

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND
Academic Council of the School of Graduate Studies
Minutes, WebEx Meeting of September 20, 2021

PRESENT: A. Warren (Chair), M. Burchell, A. Kim, A. Variyath, A. Dorward, B. Mishkat, C. Walsh, D. Moralejo, D. Button, E. Pittman, H. Liu, J. Evermann, S. Fayezi, J. Rdway, N. Barykina, V. Kavanagh, D. Peretti, D. Hardy-Cox, J. Shea, A. Lang, P Coady, R. Joy

APOLOGIES: P-O. Bouchard, R. Gosine

GUESTS: J.C. Loredano-Osti

1. MINUTES

It was moved by A. Dorward, and seconded by J. Evermann, that the minutes of the meeting held May 17 and June 7, 2021 be approved as circulated. The motion

CARRIED

2. BUSINESS ARISING

3. CORRESPONDENCE

4. DEAN'S REPORT/REPORT OF SENATE

- a. All items of business were approved at the regular meeting of Senate held September 14, 2021.
- b. There was a motion made at Senate to use 'in contrast' of the Respectful workplace Policy, rather than 'inappropriate', in response to posters that were displayed around campus and the message that the President and Provost were receiving.
- c. Thursday, September 30, is declared as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – an opportunity to reflect on the historic and current injustices faced by Indigenous Peoples. With the lateness in announcing this day of reflection, instructors are asked to make up the time that is lost on the 30th.
- d. Honorary Degrees were announced at Senate, but not yet released.

5. REPORT OF THE GRADUATE STUDENTS' UNION

- a. GSU held various workshops and programs during September: information sessions on how to adapt in NL; Together Again barbecue; various visits such as bell Island Tour, La Manche Hike; City Tour; and Graduate Life Series. More information is available at the GSU website <https://gsumun.ca/events/>.
- b. The Aldrich conference was a success, which was held online, with the help of SGS and others.
- c. The GSU is currently working on the re-opening of Bitters. Renovations have not

yet started, and the GSU created an ad hoc committee of graduate students who previously worked at Bitters to discuss issues with the new General Manager.

- d. Other issues that the GSU are working on are: tuition fee hike and parking.
6. a) Academic Council Executive
- i. Academic Council Constitution

It was moved by E. Pittman, and seconded by A. Lang, that the proposed revisions to the Constitution governing the Academic Council, School of Graduate Studies, which adds representation from the Arctic & Sub-Arctic Studies (Labrador Institute), be approved. This motion was distributed after the May Council meeting, and is now being considered for approval at today's meeting.

The motion

CARRIED

Revision – Item 2.c:

Representatives to Council from faculties and schools:

3 representatives from each of the constituencies of Education, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Business Administration

2 representatives from each of the constituencies of Engineering & Applied Science, Medicine, Social Work

1 representative from each of the constituencies of Nursing, Fisheries & Marine Institute, Music, Human Kinetics and Recreation, Pharmacy, Science and Environment (Grenfell Campus), Arts and Social Science (Grenfell Campus), ~~and~~ Fine Arts (Grenfell Campus), School of Arctic & Sub-Arctic Studies (Labrador Institute)

- ii. INTE 7000

The ID PhD program is requesting approval of special topics course INTE 7000 – Critical Economics at the Community Scale, for offering this Fall, 2021 semester. This program is housed under the School of Graduate Studies and, therefore, requires Academic Council approval.

It was moved by E. Pittman, and seconded by M. Burchell, that the proposed special topics course be approved.

Post meeting note: This special topics course was sent to the Faculty of Business

Administration to get approval from their faculty council, as the instructor for this courses is from Business Administration. Once confirmation of this information is received, the ID PhD Director will be notified so that the course can be sent to the Registrar's Office.

iii. New Master of Accounting Program

It was moved by E Pittman, and seconded by J. Evermann, that the proposed new Master of Accounting Program, Faculty of Business Administration, be approved in principle to permit an external review.

The motion

CARRIED

iv. MED 6031 – Special timeframe

The Faculty of Medicine is requesting approval of special topics course Medicine 6031, which has been approved by the Faculty Council of Medicine, but requires Academic Council approval for the special timeframe that this course will be offered: January 6, 2022 – June 24, 2022.

It was moved by E. Pittman, and seconded by A. Dorward, that the proposed special timeframe for special topics course MED 6031 be approved.

