

Members:

Akis Psygkas – Law
Andrew Hawkes – SGPS/Social Science
Arthur Brown – Schulich
Arzie Chant – Engineering
Ayman El Ansary – Engineering
Busra Copuroglu – SGPS/Arts
* **Carrie Marshall** – Health Sciences
Cindi Ryde – Health Sciences
Courtney Harper – Engineering
* **Dianne Bryant** – Health Sciences
Doug Woolford – Science
Emi Iwaizumi – SGPS/Education
Florentine Strzelczyk – Provost/VP (Academic)
Genevieve De Viveiros – French Studies
Hubert Pun – Ivey
Immaculate Namukasa – Education
Jamie Baxter – Social Science
Joanna Blom – Engineering
Joseph Gilroy – Science
Kaleigh Campbell – SGPS/Law
Kamran Siddiqui – Engineering
Kelly Hatch – University Librarian
Kevin Mooney – Music
Leah Blackwood – SGPS/FIMS
Lina Dagnino – Schulich
Linda Miller – SGPS (Chair)
Lisa Hodgetts – Social Science
Lisa Latif – Registrar's Office △
Liz Webb – Science
Lorraine Davies – SGPS
* **Lyn Purdy** – Ivey
Marguerite Lengyell – Education
Matheus Sanita Lima – Science
Matthew Hyginus – SGPS/Ivey
Meira Machado – PAW
Melanie-Anne Atkins – CTL △
Melissa Adler – Information & Media Studies
Michael Milde – POLICY Chair
Nandi Bhatia – Arts & Humanities
Pam McKenzie – Information & Media Studies
Peter Donahue – Kings
* **Ruth Martin** – SGPS
Seyram Afealete – SGPS/Music
Shabir Razavi – SGPS/Eng
Sharon Wei – Music
Shawn Whitehead – Schulich
* **Stephen McClatchie** – Huron
Tobias Nagl – Arts
Tom Drysdale – Schulich
Tony Adebero – SGPS/Health Sciences
Vasudeva Bhat – PAW
Victor Chu – SGPS/Schulich
Waliu Alaka – SOGS
Yolanda Babenko-Mould – Health Sciences
* **Zoe Sinel** – Law

△ Non-voting *Regrets

AGENDA

1. Land Acknowledgement [J. Baxter]
2. Welcome [L. Miller]
3. Approval of Minutes – May 2, 2023 [L. Miller]
4. Results of E-Vote – May 17, 2023 [L. Miller]
5. New Business
 - 5.1. **GEC Academic Policy and Regulations Committee** [L. Davies]
 - 5.1.1. SGPS Membership
 - Duration, Retirement and Leaving Western 🔒
 - Criteria and Qualifications for Master's and Doctoral Membership 🔒
 - 5.1.2. Registration - Student Progress and Withdrawal 🔒
 - 5.1.3. Financial Support – Band Funding and Funding Plan Communication 🔒
 - 5.1.4. Admissions 🔒
 - 5.2. **Call for Nominations** [L. Miller]
 - 5.2.1. Senate Subcommittee on Program Review - Graduate 🔒
6. For Information
 - 6.1. **2023-2024 Meeting Schedules**
 - 6.1.1. GEC / GEC Academic Policy Committee 🔒
7. Other Business
8. Adjourn

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Graduate Education Council (GEC)
Tuesday, May 2, 2023**

The meeting was held at 12:00pm, via Zoom.

COUNCILLORS:

Akis Psygkas – Law
Ayman El Ansary – Engineering
Busra Copuroglu – SGPS/Arts
Cindi Ryde – Health Sciences
Courtney Harper
Dianne Bryant – Health Sciences
Emi Iwaizumi – SGPS/Education
Genevieve De Viveiros – French Studies
Immaculate Namukasa – Education
Jamie Baxter – Social Science
Joanna Blom – Engineering
Joseph Gilroy – Science
Kaleigh Campbell – SGPS/Law
Kamran Siddiqui – Engineering

Kevin Mooney – Music
Lina Dagnino – Schulich
Linda Miller – SGPS (Chair)
Liz Webb – Science
Lorraine Davies – SGPS
Marguerite Lengyell – Education
Matheus Sanita Lima – SGPS/Science
Melanie-Anne Atkins (for A. Haque) – CTL
Melissa Adler – Information & Media Studies
Michael Milde – POLICY Chair
Nandi Bhatia – Arts & Humanities
Pam McKenzie – Information & Media Studies
Peter Donahue – Kings

