

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND
Academic Council of the School of Graduate Studies
Minutes, September 17, 2018

PRESENT: Dr. A. Surprenant (Chair), Dr. D. Farquharson, Dr. e. Haven, Dr. R. Shannahan, Dr. R. Joy, Dr. L. Lye, Dr. S. Imtiaz, Dr. J. Doré, Dr. D. Moralejo, Dr. H. Liu, Dr. J.C. LoredO-Osti, Dr. S. McConnell, A. Alkasasbeh, L. Ziamajidi, M. Auf, V. Campbell, V. Kavanagh, Dr. S. Decker, Professor C. Forbes, Professor J. Turner, Dr. S. Cadigan, Dr. E. Pittman, R. Umali, Dr. M. Liboiron

APOLOGIES: Dr. R. Klein, Dr. P. Coady, Dr. V. Maddalena, S. Jamil

Members were provided with the nearest exit door for the meeting room, should the fire alarm go off during the meeting.

1. MINUTES:

It was moved by Dr. Lye and seconded by Dr. LoredO-Osti, that the minutes of the meetings held May 22; July 19 (via email); and August 10 (via email), 2018, be approved. The Motion

CARRIED

2. BUSINESS ARISING

3. CORRESPONDENCE

4. DEAN'S REPORT/REPORT OF SENATE

- a) At its meeting of September 11th, Senate approved the revision to the Economics program and the Master of Occupational Health and Safety program.
- b) Post-secondary review by the Government will be conducted, with MUN playing a key role in its review. Information is provided on the President's web page, although sparse, and Terms of Reference are not yet approved. The information from the previous review (2004-05 white Paper on Post-Secondary Education) is available on this same page.
- c) The 3MT Competition is October 29th. All students are welcome to participate, and SGS will consult with Grenfell for those students wishing to participate.
- d) SGS has a revamped website with new information and EDGE offerings (approximately 100 opportunities over the next year).
- e) The University President received a letter from the MUNFA President in July regarding recently revised procedures for instructors who are teaching students requiring academic accommodations delivered through the Blundon Centre. Senate Executive reviewed this letter and it was sent to SGS in September. Dr. Farquharson met with Dr. Shannon Sullivan and agreed that both SGS and SCUGS would consult separately, and then, jointly. Before the next Council meeting Dr. Farquharson will provide documents asking for thoughts/feedback, and at the same time members of Council may also be asked to comment from SCUGS. You can choose to respond to your own Faculty Council, or contribute to SGS's comments.

- f) There is nothing new to report regarding the budget.

5. REPORT OF THE GRADUATE STUDENTS' UNION

- a. Ms. Umali, Executive Director of External Affairs, GSU, reported that the GSU Gradfest is very busy with the new semester. They have several sessions available – adapting to NL session; Indigenous session; academic workshops planned throughout the year, and there is a multicultural night September 21st, 6-9.
- b. The GSU is welcoming any suggestions for conference topics for the Aldrich Conference Winter 2019.

6. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Academic Council Executive
 - i) Business Administration

It was moved by Dr. Lye, and seconded by Dr. Shannahan that the proposed revision to section 34.23.3.5., item 1 to change the word ‘must’ to now read ‘will normally’, be approved. This change will bring in line the wording that exists with many other sections of the Ph.D. (Management) regulations where timelines are prefaced with “will normally.”

Friendly amendments: revise the wording slightly to ensure the word ‘normally’ applies to the timeline for students submitting thesis proposals, and change the word ‘candidate’ to read ‘student’ which is in keeping with SGS’s process of cleaning up calendar language.

On the call for question, the motion

CARRIED

The calendar entry follows:

34.24.3.5 Ph.D. Thesis Regulations

1. The ~~candidate student~~ student ~~must~~ will submit a thesis proposal to all members of the Supervisory Committee for evaluation and approval normally by the end of the eighth semester of the program. Within one month of submitting the proposal, the ~~Candidate student~~ student will give a public oral presentation of the proposal, attended by the Committee. The presentation will provide the Committee and others in attendance with an opportunity to raise questions about the proposal research. Immediately following the presentation, the Supervisory Committee will meet to assess the proposal. Assessment will result in one of the following three outcomes: (1) accept; (2) accept with changes; or (3) reject. The results of this assessment will be provided to the student following the meeting. Assessments of accept with changes or reject will be accompanied by written comments within one week of the proposal presentation.

