

**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, January 22, 2019, in the Lord Dalhousie Room, Henry Hicks Building.

**Present:** Y. Anini, S. Boe, V. Chappe, E. Denovan-Wright, A. Donaldson, H. El Naggar, K. Fierlbeck, D. Groulx (acting chair), L. Guibault, N. Hamdan, P. Kienesberger (remote), A. Kirk (secretary), L. Kreplak, M. Ladouceur, M. Leonard, K. Lowe, H. MacFadyen, E. Madadian, B. Majekolagbe, H. Niu, L. Robinson, J. Sheng, K. Sherren

**Regrets:** T. Currie, F. Grosse, M. McAllister, S. Parcell, E. Wunker

**FC 18.19.30 Call to Order and Approval of Agenda**

**It was moved by A. Donaldson, seconded by H. El Naggar: that Faculty Council approve the agenda for January 22, 2019 with modifications to allow the vote for Faculty Council chair to take place prior to Reports. The motion carried.**

**FC 18.19.31 Approval of the Minutes of previous Faculty Council meeting**

**It was moved by V. Chappe, seconded by M. Ladouceur: that Faculty Council approve the minutes from November 27, 2018 as submitted. The motion carried.**

**FC 18.19.32 Matters Arising**

None.

**FC 18.19.33 Reports**

**Dean (M. Leonard)**

Registration is now open for this year's Three-Minute Thesis competition, please spread the word and encourage students in your departments to participate.

**Associate Dean (A. Donaldson)**

Major modifications to the MSc in Social Work and the MJ have both now been approved by SAPRC and will be assessed by MPHEC.

A request for name change from the Anatomy and Neurobiology Program, to change to Medical Neuroscience, will come to the next SAPRC meeting.

We are nearly through the first round of applications submitted through the new harmonized scholarship process.

**Associate Dean (E. Denovan-Wright)**

E. Denovan-Wright recently attended the annual meeting of Academic Integrity Officers. A reminder that if grad students have questions about plagiarism, you have obligation to follow AI regulations. If there are questions about courses, they should be directed to the line faculty. If it's FGS related (such as thesis, comps, prelims), those are directed to the FGS AIO.

### **PDF Report (E. Madadian)**

The annual general meeting is taking place on Monday January 28, 2019. Please encourage PDF's in your faculties to attend. Fabian Grosse, the current President, is leaving Dalhousie later in the spring so we will be electing a new president.

At least two new PDF's showed up recently to the society, which is encouraging.

We are in the early planning stages for this year's PDF Research Day which will take place in the fall.

### **DAGS (K. Lowe)**

Winter orientation events are ongoing.

### **FC 18.19.34 Election for Faculty Council chair**

Ballots were circulated to council and a secret vote was held. The nominees were Dr. Martine Durier-Copp (Management), Dr. Dominic Groulx (Mechanical Engineering), and Dr. Sophia Stone (Biology) The result was the election of Dr. Sophia Stone (Biology) as the Chair of Faculty Council to serve from February 2019-June 30, 2020.

### **FC 18.19.35 Proposed Modifications to Certificates and Diplomas Framework**

S. Le-May Sheffield presented an update on the review of the Dalhousie Certificates and Diplomas Framework, which was approved by Senate in 2015 and applies to both graduate and undergraduate certificates. The review concluded in 2018 and a number of recommended modifications are pending approval by Senate. Significant modifications for graduate certificates include:

- Change in approval process for graduate-level certificates, which would delegate approval from Senate to Faculty of Graduate Studies
- Graduate certificates merged into overarching category for clarity (did away with Type A, B, C).

One member commented they were pleased to see certificates being recognized and promoted as a coherent body of knowledge. There were no other concerns raised by the group.

### **FC 18.19.36 Faculty of Architecture Grad program review (R. Singer)**

R. Singer, the graduate representative on the Faculty review committee, summarized the recommendations related to the graduate programs. Recommendations 3-6 were the most notable, particularly related to activities arising from the accreditation visit, and the concerns around the MArch program and real or perceived bias in expectations and performance. Like many, they are a unit that is stressed for resources, such as technicians who are integral to project timelines and their availability.

Where no representatives from the Faculty were present for this meeting, there will be no motion made today. D. Groulx will follow-up to invite Dean Macy to the next meeting to answer questions and provide updates on the status of the review.

### **FC 18.19.37 Presentation: Mitacs programming**

Marie Hogan provided an overview of Mitacs programming available to Dalhousie grad students and postdoctoral fellows.

Mitacs Globalink is the umbrella for international programs, including the research awards as well as internships. Mitacs Accelerate continues to be the biggest part of the Mitacs portfolio, serving as a bridge between industry and academia. The Entrepreneur program is actually very popular at Dalhousie, used more here than anywhere else in Canada.

There were some questions around the vetting process, costs to the professor hosts around international visas. M. Leonard noted this is an issue on the table with Universities Canada to ensure these trainees are not treated as temporary foreign workers.

Ms. Hogan noted the ways she is available to help faculty navigate these processes, including meeting one on one or with departments in order to identify opportunities. If there are any industry partners that you would like Mitacs to create connections with, those can be sent to her any time.

**FC 18.19.38 Updated Language for CAGS/UMI Distinguished Dissertation Award call**

The language in the call has been modified slightly to ensure the letter of support is more descriptive about thesis and its contributions. We've also modified language in hopes of making the abstract more accessible. It need not be the abstract from the final thesis, but can and should be modified to be written in non-technical language. This should position us to be more competitive at a national level.

Upon a request from L. Robinson, we will add language to clarify that the IDPhD program director is responsible for sending the nominee from among the students in their program.

**FC 18.19.39 Other Business**

Please review for next meeting: *FGS Requirements for Graduate Academic Program Reviews* document which was included in this month's meeting materials.

**FC 18.19.40 Next meeting – Tuesday February 26, 2019 in the Lord Dalhousie Room, Henry Hicks.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:58pm