Robert Glushko – University Librarian
Ruth Martin – SGPS
Stephen McClatchie – Huron
Tom Drysdale – Schulich
Tony Adebero – SGPS/Health Sciences
Victor Chu – SGPS/Schulich

OBSERVERS:

Candace Loosely – SGPS
Roger Chabot – SGPS
Ron Wagler – SGPS

| Items/Discussion (Host) | | Motion(s)/Action Item(s) |
|-------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| 1. | Land Acknowledgement Tom Drysdale offered a Land Acknowledgement. | |
| 2. | Minutes of Prior Meeting It was moved by Kamran Siddiqui, seconded by Liz Webb, That the minutes of meeting of April 3, 2023, be approved as circulated. UPDATE: Linda Miller reported that, on April 21 st , Senate approved the recommended revisions to the SGPS Constitution. SGPS will soon contact Faculties to start the process of filling the elected/appointed membership vacancies. | CARRIED |
| 3. | New Business | |
| 3.1 | GEC Academic Policy and Regulations Committee Lorraine Davies presented the following recommendations from GEC Policy Committee. | |
| | 3.1.1 Combined PhD Option (New Policy) It was moved by Tom Drysdale, seconded by Stephen McClatchie, That Graduate Education Council approve and recommend the introduction of a new policy on <u>Interdisciplinary</u> Combined PhD option to the Senate Committee on Academic Policy. Western has piloted two such options; one student has successfully completed their program. It would be beneficial to have options to train students where the knowledge is at the intersection of two disciplines. A 28-minute discussion ensued. - If the funding model differs between the two programs, it is reasonable to expect the partnering program to contribute some funding so the student would receive the higher amount ACTION: Consensus to include more explicit wording regarding the funding models | TABLED |

| | Items/Discussion (Host) | Motion(s)/Action Item(s) |
|-------|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Given the interdisciplinary nature of this option, it was recommended that the title include this key word <p>ACTION: Consensus to change the title to Interdisciplinary Combined PhD option</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If the two potential programs are unable to blend the requirements so that a student can complete the combined options within five years, then programs are justified to say this combination is not interdisciplinary - There are subtle differences between a Dual degree (two parchments) versus Combined (one parchment) <p>ACTION: Consensus to clarify wording between Dual Degree and Interdisciplinary Combined PhD option</p> | |
| | <p>3.1.2 Initial Registration (Registration – Regulation 4.01)</p> <p>It was moved by Kamran Siddiqui, seconded by Liz Webb,</p> <p>That Graduate Education Council approve and recommend the revision of the Initial Registration (Regulation 4.01) to the Senate Committee on Academic Policy.</p> <p>The proposed change helps to align the policy with current practice. No discussion.</p> | CARRIED |
| 4. | For Consultation | |
| 4.1 | <p>Consultation Regarding Proposed Changes to:</p> <p>Given that Graduate Education Council has approval authority over certain SGPS Policies, the Secretariat Office has agreed to re-route proposed policy changes which may impact graduate students to the Chair of GEC Academic Policy Committee. After consultation with Graduate Education Council, the proposed policy change may proceed to the Senate Academic Policy Committee.</p> | |
| 4.1.1 | <p>Senate Academic Policy on Scholastic Discipline for Graduate Students</p> <p>Following a review of the proposed changes, a 21-minute discussion ensued.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It would be better for Grad Chairs to have authority for 1-5 only; otherwise, they will need guidelines on what penalties to attach to each offence - Given that 'a reasonable time' may be interpreted differently by Graduate Chairs, members proposed that new language reference a timeframe. As a next step Ruth, Lorraine, and Linda to meet with Secretariat Office to address these concerns | SGPS Academic Leaders to meet with Secretariat Office to address the concerns shared. |
| 4.1.2 | <p>Senate Academic Policy on Graduate Student Academic Appeals</p> <p>Following a review of the proposed changes, a 4-minute discussion ensued.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was proposed that similar language to frame the timeline is needed - Members were reminded that the language in the appeal states that a punishment stands until overturned by an appeal; therefore, a supervisor would not be required to pay an additional stipend should an appeal go overlong | |
| 5. | For Information | |
| 5.1 | <p>SGPS Representatives on Senate Update</p> <p>Referencing the list circulated with the agenda, Linda Miller thanked the members who agreed to serve as SGPS Representatives on Senate.</p> | |

| Items/Discussion (Host) | | Motion(s)/Action Item(s) |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 6. | Other Business | |
| 7. | Adjourn | |
| | The meeting adjourned at 1:27pm | Date of next meeting: June 20, 2023 |