2. If the proposal is rejected, the candidate student will be permitted a second proposal. This proposal must be submitted and deemed acceptable by the Supervisory Committee within four months of the original proposal presentation. Failure to resubmit within this time period will lead to termination of the candidate student's program.
3. The Ph.D. thesis will constitute an independent and original research contribution.
4. The Ph.D. thesis will be evaluated according to the process established in General Regulation **Theses and Reports, Evaluation of Ph.D. Theses** governing the School of Graduate Studies.

ii) Mathematics & Statistics

It was moved by Dr. Lye, and seconded by Dr. Loredano-Osti, that the following proposed revisions be approved:

- restructure the Master of Applied Statistics program to permit completion in one year by full-time students, with the option to choose Payment Plan C ;
- approval of five new courses (one being regularized from the block of special topics numbers);
- the renaming of courses and revision of course offerings,

Revisions are required to sections 7 (Master of Applied Statistics); 25.18 (Master of Science) and 34.26 (Doctor of Philosophy).

On the call for question, the motion

CARRIED

The calendar entry follows:

7 Regulations Governing the Degree of Master of Applied Statistics

Qualifications for Admission

1. Admission is limited and competitive. To be considered for admission to the Master of Applied Statistics program, an applicant shall normally hold at least a high second class Honours Degree or its equivalent, ~~both in achievement and depth of study, in statistics or cognate discipline~~ from an institution recognized by the Senate.
2. In addition, an applicant shall normally have completed undergraduate courses in statistics which cover the material of Statistics 3411, 3520, 3521, 3585, 4530, 3530, 4410, 4520, 4560, 4561, 4590, 4591. If necessary, an applicant may be required to demonstrate a satisfactory knowledge of the above courses in an examination administered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.
3. ~~Applicants who do not meet these requirements should consult the Department of Mathematics and Statistics about a program of further undergraduate courses. Such a program is intended to provide the candidate with an adequate statistical background. Such courses may not be used to fulfill the program course requirements of the Master of Applied Statistics Degree.~~

~~3.4—Admission to the program shall be upon acceptance by the Dean of Graduate Studies after recommendation by the Head of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics along with a proposed program of study and a proposed Supervisor.~~

Program of Study

The minimum requirements for the Degree of Master of Applied Statistics are completion of the following:

- ~~1. The three credit hours graduate courses STAT 6510 and STAT 6560 plus one from STAT 6530, STAT 6571 or STAT 6573—STAT 6509, STAT 6519 and STAT 6545, plus three additional 3 credit hour courses from the list of elective courses.~~
 - ~~2. Nine additional credit hours selected from STAT 6500–6589, STAT 6590, which consists of a minimum of 20 hours of training in statistical consultancy to be arranged through the department’s statistics consulting centre.~~
 - ~~3. The series STAT 697A/B or the completion of an additional 3 credit hour graduate course from STAT 6500–6589.~~
- ~~3.4—STAT 6591–698A/B and an a final applied statistics project with its associated report. The report must demonstrate a satisfactory general mastery of applied statistical knowledge.~~

Evaluation

- ~~1. In order to continue in graduate studies and in order to qualify for a Masters Degree, a candidate shall obtain an A or B for all regular program courses. In order to qualify for a graduation the student shall pass STAT 697A/B and STAT 6591—STAT 6590 and STAT 698A/B, and complete successfully the practicum—final project requirement.~~
- ~~2. STAT 6591–698A/B will be evaluated by the student’s consulting project advisor. progress after each semester will be evaluated by the student’s supervisor while the final applied statistics project report will be evaluated by a faculty member other than the supervisor appointed by the Department’s Head.~~
- ~~3. Evaluation of the practicum shall be carried out in accordance with Theses and Reports of the General Regulations governing all students in the School of Graduate Studies.~~

~~Note: Every candidate in graduate studies shall comply with the General Regulations, the Degree Regulations and any additional requirements of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.~~

7.4 Courses

A selection of the following graduate courses will be offered to meet the requirements of candidates, as far as the resources of the Department will allow.

