




Office of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Fellows

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MEMORANDUM

<p>ATTENTION Senate</p> <p>FROM Wade Parkhouse, Chair of Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC)</p> <p>RE: GGR 1.3.8a proposed editorial change from "Concurrent Bachelor's-Master's Program" to "Accelerated Master's"</p>	<p>DATE November 17, 2016</p> 
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At its meeting of September 12, 2016, SGSC approved the attached revision to GGR 1.3.8a. This gives rise to the following motion, **effective Summer 2017**.

Motion

That Senate approve the revision to GGR 1.3.8a (Admission to a Concurrent Bachelor's-Master's Program).

Information and Rationale

The criteria for admission to a Concurrent Bachelor's-Master's program was first approved by Senate in 2012 (S.12-21) and revised in 2015 (S.15-13). Seven academic units now have these degree paths available to undergraduates applying for admission to their graduate programs. These units have been consulted and are supportive of the name change from "Concurrent Bachelor's-Master's Program" to "Accelerated Master's" for this admission category.

Two of the most frequently used names for this type of admission category across Canadian institutions were Concurrent Bachelor's-Master's and Accelerated Master's. In 2012 it was felt that the former would most clearly reflect the degree path but unfortunately it has led to confusion on the part of faculty, students and staff. This appears to be primarily attributable to the name which implies that it is a program, which it is not, and that it implies that the student is registered in undergraduate and graduate programs simultaneously, which they are not.

At various levels the confusion has been experienced by the departmental undergraduate program committee, the departmental graduate program committee and the student. This has resulted in many exchanges among graduate program chairs, program assistants, students, the Office of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Fellows and the registrar's office. Once students have been admitted, they are frequently enrolled in both their undergraduate and graduate programs at the same time resulting in the student being charged double tuition and ancillary fees among other issues.

In this degree path, the correct procedure is that students are registered in their undergraduate program and are conditionally admitted to their graduate program (subject to completing their undergraduate program). These students have been pre-approved to receive advanced credit for a portion of their

graduate degree courses completed prior to initiating their master's degree. Approvals and admissions are via standard graduate procedures via SGSC. Standard calendar language appears in each academic unit's portion of the undergraduate and graduate calendar simply as a means of promoting this degree path for their students. Universally, the intent of institutions with this degree path is to attract their best students to their master's program because of the acceleration of their degree completion.

"Accelerated Master's" is used at other institutions across Canada including University of Waterloo, University of Western Ontario, and McMaster University and we are recommending that we change GGR 1.3.8a accordingly and make the necessary name changes throughout the calendar. We anticipate that this name change will help clarify this degree path and prevent the confusion and consequent enrollment errors that have occurred. This will also bring us into alignment with these other Canadian institutions and more accurately reflect the intent of this admission category.



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MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION SGSC Members **DATE** September 7, 2016
FROM Mary Ann Pope
RE: GGR 1.3.8a Admission to a Concurrent Bachelor's-Master's Program

Motion 1

That SGSC approve the revision to GGR 1.3.8a (Admission to a Concurrent Bachelor's-Master's Program)

Motion 2

That SGSC approves the Chair of SGSC to be given delegated authority to approve the editorial calendar revisions resulting from the change to GGR 1.3.8a directly to Senate.

Rationale and Revisions

From its inception, there has been confusion on the part of faculty, students and staff about the "Concurrent Bachelor's-Master's Program." None of the approvals have gone smoothly because, as the word "concurrent" implies, the student will be enrolled in both their undergraduate degree program and their graduate program at the same time. Students should not be admitted and enrolled in both programs at once as this will result in double tuition and ancillary fees. When this has occurred, the admission and enrollment must be retroactively reversed.

It is therefore proposed that this be re-named, or "re-branded," throughout the calendar and on the program websites as an Accelerated Master's. "Accelerated Master's" is used at other institutions across Canada including University of Waterloo, University of Western Ontario, and McMaster University. It must be made clear in the description that a student who is being approved for an accelerated Master's will be approved for admission to the Master's program for a future term (one that is expected to be after the completion of the Bachelor's program). The student will not be enrolled in both the Bachelor's and the Master's simultaneously. The student will be eligible to enroll in a maximum of 10 units of graduate course work in the undergraduate program, and those units may also be counted towards the program requirements for the future Master's program once the student has completed the Bachelor's and has begun the Master's program.

Proposed revisions to GGR 1.3.8a

FROM	TO
<p>1.3.8a Admission to a Concurrent Bachelor's-Master's Program</p> <p>The minimum University requirements for eligibility for a concurrent bachelor's-master's program are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Enrollment in a Simon Fraser University undergraduate bachelor's program and the completion of 90 undergraduate credits with a minimum CGPA of 3.67/4.33; b) Submitted evidence from qualified referees of the student's ability to undertake advanced work in the area of interest. <p>Students must satisfy any additional requirements set by the graduate program committee.</p> <p>A maximum of ten graduate course units, used either as electives or upper division required courses at the bachelor's level, can be applied to the requirements for the master's degree.</p>	<p>1.3.8a Admission to an Accelerated Master's</p> <p>The minimum University requirements for eligibility for an Accelerated Master's are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Enrollment in a Simon Fraser University undergraduate bachelor's program and the completion of 90 undergraduate credits with a minimum CGPA of 3.67/4.33; b) Submitted evidence from qualified referees of the student's ability to undertake advanced work in the area of interest. <p>Students must satisfy any additional requirements set by the graduate program committee.</p> <p>A maximum of ten graduate course units, used either as electives or upper division required courses at the bachelor's level, can be applied to the requirements for the master's degree.</p>