Recorded by Ann Hoffer

Ann Hoffer

From: Ann Hoffer <ahoffer@uwo.ca>
Sent: May 17, 2023 1:24 PM
To: Ann Hoffer
Subject: [Graduate Education Council - Announcement] Time Sensitive E-Approval - Interdisciplinary Combined PhD Option -- Motion CARRIED

An announcement has been updated in the "Graduate Education Council" site at (<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/dd2d919a-4d2e-4e8a-a8ee-a31b487c5b42>) at May 17, 2023 1:23 PM EDT

Dear Graduate Education Council (GEC) Members,

Thank you voting members! The motion to introduce an Interdisciplinary Combined PhD option was carried.

Changes to this regulation fall under the approval authority of Senate. SGPS will bring the proposed change to the Senate Academic Policy Committee. This item could appear on the Senate agenda as early as June 9th.

Best,

Ann

Time Sensitive E-Approval - Interdisciplinary Combined PhD Option -- Question & Answer (Sent May 9th @ 4:01pm)

Dear Graduate Education Council (GEC) Members,

One question was received with respect to introducing an Interdisciplinary Combined PhD option. Provided below is the question and response.

Regarding the Interdisciplinary Combined PhD Option, I have a question about enrollment that is discussed in Section 3.1: Why is the deadline for requesting admission to the partnering program no later than the second term after beginning the home program? In my opinion, the optimal deadline would be before the end of Year 1 (i.e., by the 3rd term of their studies), since for some PhD programs research doesn't really begin in earnest until the summer of Year 1.

The deadline was set in an effort to address the issue of required courses. Ideally, the courses that the student will need to take (i.e., confirming any courses that can be considered "shared" requirements to eliminate duplication) should be confirmed as early as possible because most courses are completed within the first year.

Your point about research is valid and it's quite likely that the details of the student's thesis work won't be confirmed until near the end of the first year or early in the second year. The agreement for the student's individualized program of study doesn't include details about the research, just high-level information.

In the few cases that have been "piloted" to date, there was informal agreement early in the program (within the first term) with the formal agreement signed off later (ie, in the second or third term). So I think this particular detail may need to be revisited after we've had more experience with the combined program option. But at present, our view is that we should

aim to have the details sorted out as early as possible to ensure there is clear understanding of the specific requirements by all parties (most importantly the student) before the student undertakes the requirements. ...and, there is always opportunity for exceptions to be made in cases where it makes sense and is in the best interest of those involved.

Voting Members: Your personal survey link will remain active until you vote or when the ballot closes at 12:00 p.m. on May 17, 2023.

Wishing you a good rest of the day!

Ann

(Time Sensitive E-Approval - Interdisciplinary Combined PhD Option -- Sent May 8 @ 10:10am)

Dear Graduate Education Council (GEC) Members,

The May 2, 2023, GEC agenda included the motion:

“That Graduate Education Council approve and recommend the introduction of a new policy on Combined PhD option to the Senate Committee on Academic Policy”

This motion was moved by Tom Drysdale and seconded by Stephen McClatchie. There was fulsome discussion of the proposal for the Combined PhD option and several recommendations for revisions were made. GEC’s feedback has been incorporated into the proposed NEW Policy and we are proceeding with an e-vote of the new policy amended to include the feedback from GEC. [An Agenda for e-approval](#) has been posted to the GEC webpage and OWL site (see attached).

The e-approval is in relation to introducing an Interdisciplinary Combined PhD option. Full details are included in the agenda.

The process for questions and voting is listed on the front page of the agenda. Your e-vote is due by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17th.

Attachments:

[2023 05 17 GEC eVote Interdisciplinary Combined PhD Option.pdf](#)

This automatic notification message was sent by OWL (<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>).