Applied Statistics required courses

STAT 6509 Statistical

Inference STAT 6519

Regression Models STAT

6545 Computational

Statistics

STAT 6590 Statistical Consultancy (1 credit

hour) STAT 698A/B Applied Statistics Project

(2 credit hours)

Applied Statistics elective courses

~~6500 Probability (credit restricted with former
6586) 6503 Stochastic Processes
6505 Survival Analysis
6510 Mathematical
Statistics 6520 Linear
Models
6530 Longitudinal Data
Analysis 6540 Time Series
Analysis
6545 Statistical
Computing 6550
Nonparametric Statistics
6559 Statistical Exploration of
Data 6560 Continuous
Multivariate Analysis 6561
Categorical Data Analysis
6563 Sampling Theory
6564 Experimental Designs
6570-6589 Selected Topics in Statistics and Probability (excluding 6571, 6573,
6586) 6571 Financial and Environmental Time Series
6573 Statistical Genetics
6591 Practicum (1 credit hour)
697A/B Graduate Seminar Series in Statistics~~

II. CHANGES TO THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

Mathematics and Statistics

Specific Requirements for the M.Sc. in Mathematics

Every ~~candidate for student in~~ the M.Sc. in Mathematics is required to complete one of two options:

1. Option 1: MATH 696A/B, two courses from MATH 6160, 6310, 6332, 6351, and a minimum of 9 further credit hours in courses chosen from the departmental course offerings, excluding MATH 6299, and a thesis as per General Regulations, Theses and Reports.
2. Option 2: MATH 6299, 696A/B, three courses from MATH 6160, 6310, 6332, 6351, and a minimum of 9 further credit hours in courses chosen from the departmental course offerings.

Specific Requirements for the M.Sc. in Statistics

Every ~~candidate for student in~~ the M.Sc. in Statistics is required to complete a minimum of 18 credit hours in graduate courses including STAT 6510 and one of STAT 6500 or STAT 6560 plus at least 12 credit hours in graduate courses as well as the series STAT 697A/B or the completion of an additional 3 credit hour graduate course from the list below (courses Stat-6509 and Stat-6519 cannot be used to satisfy this requirement). A thesis is required as per General Regulations, Theses and Reports.

Students who already hold a Master of Applied Statistics are only required to complete STAT 6510 and one of STAT 6500 or STAT 6560 and a thesis as as per General Regulations, Theses and Reports.

Courses

[:]

Statistics

6500 Probability (*credit restricted with former*

6586) 6503 Stochastic Processes

6505 Survival Analysis

6510 Mathematical Statistics

6520 Linear Models

6530 Longitudinal Data

Analysis 6540 Time Series

Analysis

6545 Computational Statistics ~~Statistical Computing~~

6550 Nonparametric Statistics

6559 Statistical Exploration of

Data 6560 Continuous

Multivariate Analysis 6561

Categorical Data Analysis

6563 Sampling Theory

6564 Experimental Designs

6571 Financial and Environmental Time

Series 6573 Statistical Genetics

6570-6589 Selected Topics in Statistics and Probability (excluding 6571, 6573,

6586) 697A/B Graduate Seminar Series in Statistics (2 credit hours)

III. CHANGES TO THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

33 Regulations Governing the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

33.26 Mathematics and Statistics

0.1 33.26.4 Courses

Statistics

~~6500 Probability (credit restricted with former~~

~~6586) 6503 Stochastic Processes~~

6505 Survival Analysis

6520 Linear Models

6530 Longitudinal Data

Analysis 6540 Time Series

Analysis

6545 Computational Statistics ~~Statistical Computing~~

6550 Nonparametric Statistics

6559 Statistical Exploration of Data

6561 Categorical Data
Analysis 6563 Sampling
Theory
6564 Experimental Designs
6571 Financial and Environmental Time
Series 6573 Statistical Genetics
6570-6589 Selected Topics in Statistics and Probability (excluding 6571, 6573, 6586)

