

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

These minutes have been approved.

A regular meeting of the Faculty of Graduate Studies was held on Thursday, May 12, 2005 at 3:00 pm in Room 217, Henry Hicks Academic Administration Building.

Present: F. Black, M. Cross, W. Currie, S. Doble, W. Fletcher (FGS), I. Folkins, M. Furrow, S. Guppy, R. Klein, J. Kwak (Dean), B. McLennen (FGS), P. Manuel, S. Marche, R. McDevitt, D. Pelzer, J. Rutherford, M. Satish, M. Scott (Secretary), K. Semba, M. Shepherd, R. Singer, R. Tiessen, P. Tyedmers, C. Watters (Associate Dean), J. Wilson.

F04/05.01 Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

The Dean called the meeting to order and the agenda was approved.

F04/05.02 Minutes of May 11, 2004

There were no corrections. S. Marche moved, seconded by P. Tyedmers, **that the minutes of May 11, 2004 be approved. Carried.** There were no matters arising.

F04/05.03 Approval of Candidates for Degrees

The Dean invited B. McLennan, Admissions and Convocation Officer in FGS to comment on the web-based system now used to confirm the details of the convocants prior to publication of the list. Ms. MacLennan thanked departments for their prompt response and their cooperation. She asked faculty in attendance to check the list for the names of graduates in their respective departments. Changes to the list can still be made prior to submission to Senate on May 19.

The Dean noted the increase in numbers for this May convocation, 567 graduates (this is one more than on the list circulated as there was a late addition today) up from 485 last May. He also noted there had been a change in policy: the deadline for the submission of theses for October convocation with no summer term fees applied had been moved from early April to April 30th.

R. Klein moved, seconded by W. Currie, **that the list of candidates for receipt of degrees be approved as distributed.**
Carried.

M. Satish moved, seconded by D. Pelzer,
that the Dean of FGS, in consultation with the Registrar's Office and Senate, be given authority to make additions or corrections as appropriate to the list of candidates prior to submittal to Senate.
Carried.

F04/05.04 Gold Medal Awards and Doctoral Thesis Awards

The Dean announced that the FGS Prize Panel this year was comprised of J. Crowley (History), J. Kreuzer (Physics), G. Turnbull (Physiotherapy), and M. Furrow (English).

The Dean announced that two Governor General's Gold Medal Awards "for the most outstanding Master's candidate in thesis or non-thesis programs" had been selected by the Prize Panel. This year the request for nominations was sent out to departments on March 4th for students graduating in October 2004 or May 2005. FGS received 10 nominations, four in the Natural Sciences and Engineering and six in the Humanities and Social Sciences. The quality of the files submitted was outstanding, making the job of selecting of the winners by the Prize Panel an extremely difficult but rewarding process.

M. Furrow, on behalf of the Prize Panel recommended the winner of the Governor General's Gold Medal Award in the Humanities and Social Sciences be Adam Fritz (School of Planning, May 2005 convocation) and the winner in the Natural Sciences and Engineering be Felix Hanke (Department of Physics, October 2004 convocation). M. Furrow moved, seconded by J. Rutherford
that the recommendation of the FGS Prize Panel to award the Governor General's Gold Medals to Adam Fritz and Felix Hanke be approved. Carried.

The Dean announced that this was the second year that the Dalhousie University Doctoral Thesis Award competition had been held. This award recognizes the best doctoral dissertation submitted by students convocating in the October and May ceremonies. There are two awards given one in the Natural and Medical Sciences and Engineering, and the second in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Frequently the nominations for this award go forward for external competitions. The nomination call was sent out on April 18th for students graduating in October 2004 and May 2005. The main criterion considered in the external examiners report. Once again the nominations received were for outstanding doctoral theses.

M. Furrow, on behalf of the Prize Panel recommended the winner of the Doctoral Thesis Award in the Natural and Medical Sciences, and Engineering be Yannick Huot (Oceanography) for his thesis: "Sun-induced Fluorescence of Phytoplankton in the Ocean: Linking Physiology and Remote Sensing" and the winner in the Humanities and Social Sciences be Rosemary Anitra Laycock (Classics) for her thesis: "The Essential Polis: Bridging the Tragic Divide."

M. Furrow moved, seconded by D. Pelzer,
that the recommendations of the Prize Panel to award the Dalhousie Doctoral Thesis Awards to Dr. Rosemary Anitra Laycock and Mr. Yannick Huot be approved.
Carried.

F04/05.05 Faculty of Graduate Studies Distinguished Service Award

The Dean introduced this award by noting that it had been established in recognition of individuals who, in one capacity or another, have provided distinguished and long-standing service to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. This award may go to faculty or staff as it is not related to academic contributions, but record of service to students, graduate programmes, and the Faculty. The award consists of a framed certificate, a photo (to be mounted in FGS) and a cash award of \$500.00.

This year the Prize Panel awarded the FGS Distinguished Service Award to Ms. Roisin McDevitt of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, for her “outstanding service to graduate students and to the graduate programme in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.”

The Dean presented Ms. McDevitt with the framed certificate and indicated that she would receive the monetary portion of the award shortly. In addition, her picture will be added to the photo gallery of previous award winners outside the FGS office.

F04/05.06 Dean’s Report

The Dean presented his annual report, as contained in the Appendix to these minutes and on the FGS website. The Dean reviewed enrolment details, graduate student funding, FGS scholarship allocations and a summary of degrees awarded.

F04/05.07 Associate Dean’s Scholarship Committee Reports and Reports of Standing Committees of the Faculty

The reports of FGS standing committees were included in the annual report for faculty members’ information. This material is contained on the FGS website. The Associate Dean, Dr. Watters reported on the results of the various scholarship competitions. She noted that for the departmental allocation process, FGS had tried to remove much of the departmental paperwork. This appeared to work quite well. She also noted that a committee had been struck to review the scholarship allocation policy. Dr. Watters closed by reporting that the Interdisciplinary PhD programme had now grown to 53 students.

The Dean reported on the student travel and research grants, Killam lectures and academic appeals. Discussion followed on the impact of the early closing date for the Killam Scholarships.

F04/05.08 Nominations and Elections for Faculty Council and Standing Committees

The Dean asked Dr. Watters to present, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, the list of nominees for the Faculty Council and standing committees of FGS, as contained in the Appendix to these minutes. Vacancies still exist on Faculty Council, Killam Postdoctoral Fellowship Committee, Academic Appeals Committee and Killam Lecture Committee. Nominations for these committee positions should be forwarded to J. Kwak, M. Scott or C. Watters.

C. Watters asked that the nominations be approved. R. Klein moved, seconded by J. Rutherford, **that the list of nominees for the Faculty Council and standing committees of FGS be elected by acclamation.**
Carried.

F04/05.09 Other Business

The Dean thanked all outgoing members of Faculty Council and the standing committees of FGS for their service, and expressed his gratitude to members of review committees, graduate coordinators and departmental staff. He also thanked the FGS office staff for their hard work in an increasingly complex and demanding graduate studies environment. He thanked M. Scott for her service as Secretary to Faculty Council and W. Fletcher for her service as Secretary to APCC.

In closing the Dean thanked all present for attending this meeting and for their interest in, and contribution to the faculty, our graduate programs, and our students.

D. Pelzer moved, S. Marche seconded, **that the meeting be adjourned.**
Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:23.

J. Kwak, Dean

M. Scott, Recording Secretary