The motion

CARRIED

v. SGS General Regulation 4.8.2

SGS is requesting approval of revisions to section 4.8.2 governing the PhD. and Psy.D. Comprehensive Examinations, which removes the requirement that the Dean or delegate be present as a non-voting attendee, but can be available on the request of the unit. A note is also included that makes reference that the student can make a request to the unit should they wish to have the Dean or delegate present.

It was moved by E. Pittman, and seconded by M. Burchell that the proposed revisions be approved.

It was noted that Medicine will require delegates at their comprehensive examinations. Dr. Warren indicated that such requests can be put in at the time the comprehensive examination is set up, and that students can also request a delegate, through their unit, if so preferred.

Calendar Revision

4.8.2 Ph.D. and Psy.D. Comprehensive Examination

1. The student shall submit to a comprehensive examination, which may be written or oral or both as determined by the academic unit. Students shall normally take the examination no later than the end of the seventh semester in the doctoral program. Unless an extension is approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies, failure to take the examination at this time will result in the termination of the student's program.
2. This examination, whether written or oral, shall be conducted by a Committee appointed by the Dean of Graduate Studies on the recommendation of the academic unit. It shall consist of the Head of the academic unit (or delegate) who shall be the Chairperson, the student's Supervisor [or, where a Supervisor has not yet been appointed, the Graduate Officer or Chair of the Graduate Studies (or equivalent) Committee], and at least three other members, the total number of voting members to be an odd number. ~~A non-voting attendee shall be the~~ The Dean of Graduate Studies or delegate, can be made available as a non-voting attendee upon the request of the head of the academic unit (or delegate)*.
3. In this examination, the student must demonstrate a mastery of those subjects appropriate to the student's area(s), as defined by the academic unit in which the candidate is a student. Therefore, in order to be eligible to sit the examination, all course requirements must normally be completed. The area(s) upon which the student will be examined should be made known to the student no later than three months prior to the examination. The student must further be able to relate the specialization of their research to the larger context of these areas.
4. In cases where there are multiple parts to a comprehensive exam, including written and oral parts, a student must satisfy all parts of the examination to obtain a pass. The requirements to advance to a later part of the examination are specified in the Degree and Departmental regulations or by the appropriate academic unit.
5. Members of the Comprehensive Examination Committee shall decide the results of the comprehensive examination as indicated in a.-d. below:
 - a. The category of 'pass' will be awarded to students who demonstrate an acceptable knowledge of their area(s) and requires a simple majority vote.
 - b. The category of 're-examination' selects those students with an understanding of their research area(s) that lacks sufficient depth and scope as indicated by a simple majority of the Comprehensive Examination Committee. Only one such re-examination is possible and students in this category are not eligible for the award of 'pass with distinction'. If a re-examination is to be held, it must be conducted not less than one month and not more than six months after the first examination. The decision of the voting members of the Committee following this re-examination can only be 'pass' or 'fail' decided by simple majority. Failure will lead to immediate termination of the student's program. There is no option for further re-examination.
 - c. Students awarded a 'fail' are deemed, by unanimous vote of the Comprehensive Examination Committee, to be unable to demonstrate an adequate

understanding of their research area(s). The student's program is terminated. A simple majority vote will default to the award of 're-examination'.

6. The Chairperson of the Comprehensive Examination Committee shall report to the Head of the academic unit who shall report to the Dean. The result of the comprehensive examination(s) shall be reported to the student by the Dean.

*A student can contact the head of their academic unit (or delegate) if they would like to request the Dean of Graduate Studies or delegate attend their comprehensive exam.

- vi. New Master of Data Science Program

It was moved by E. Pittman, and seconded by A. Variyath, that the proposed new Master of Data Science program, in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, be approved. The Review Committee Report, proponent's response, and the proposal were distributed for review.

The motion

CARRIED

Regulations Governing the Degree of Master of Accounting

www.mun.ca/sgs/contacts/sgscontacts.php

www.business.mun.ca

www.mun.ca/become/graduate/apply/app_deadlines.php

The Degree of Master of Accounting (MAcc) is offered by full-time study only. These regulations must be read in conjunction with the **General Regulations** of the School of Graduate Studies of Memorial University of Newfoundland.

1.1 Qualifications for Admission

1. Admission is limited and competitive. To be eligible for consideration for admission to the Master of Accounting program, an applicant shall:

- a. normally hold at least a Bachelor's Degree, with a minimum 'B' standing, or second class standing from an institution recognized by Senate;
- b. demonstrated coverage of the CPA Competency Map at the 'Entry' level, and a minimum grade of 65% in each of the prerequisite courses (courses that meet the Entry level requirements of the CPA Competency Map) with a minimum overall average of 70% in the prerequisite courses.