You can modify how you receive notifications at Home > Preferences.

SGPS Membership (Regulation 10)

| | |
|--|--|
| ACTION: | Recommended: Graduate Education Council approve the revisions to Duration and the additions to addresses membership Implications of Retirement and Leaving Western (Regulations 10.2, 10.4, 10.5). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UPDATE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISCUSSION | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL | |

BACKGROUND:

Currently our regulations do not address how a supervisor’s leave of absence affects supervisory expectations and requirements, and the mechanisms to ensure continuity of supervision.

10.2 DURATION

Master's and Doctoral memberships are permanent in the home department. Master’s or Doctoral memberships held outside of the home department are not permanent and may be subject to audit and inactivation at each Institutional Quality Assurance Process review or at other timelines specified by the program. Consideration will be given to the potential for conflict of interest or bias in situations that may arise in the context of membership.

Teaching/Advisory Membership (TAM) is temporary up to a maximum of three years, renewable.

Associate Membership is temporary, up to a maximum of five years, renewable.

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⌘

10.4 RETIREMENT

After retirement, faculty members with an adjunct appointment and emeritus status can supervise their continuing students for a maximum of two years while the student(s) complete their degree without changing their membership status of doctoral or masters. Faculty members without continuing students will have their membership converted to TAM membership for a two-year period.

To supervise students for more than two years after retirement, the following must be in place:

- an adjunct appointment
- emeritus status
- nomination from the program for Associate Membership or higher*
- an additional supervisor holding the appropriate membership

*Two years after retirement, with program nomination, emeritus faculty can only hold Associate Membership.

To be a supervisory committee member, emeritus faculty must have TAM membership or higher. TAM membership does not require an adjunct appointment.

10.5 SUPERVISORS WHO LEAVE WESTERN FOR REASONS OTHER THAN RETIREMENT

Membership status is automatically terminated for faculty members who leave Western. To continue to supervise continuing or new students, the following must be in place:

- an adjunct appointment
- nomination from the program for Associate membership
- an additional supervisor holding the appropriate membership

CONSULTATION:

GEC Academic Policy Committee ▪ May 25, 2023

Graduate Education Council ▪ mmm dd, yyyy

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SGPS Membership (Regulation 10)

| | |
|--|---|
| ACTION: | Recommended: Graduate Education Council approve the revisions to the SGPS Membership Regulations that address the Criteria and Qualifications for Master’s and Doctoral Membership (Regulation 10.3). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UPDATE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISCUSSION | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL | |

BACKGROUND:

These regulations have been revised to improve accuracy and reflect their original intent, which was to ensure that faculty members from one of the Affiliated University Colleges are able to supervise students enrolled in a main campus graduate program.

These regulations have been revised to require that those who supervise Visiting Graduate Students – Research Only have membership in SGPS at the level of the Student’s degree program.

10.3 Privileges, Criteria and Qualifications

Summary of Privileges by Membership Level

...

Summary of Criteria and Qualifications Required by Membership Level

...

Complete criteria for, and privileges associated with each category are listed below:

Teaching/Advisory Membership (TAM)

...

Associate Membership

...

Master’s Membership

Criteria and Qualifications

- Nomination by a Western graduate program offering a Quality Assurance Council approved graduate degree with a Master's thesis
An established program of research or performance and, where appropriate, research funds from an external source
- A record of successful participation in graduate education
- A Full-time Academic Appointment at Western as Assistant Professor or higher, OR a current Full-time Academic Appointment with a Western Affiliated University College as Assistant Professor or higher with, and a Western Adjunct Academic Appointment -
- Nomination by a Western graduate program offering a Quality Assurance Council approved graduate degree
- Ph.D. degree or equivalent qualification appropriate to the discipline

- Appropriate scholarly and/or professional record commensurate with program activities and responsibilities

Privileges

- Supervise Master's Students Theses
- Supervise Doctoral Students Theses (with another Supervisor holding Doctoral membership in Student's program)
- Supervise Master's Visiting Graduate Students – Research Only
- Supervise Doctoral Visiting Graduate Students – Research Only (with another Supervisor holding Doctoral membership in Student's program)
- Chair Doctoral/Master's Thesis Examinations
- ~~Chair Thesis Examinations~~
- May be given access to Graduate Application System
- Teach graduate courses
- Serve as member of thesis supervisory committee
- Participate as thesis examiner
- Other facets of graduate student education (i.e., student advisor, non-thesis research paper second reader)

