



PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
Minutes of Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, December 18, 2014

**Time:** 9:30am-10:00am

**Room:** 203 Toldo

**Committee Members:** Dr. Ram Balachandar, Dr. Jonathan Bayley, Dr. Jamie Crawley, Ms. Gwen Ebbett, Dr. Zhiguo Hu, Mr. Mahbub Khoda, Ms. Maggie Liddle, Dr. Bob Orr, Dr. Vicky Paraschak, Dr. Jill Singleton-Jackson, Prof. Lionel Walsh (Chair).

**Absent:** Dr. Maureen Gowing, Dr. Chitra Rangan, Dr. Valerie Scatamburlo-D'Annibale, Dr. Patricia Weir, Dr. Alan Wright, Mr. Zheng Wu.

**Attendance:** Dr. Nurlan Turdaliev, Dr. Charles MacDonald; Ms. Renée Wintermute and Ms. Alison Zilli (University Secretariat)

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**Formal Business**

**1 Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION: That the agenda be approved.**

Dr. V. Paraschak/Dr. J. Bayley

Item 5.1 was unstarred.

It was proposed that the *Master of Applied Economics and Policy* program proposal be placed on the agenda for approval. In considering whether to waive notice of motion, members considered whether there were reasonable grounds for doing so, whether the matter required urgent approval to warrant such short notice and whether PDC could effectively exercise its due diligence. Members stressed that PDC is not and should not be viewed as a 'rubber stamp' approval body. Its role in the review process is critical and, in order to ensure due diligence and to fulfill the mandate assigned to it by Senate, members need time to carefully review all proposals. Many members did not have the chance to read the proposal, which was distributed less than 24 hours before the meeting. The general consensus of the committee was that members felt that they did not have sufficient time to review the proposal prior to the meeting.

**MOTION: To waive Notice of Motion and add the Master of Applied Economics and Policy to the agenda for approval.**

Dr. R. Balachandar/Ms. G. Ebbett

**DEFEATED**

**The main motion was CARRIED, as amended.**

**2 Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of November 27, 2014 be approved.**

Dr. J. Crawley/Dr. V. Paraschak

**CARRIED**

**3 Business arising from the minutes**

Nothing to report.

## Items for Approval

### **4 Outstanding business**

#### **4.1 General Science – Minor Program Changes**

*(See document PDC141218-4.1 for more details)*

**MOTION:** That the degree requirements for the BSc in General Science be changed according to the program/course change forms.\*

*\*Subject to the approval of expenditures required.*

Ms. G. Ebbett/Ms. M. Liddle

**CARRIED**

#### **4.2 Political Science (Graduate) – Minor Program Changes**

*(See document PDC141218-4.2 for more details)*

**MOTION:** That the degree regulations for the MA in Political Science be changed according to the program/course change forms.\*

*\*Subject to the approval of expenditures required.*

Dr. J. Bayley/Ms. M. Liddle

#### **AGREED:**

- Clarification be sought regarding whether the internship paper (which is graded on a pass/fail basis) is intended to be more research focused or reflective of the internship experience paper; and, whether reference to the “40 page” requirement is necessary.
- The following editorial correction be made: “Any student securing an ~~F-grade~~ **a failing grade in a course** will normally be asked to withdraw from the program.”

**CARRIED, as amended**

## Item for Information

#### **4.3 Psychology – Summary of Minor Course and Calendar Changes**

*(See document PDC141218-4.3 for more details)*

#### **NOTED:**

- In response to a question, it was noted that the learning outcomes deliberately refer to subfields in psychology, rather than specifics, because this is a Special Topics course and topics will vary.
- The document was received for information.

### **5 Reports/New Business**

#### **5.1 Suspending Admissions to Diaspora Studies Program**

*(See document PDC141218-5.1 for more details)*

#### **AGREED:**

- That a rationale be included outlining why the Diaspora Studies program is being suspended.

## Additional Business

### **7 Question period/Other business**

Nothing to report.

### **8 Adjournment**

**MOTION:** That the meeting be adjourned.

Dr. J. Bayley/Dr. R. Balachandar

**CARRIED**