

**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 9, 2012, at 2:30 pm, in Room 1009, Kenneth C Rowe Building

Present: Dr. B. Boudreau (Dean, Chair), Dr. D. Pelzer (Associate Dean), M. Scott (secretary), K. Humes (secretary), H. Nowlan, D. Pottie, A. Kirk, D. Rhodenizer, M. Fish, 21 faculty members, graduate administrators and students.

F11/12.1 Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Dr. Boudreau called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, and called for approval of the agenda. The agenda was approved.

F11/12.2 Minutes of May 12, 2011

Corrections to the minutes were noted.

It was **moved by F. Black, seconded by K. Thompson; that the minutes from the May 12, 2011 Full Faculty meeting be approved with corrections. The motion carried.**

F11/12.3 Approval of the Candidates for Degrees

The Dean presented the list of convocants prior to its publication. He 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. Dr. Boudreau noted that there are 5 graduates to date from the new Master of Journalism program, and 1 posthumous degree will be given out (Susan Jurczak, Health Professions).

It was **moved by H. Castleden, seconded by R. Klein; that the list of candidates for receipt of degrees be approved as distributed. The motion carried.**

It was **moved by H. Castleden seconded by K. Dilcher; 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. The motion carried.**

F11/12.4 Awards

4.1 Governor General's Gold Medal Awards

Dr. Boudreau announced that this award was established "for the most outstanding master's candidate" in thesis or non-thesis master's programs. Award nominations were requested in March, for students

convocating in October 2011 or May 2012. FGS received five nominations, one in Natural Sciences and Engineering, four in Humanities and Social Sciences. Dr. Boudreau mentioned the outstanding quality of the files submitted, demonstrating the value of our master's programs.

This year's Prize Panel consisted of Melvin Cross (Economics), Martin Gibling (Earth Sciences) and Eli Diamond (Classics).

Dr. Boudreau recommended on behalf of the Prize Panel that the 2012 Governor General's Gold Medal Award in the Humanities and Social Sciences be awarded to Emma Feltes (Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology) and the Medal in Natural Sciences and Engineering be awarded to Mark MacDonald (Department of Chemistry).

It was moved by J. Newhook, seconded by K. Toughill; that the recommendations of the FGS Prize Panel to award the Governor General's Gold Medals to Emma Feltes (SOSA) and Mark MacDonald (Chemistry) be approved. The motion carried.

4.2 Dalhousie University Doctoral Thesis Awards.

Dr. Boudreau announced that this award recognizes the best doctoral dissertation submitted by a student convocating in the October and May ceremonies. Awards are given in two categories: Humanities and Social Sciences, and Natural and Medical Sciences and Engineering. Nominations were requested in March, for students convocating in October 2011 or May 2012.

This year's Prize Panel consisted of Eli Diamond (Classics), and Bernard Boudreau (FGS).

Dr. Boudreau recommended on behalf of the Prize Panel the Doctoral Thesis Award in the Humanities and Social Sciences be awarded to Sharon Batt (Interdisciplinary Studies) for her Doctoral thesis entitled "From Grass Roots to Pharma Partnerships: Breast Cancer Advocacy in Canada", and the Doctoral Thesis Award in the Natural and Medical Sciences and Engineering category be awarded to Aaron von Donkelaar (Physics & Atmospheric Science) for his thesis entitled "Aerosol Observations from Space, Aircraft and Surface Analyzed with a Global Model".

Dr. Boudreau presented the award to Dr. von Donkelaar, and accepted the award on behalf of Dr. Batt, who was unable to attend the meeting.

4.3 2012 FGS Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Boudreau explained that this award was established in recognition of individuals who have provided "distinguished and long-standing service to the Faculty of Graduate Studies". The award consists of a certificate and a photo to be mounted outside the FGS office.

Dr. Boudreau recommended on behalf of the Prize Panel that the 2012 FGS Distinguished Service Award for Support Staff be awarded to Mary Beth MacIsaac of the Department of English. Dr. Boudreau presented the award to Ms. MacIsaac. There were no nominations for the award to a faculty member.

F11/12.5 Dean's Report

Dr. Boudreau presented his annual report (which can be found on the FGS website). The subjects he reviewed were graduate enrolments, student funding, department reorganization, the department strategic plan, and current/upcoming initiatives. The highlights of his report included: the large increase in international student applications (the majority of students coming from East/South Central Asia and the Middle East); the merger with the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (effective September 2012); a new partnership between CALDO and Brazilian Universities to send thousands of Brazilian students to Canada to study; new scholarship money received courtesy of CIBC and the Glen McCormick estate; the MITACS Step professional development program for PDF's; and the appointment of a new Director for the IDPhD program. Dr. Boudreau ended by thanking faculty for their participation as members of Faculty Council, the Academic Planning and Curriculum Committee, and Graduate Coordinators.

F11/12.6 Associate Dean's Report – Scholarships and Programs (D. Pelzer)

Dr. Pelzer presented his annual report, which included updates regarding graduate scholarships, awards, and curriculum/program changes. The highlights of his report included: the reduction in the number of applications for many awards (NSERC, SSHRC, CIHR, Sumner Fellowships, Eliza Ritchie scholarship, A.S. Mowat Prize); the implementation of new MPHEC guidelines that will put greater accountability on departments; the eligibility of PDFs for benefits beginning in June (Dieter thanked the outgoing PDF representative on APCC, Adrian West); the awarding of three Killam Postdoctoral fellowships; the FGS organization of 98 PhD defences this year; and the current enrolment of the IDPhD program at 80 students.

There was brief discussion on the calculation of GPAs for applicants from Chinese Universities, and students from other international applicants.

F11/12.7 Nominations and Elections for Faculty Council and Standing Committees

Dr. Boudreau presented on behalf of the Nominating Committee, the list of nominees for the Faculty Council, as contained in the Appendix to these minutes. There were 3 nominations for 5 vacancies: Karen Beazley (Resource and Environmental Studies), Rohan Maitzen (English), and Norman Schepp (Chemistry). No nominations were received from the floor.

Motion: *“That the list of nominees for FC and standing committees of FGS be approved”*

Moved: K. Johnson
Seconded: K. Semba

Motion: *“That FGS Faculty Council be given authority to approve and ratify members of committees where nominations for vacancies are received after the FGS Annual meeting”.*

Moved: H. Castleden
Seconded: F. Black

F11/12.8 Other Business

Dr. Boudreau thanked all outgoing members of Faculty Council (Bill Baldrige, and Peter Tyedmers) and to Rohan Maitzen, and Norman Schepp for agreeing to step up for another term. He expressed his gratitude to members of review committees, graduate coordinators and departmental staff. He also thanked FGS office staff for their hard work in an increasingly complex and expanding role including web sites, recruitment and special projects such as the GSIS Phase III. Finally, Dr. Boudreau thanked all those present for attending and for their interest in, and contribution to the faculty, our graduate programs, and our students.

The meeting adjourned at 4:22.

B. Boudreau, Dean

M. Scott, Recording Secretary