Doctoral Membership

Criteria and Qualifications

- Academic Appointment at Western as Assistant Professor or higher, OR a current Academic Appointment at a Western Affiliated University College ~~and~~with a current Western Adjunct Academic Appointment.
- Nomination by a Western graduate program offering a Quality Assurance Council approved graduate degree
- Ph.D. degree or equivalent qualification appropriate to the discipline
- Appropriate scholarly and/or professional record commensurate with program activities and responsibilities
- Nomination by a Western graduate program offering a Quality Assurance Council approved graduate degree with a Doctoral thesis
- Satisfactory supervision of at least one Master's candidate.

Privileges

- Supervise Doctoral/Master's Student's Theses
- Supervise Doctoral/~~and~~Master's Visiting Graduate Students – Research Only
- Chair Doctoral/Master's Thesis Examinations
- May be given access to Graduate Application System
- Teach graduate courses
- Serve as member of thesis supervisory committee
- Participate as thesis examiner
- Other facets of graduate student education (i.e., student advisor, non-thesis research paper second reader)

CONSULTATION:

GEC Academic Policy Committee ▪ June 15, 2023
 Committee approval ▪ mmm dd, yyyy

Registration (Regulation 4.07)

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|--|---|
| ACTION: | Recommended: Graduate Education Council approve and recommend the addition of the student progress and withdrawal statements to Regulation 4.07 and the deletion of the sentence that relates to the Scholastic Discipline for Graduate Students' Policy to Senate Academic Policy Committee. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UPDATE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISCUSSION | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL | |

BACKGROUND:

Revisions to SGPS Regulation 3.0 have been approved by GEC and will go to Senate Policy and Senate in the Fall 2023. The revised 3.0 regulation no longer includes the student progress and withdrawal statements. We are proposing that they be moved to section 4.07.

We are also proposing that the statement referring to the Scholastic Discipline for Graduate Students' Policy be deleted. The Scholastic Discipline for Graduate Students' Policy is a stand-alone policy and does not require the additional wording of the statement below. Moreover, the statement leads to confusion around the appropriate appeal process in cases when withdrawal is a consequence of penalties assigned in a scholastic offence investigation.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO CURRENT REGULATION:

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>4.07 STUDENT PROGRESS AND WITHDRAWAL</p> <hr/> <p>The Graduate Chair of a program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must approve the student's plan of study. ▪ Must ensure the preparation and filing of an annual progress report for each student. <p>Graduate faculty must provide students with timely feedback on courses, examinations, or other requirements.</p> <p>The program may require students to withdraw if they fail to meet the following standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students must maintain a cumulative average of at least 70% calculated each term over all courses taken for credit, with no grade less than 60%. In the case of failing grades given for Scholastic Offences, only the Vice Provost | <p>4.07 STUDENT PROGRESS AND WITHDRAWAL</p> <hr/> <p>The Graduate Chair of a program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must approve the student's plan of study. ▪ Must ensure the preparation and filing of an annual progress report for each student. <p>Graduate faculty must provide students with timely feedback on courses, examinations, or other requirements.</p> <p>The program may require students to withdraw if they fail to meet the following standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students must maintain a cumulative average of at least 70% calculated each term over all courses taken for credit, with no grade less than 60%. |
|---|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>(Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies) can withdraw a student;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students must make satisfactory progress towards the degree according to milestones set by the program. <p>Withdrawal from a program can occur in two ways. A student can voluntarily withdraw, following formal notification to the program. Alternatively, the program or SGPS can withdraw a student for failure to meet admission conditions, progression requirements, specified deadlines for completion, or failure to pay fees. Once withdrawn from a program (and the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies), the person withdrawn is no longer a student and may not attend classes, receive supervision, or have access to any resources of the University.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students must make satisfactory progress towards the degree according to milestones set by the program. <p>Withdrawal from a program can occur in two ways. A student can voluntarily withdraw, following formal notification to the program. Alternatively, the program or SGPS can withdraw a student for failure to meet admission conditions, progression requirements, specified deadlines for completion, or failure to pay fees.</p> <p>Once withdrawn from a program (and the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies), the person withdrawn is no longer a student and may not attend classes, receive supervision, or have access to any resources of the University.</p> |
|---|---|