2. An applicant who did not complete a Bachelor's degree at a recognized university where English is the primary language of instruction must normally complete either the:

- a. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and achieve a paper-based score of 580 (or higher), computer-based score of 237 (or higher), or Internet based score of 92-93 (or higher); or

- b. International English Language Testing System (IELTS) and achieve a score of 7 (or higher).

Information regarding the TOEFL is available from the Educational Testing Service at www.ets.org. IELTS information is available at www.ielts.org.

1.2 Deadlines for Applications

Applications and all supporting documents must be received no later than February 1 from applicants wishing to enter full-time studies in the Spring semester.

1.3 Procedure for Admission

1. Applications for admission to the MAcc program must be made on the appropriate form to the School of Graduate Studies.
2. The following documents must be submitted in support of the official application form:
 - a. letters of appraisal from two referees, at least one of whom is capable of appraising the applicant's academic potential as a graduate student;
 - b. official transcript from each university or other post-secondary institution previously attended (other than Memorial University of Newfoundland), to be sent directly by its Registrar (or equivalent officer) to the School of Graduate Studies. If not recorded on the transcript, official evidence of completion of undergraduate degree must also be submitted;
 - c. the Faculty of Business Administration's Statement of Intent Form;
 - d. A copy of the applicant's resume; and
 - e. where applicable, an official TOEFL or IELTS score report to be forwarded directly by the educational testing service.
3. Admission shall be by the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies on the recommendation of the Faculty of Business Administration. Upon notification from the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies of acceptance into the MAcc program, an applicant must give written notice to the School of Graduate Studies of the intention to register. Such notice must be received by the Office of the Dean within 30 days of notification of acceptance, or three weeks prior to semester registration.

1.4 Program of Study

This program requires 30 credit-hours as specified below. Students admitted as full-time students must normally complete their degree requirements within four terms after the date of initial registration.

1.4.1 Spring/Summer Semester (15 credit-hours)

- Business 8601 Advanced Concepts I (3 credit hours)
- Business 8602 Advanced Concepts II (3 credit hours)
- Business 8604 Advanced Taxation (3 credit hours)
- Business 8605 Data Analytics for Professional Accountants (1.5 credit hours)
- Business 8603 Strategy for Professional Accountants (1.5 credit hours)
- Business 8606 Advanced Finance (3 credit hours)

1.4.2 Fall Semester (4.5 credit-hours)

- Business 8607 Professional Accounting Cases I (1.5 credit hours)
- Business 8608 Performance Management (3 credit hours)

1.4.3 Spring/Summer (10.5 credit-hours)

- Business 8609 Advanced Assurance (3 credit hours)
- Business 8610 Advanced Integration I (3 credit hours)
- Business 8611 Advanced Integration II (3 credit hours)
- Business 8612 Professional Accounting Cases II (1.5 credit hours)

1.5 Evaluation

1. Credit towards the MAcc Degree will be granted only for those courses which have been approved as constituting part of the student's program of study and in which the student has obtained a mark of 70% or higher.
2. A student is required to withdraw from the MAcc program if the student has obtained less than a 70% in any course or has received a grade of FAL (fail) in any course within the Academic year.

b) Nominating Committee Report

It was moved by P. Coady, and seconded by J. Rodway, that the proposed slate of names for the standing committees of Academic Council, School of Graduate Studies, for the academic year 2021-2022, be approved. The motion

CARRIED

Appeals Committee

Meghan Burchell (Acting Associate Dean, School of Graduate Studies)
Peggy Coady (Business Administration)
Duane Button (Human Kinetics & Recreation)
Charlene Walsh (Marine Institute)
Rhonda Joy (Education)
Graduate Student Representative – Suzi Blosser – GSU Executive Director Finance

Academic Council Executive

Amy Warren (Chair and Interim AVP(A) and Dean, School of Graduate Studies)
Meghan Burchell (Acting Associate Dean, School of Graduate Studies)
Bing Chen (Engineering)
Andrew Lang (Biology)
Echo Pittman (Registrar's Office)
Peggy Coady (Business Administration)
Graduate Student Representative – Ali Ghamartale – GSU Executive Director Academic

Secretary to Academic Council

Echo Pittman

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9. NOTICE OF MOTION

10. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

A. Warren, Chair

Echo Pittman, Secretary