Notice that, although the courses 6160, 6310, 6332, 6351, 6500, 6510 and 6560 cannot be used to fulfill the 6 credit hours graduate courses requirement, any of them can be listed as part of the program of study as additional course work, whenever the supervisory committee deems it appropriate.

iii) Psychology

It was moved by Dr. Lye, and seconded by Dr. Loredano-Osti that the proposed revisions remove Psychology 6001 from the PsyD program course requirements, and to revise 7021 (typing error) to now read 7022, be approved. The revisions are required in section 35.3 of the University Calendar.

On the call for question, the motion

CARRIED

The calendar entry follows:

35.3 Program of Study

Students are required to successfully complete at least ~~72~~ 63 credit hours in regulation graduate courses. These include:

- a. ~~9~~ 6 credit hours in statistics and research design courses (6000, 6001, 6602);
- b. ~~36~~ 30 credit hours in core courses (6611, 6612, 6620, 6623, 6630, 6631, 6632, 6633, 6650, 6670);
and
- c. 27 credit hours in practicum courses (7010, 7020, ~~7024~~, 7022, 7030, 7031, 7032, 7033, 7034, 7035).

Students must also complete a year-long internship, pass a comprehensive exam and successfully complete a research thesis.

iv) Student Medical Certificate

There were minor revisions to the medical form and it was vetted through the Privacy Officer. The Registrar's Office is vetting the changes through SCUGS – and SGS will require changes to its section of the Calendar. If there are any concerns, feedback is requested by October 31st. Once SCUGS puts through the changes, the changes for SGS section will also go forward.

v) MUN-Indigenous Inventory

Catharyn Andersen, Special Advisor to the President on Aboriginal Affairs, is requesting that Councils complete an inventory of indigenous activities. SGS will

provide its own specific response, and members of Council are welcome to add to this response, or include a response under their own Constituency.

The deadline date for submission of the inventory is October 31st.

vi) SGS Diversity Statement

Requesting Academic Council endorsement of the SGS Diversity Statement, which will be placed on the website. Points noted:

- Gender Expression and Gender Identity should be included;
- This document can be revisited at any time;
- Indigeneity to be included;
- Incorporate the acknowledgement of lands, but check to see if new language forthcoming.

This document will be distributed to next Council meeting.

vii) Graduate Student Competencies

- General set of competencies that graduate students should be able to demonstrate;
- SGS to provide training in these areas;
- Students should understand that this is not the only place to develop these skills, that transferable skills can be developed in academic courses/programs;
- Form to give students for self-assessment; students monitor own progress, was discussed.

It was moved by Dr. Loredó-Osti, and seconded by Dr. Doré, that the Graduate Student Competencies document be endorsed. The motion

CARRIED

viii) Electronic Version as Official

SGS worked with the CIO office regarding electronic version of documents as official records. This was brought forward for information and endorsement.

It was moved by Dr. Loredó-Osti and seconded by Dr. Doré for endorsement that electronic versions of student records be considered official. The motion

CARRIED

ix) Nominating Committee Report

Moved by Dr. Cadigan and seconded by Dr. Lye that the members of the Standing Committees of Academic Council for the academic year 2018-2019 be approved.

The motion

CARRIED

Members follow:

Appeals Committee

Peggy Coady (Business Administration)
Anne-Marie Sullivan (Human Kinetics and Recreation)
Neil Kennedy (History)
Rhonda Joy (Education)
Mohamed Auf (Graduate Student Representative)

Academic Council Executive

Aimée Surprenant (Chair and Dean, SGS)
Danine Farquharson (Associate Dean, SGS)
Leonard Lye (Engineering)
J.C. Loredano-Osti (Mathematics & Statistics)
Echo Pittman (Registrar's Office)
Peggy Coady (Business Administration)
Ahmed Alkasasheh (Graduate Student Representative)

Secretary to Academic Council – Leonard Lye (Engineering)

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
8. NOTICE OF MOTION
9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned 4:40 p.m.

Aimée Surprenant, Chair

Leonard Lye, Secretary