CONSULTATION:

GEC Academic Policy Committee ▪ May 25, 2023
 Graduate Education Council ▪ mmm dd, yyyy

Financial Support (Regulation 5)

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|--|---|
| ACTION: | Recommended: Graduate Education Council approve the revisions to the Funding for Students in Research-Based Programs that addresses band funding and the Funding Plan communication to students (Regulations 5.01). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UPDATE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISCUSSION | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL | |

BACKGROUND:

Explicitly stating that band funding received by Indigenous students must not impact a Student’s funding package provides direction and clarity to programs and to Indigenous Students, and contributes to meaningful Reconciliation.

The wording for the timing of student Funding Plans has been revised to reflect a practice that is fair to students and supports their financial planning.

5.01 FUNDING FOR STUDENTS IN RESEARCH-BASED PROGRAMS

The School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies distinguishes between research-based programs and professionally oriented programs to determine eligibility for student support.

Eligible students in the Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance program (DMA), all PhD programs and some research-based Master’s programs will be offered a financial support package which may include funds from the Faculty or graduate program, such as internal or external scholarship support, or part-time employment.

The funding support package can come from a variety of sources and can differ from student to student. The sources include: supervisor research grant support (e.g. Graduate Fellowship); external scholarships and fellowships from the federal Tri-Agency (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC) and from the Province of Ontario (OGS/QEII-GSST); Graduate Teaching Assistantships (GTA); internal support (e.g. WGRS, awards from donations and endowments); and employment other than GTA. The support package can change, for example when a student receives an external scholarship, or in response to a student’s change in residency; such as, becoming a permanent resident under the Immigration Act of Canada.

Band funding received by Indigenous students must not ~~impact~~ ~~reduce~~ the funding package. Programs must not enquire about band funding.

OSAP is excluded in the calculation of the funding package.

The components of a student's funding package must normally be communicated to them via a Funding Plan (i.e., an annual funding support document) in advance of the first term of study, but no later than the third week of their first term of study. This Funding Plan must be updated each year hereafter. The Funding Plan outlines the projected sources, amounts and payment schedule of the student's annual funding.

The Funding Plan document must be available as an on-going and annual reference for the student and for those responsible for addressing student enquiries. Additionally, the annual Funding Plans provides a tool for checking a student's support against the cohort-specific support commitment.

It is expected that programs will use the Mercury funding portal to catalog program/faculty funding models and to communicate funding expectations, amounts and sources to students registered in funding-eligible programs. The Mercury system maintains this detailed funding information over a student's period of study and records any updates and changes throughout this time.

The student may decline all or part of the funding package. Where the student declines all or part of the package, the program must submit a written statement to SGPS, signed by the student and grad chair/director, waiving the graduate program's responsibility to provide the declined funding during the student's program.

CONSULTATION:

GEC Academic Policy Committee ▪ June 15, 2023

Graduate Education Council ▪ mmm dd, yyyy

Admissions (Regulation 2)

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|--|--|
| ACTION: | Recommended: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION | Graduate Education Council to approve and recommend the revisions to Admissions (Regulation 2) to the Senate Committee on Academic Policy. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UPDATE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISCUSSION | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL | |

BACKGROUND:

These regulations have been revised and updated for accuracy. Colleges are now able to offer 4-year accredited degrees, and financial support is no longer tied to meeting admission and progression requirements.

2. Admissions

Last Revised February 4, 2020

The Vice-Provost (Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies) grants admission to graduate students, only on the recommendation of the program in which the applicant intends to pursue studies. Admission to graduate programs at The University of Western Ontario ([Western](#)) is competitive. Thus, applicants meeting or even exceeding minimum admission standards, as described below, are not guaranteed admission to any of ~~the University of Western Ontario's~~ Graduate Programs. Admission decisions are not subject to appeal.

For purposes of admission ~~and financial support~~, the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies ([SGPS](#)) determines accreditation, degree, and standing equivalencies for all non-Western degrees.

