. Graham, M. Doelle, K. Holloway, M. Herder, B. Noble, E. Milios, R. McLeod, K. Kesselring

**Regrets:** H. Ali-Hassan, W. Barker, A. Bucci, N. Daizy, S. Kimber, N. Morgunov, S. Ponomarenko

**FC14/15.56 Call to Order and Approval of Agenda**

The Chair called the meeting to order.

**It was moved by L. Spiteri, seconded by J. Kozey: to approve the Faculty Council agenda for April 28, 2015 as circulated. The motion carried.**

**FC14/15.57 Intellectual Property Presentation**

R. Singer welcomed Prof. Matthew Herder and invited him to give his presentation on Intellectual Property (IP).

M. Herder advised that he and Kelly Holloway prepared a report for CAGS, which had been distributed to Faculty Council members. M. Herder gave his presentation, which outlined the importance to the University of an IP policy. He explained that in his research he sampled 17 Canadian universities and reviewed literature about issues that graduate students and postdoctoral fellows face in relation to IP. In his analysis he compared ownership, commercialization, procedure and access at the various institutions he sampled.

A discussion followed in which members asked about employment relationships and the implications that various employment relationships have on copyright, and how Faculty members who are driving the research can protect their patent rights. Members also questioned what legal implications an IP

policy would have on collective agreements and contracts with industry . M. Herder advised that when developing a policy, Dalhousie would need to take into consideration the diverse university population.

R. Singer thanked M. Herder for his presentation.

#### **FC14/15.58 Approval of the Minutes of previous Faculty Council meeting**

**It was moved by L. Spiteri, seconded by D. Groulx: to approve the minutes of March 24, 2015 as circulated. The motion carried.**

**Matters arising from the minutes** – there were no matters arising.

#### **FC 14/15.59 Reports**

##### **i) Dean (Marty Leonard)**

**a) FGS Review** – M. Leonard reported that all FGS members have been sent a link to access the FGS review reports. M. Leonard is in the process of drafting a response to the 51 recommendations therein, and plans to distribute this response to Faculty Council members for discussion at the June 23 Faculty Council meeting. Of particular interest to Faculty Council members will be the recommendation that each graduate unit have their Graduate Coordinator (or a representative) sit on Faculty Council, as a means to increase communication between FGS and departments. M. Leonard invited members to send her their comments.

##### **ii) Associate Dean (Dieter Pelzer)**

**a) NSGS** – D. Pelzer advised members that the first report to the NS Government regarding these provincial scholarships, which are henceforth to be termed the NSGS rather than the NSIGS, has been submitted. D. Pelzer noted that an unexpected shortfall in funding for these awards was covered through University resources.

##### **iii) Associate Dean (Eileen Denovan-Wright)**

**a) Final Thesis Submission deadline** – E. Denovan-Wright advised that the thesis team is working through submissions for the April 30 deadline. FGS has taken steps to streamline the submission of various thesis forms, and the new process seems to be working well.

**b) PDF Event** – E. Denovan-Wright advised that, as part of an event for postdoctoral fellows held at the end of March, ten Faculty members (Dean and Chair level) demonstrated how a PDF CV would be reviewed as part of an application for employment. Unfortunately, more faculty showed up for the event than PDFs. FGS and DPS are looking for ways to reach out to PDFs to get them more involved in future events.

##### **iv) PDF Report (Josh Armstrong)**

J. Armstrong advised that E. Denovan-Wright covered the relevant items.

##### **v) DAGS (Mahbubar Rahman)**

**a) DAGS Executive** – M. Rahman advised that the new DAGS executive would be starting on May 1 and that this would be his last Faculty Council meeting. R. Singer thanked him on behalf of Faculty Council for his service.

b) **Grad House** – M. Rahman advised that renovations to the Grad House would be starting soon.

**FC14/15.60 Other Business**

**i) Approval of FGS Prize Panel**

R. Singer advised that Jan Haelssig (Process Engineering and Applied Science), Kevin Hewitt (Physics and Atmospheric Science), and Michael Fournier (Classics) have agreed to serve on the FGS Prize Panel to review the nominations for the FGS Distinguished Service Awards and the Governor General's Gold Medal Awards. Hany El Naggar (Civil Engineering), Kevin Hewitt (Physics and Atmospheric Science), and Michael Fournier (Classics) have agreed to serve on the FGS Prize Panel to review the nominations for the Dalhousie Doctoral Thesis Award.

**It was moved by A. Fenety, seconded by D. Groulx: to approve the members of the FGS Prize Panel. The motion carried.**

**ii) First Round Allocation / Graduate Funding (L. Fitting)**

R. Singer invited L. Fitting to provide an outline of her concerns regarding the first-round allocation calculations.

L. Fitting advised that the revision made to the first-round allocation formula last year is hurting smaller departments. In previous years, departments carried forward 80% of the previous year's funding; however last year the formula was revised to decrease the amount carried forward to 50%. As a result, even though Sociology and Social Anthropology (SOSA) is one of the larger graduate programs in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), they have seen their funding from FGS cut in half over the last five years, thus limiting their ability to recruit new students.

A reduction in FGS funding may be offset by the NSGS funding for some units, but most FASS units cannot be able to take advantage of the NSGS because their research areas do not meet NSGS requirements.

A discussion followed in which members from other small graduate programs agreed that they were facing the same situation. It appears that programs in a steady state, or with increasing points for newly admitted students, are staying relatively consistent with the funding they receive from FGS.

E. Denovan-Wright reminded members that the intent of the revised calculation was actually to prevent the large stable or growing departments from taking all the funding.

R. Singer advised that due to time constraints the discussion would be concluded, and the matter would be left with the Dean for further consideration.

**iii) Full Faculty Meeting**

R. Singer reminded members that the FGS full Faculty Meeting is scheduled to take place on May 7 at 2 pm in room 1011 of the Rowe Building.

**FC14/15.61 Next meeting - Tuesday, June 23, 2015, The Lord Dalhousie Room, Henry Hicks Building.**

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

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R. Singer, Chair

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S. Theriault, Recording Secretary