For students undertaking a thesis as part of their degree requirements, the Graduate Chair must determine that an appropriate thesis Supervisor is available for the ~~S~~student's declared field of research before ~~offering the nominating the S~~student ~~for~~ admission.

For admission to Master's programs, applicants must possess a four-year degree from ~~aa n accredited~~ university ~~or college~~. The School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies requires at least a 70% average in senior level academic courses, as determined by ~~the SGPS School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies~~, taken in the last two full-time years of the undergraduate degree. Equivalent qualifications may be considered based on the standards of the discipline or profession.

For admission to ~~most~~ Doctoral programs, applicants must possess a Master's degree or equivalent from a university, ~~or college or institute~~, and provide evidence of research potential. ~~SGPS The School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies~~ requires at least a 70% average in the Master's degree, as

determined by [SGPS, the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies](#). Some Western programs provide ~~for~~ transfers from Master's to Doctoral degree status without achieving a Master's degree; see Section 4.05. Some Western programs offer direct entry to begin a doctoral degree without having a completed Master's degree. Consult the program's regulations for details.

Individual programs commonly have higher admission standards than the minimum. Applicants should contact their program of choice to get information on its admission requirements.

CONSULTATION:

GEC Academic Policy Committee ▪ June 15, 2023

Graduate Education Council ▪ mmm dd, yyyy

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the University Graduate Community
 From: Linda Miller, Vice-Provost (Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies)
 Date: June 15, 2023
 Subject: Call for Nominations – Subcommittee on Program Review-Graduate (SUPR-G)

Graduate Education Council is currently accepting nominations from members of the University graduate community for vacancies on the Subcommittee on Program Review-Graduate.

Subcommittee on Program Review-Graduate (SUPR-G)

Currently accepting nominations for:

- **Three Graduate Student representatives** (term July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024)
- **One Faculty Member* representative** (term July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2025)
 - * a Graduate Chair or Graduate Committee Member at the time of their election

Workload:

- Meets monthly on Mondays from 3:00-4:30 p.m. in WIRB 3000 (see below)

| 2023 | | 2024 | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Sep 11 | Nov 6 | Jan 22 | Mar 18 | May 13 |
| Oct 16 | Nov 27 | Feb 26 | Apr 22 | June 24 |

Additional Information:

- [Terms of Reference](#)
- [Current Membership](#)

Deadline for Nominations:

- Nominations should be submitted via the [online Nomination Form](#) **no later than 12:00pm on June 27, 2023**

If you require information in alternate format, please contact Ann Hoffer (ahoffer@uwo.ca).



GRADUATE EDUCATION COUNCIL (GEC) 2023-24 MEETING SCHEDULE

Unless otherwise noted, GEC meetings are held
on the fourth **Wednesday** of the month
from **12:00 – 1:30pm** (*pizza lunch at 11:30am*)
in the **Western Interdisciplinary Research Building, Room 3000**

To participate remotely, please access the Zoom link through the GEC OWL site
Members of the public who wish to attend GEC are invited to
contact the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at ahoffer@uwo.ca

| GEC Academic Policy IGAB 1N05 | Graduate Education Council WIRB 3000 (<i>agenda to be posted one week in advance</i>) | Submission deadline (for SENATE Committee meeting on) | SENATE |
|--|--|--|---------------------|
| | | Aug 23rd (Sep 5) | Sep 15, 2023 |
| | | Sep 19th (Oct 2) | Oct 13, 2023 |
| Sep 12th | September 27, 2023 | Oct 10th (Oct 23) | Nov 10, 2023 |
| | | Nov 7th (Nov 20) | Dec 1, 2023 |
| Oct 10th Nov 7th | November 22, 2023 | Dec 14th (Jan 8) | Jan 19, 2024 |
| | | Jan 23rd (Feb 5) | Feb 15, 2024 |
| Dec 12th | January 30, 2024 | Feb 20th (Mar 4) | Mar 15, 2024 |
| Feb 13th Mar 12th | March 27, 2024 | Mar 26th (Apr 8) | Apr 19, 2024 |
| | | Apr 23rd (May 6) | May 17, 2024 |
| Apr 9th May 7th | May 14, 2024 | May 14th (May 27) | Jun 7, 2024 |
| Jun 11th | | | |

Please mark the above dates in your calendar. Additional meetings, if required, are at the call of the Chair