


Simon Fraser University  
Maggie Benston Centre 1100  
8888 University Drive  
Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6

TEL 778.782.3042  
FAX 778.782.3080

gradstudies@sfu.ca  
www.sfu.ca/grad

---

**MEMORANDUM**

<b>ATTENTION</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>DATE</b>	January 14, 2021
<b>FROM</b>	Jeff Derksen, Chair of Senate Graduate Studies Committee		
<b>RE:</b>	2020 Annual Report of SGSC		

---

I am pleased to submit the 2020 Senate Graduate Studies Committee Annual Report.

The Senate Graduate Studies Committee is charged by Senate with the following terms of reference:

1. *To maintain the academic standards established by Senate.*
2. *To review and make recommendations to Senate concerning new graduate programs.*
3. *To review and make recommendations to Senate concerning major changes to graduate programs.*
4. *To review and approve all proposed new graduate courses, course deletions, and minor changes to programs. These changes shall be reported to Senate in summary form.*
5. *To administer, review and make recommendations to Senate concerning Graduate General Regulations.*
6. *To consider matters concerning Graduate Studies referred to the Committee, and to make recommendations to the appropriate bodies.*
7. *To consider and decide on policy recommendations concerning graduate course registration, course and program withdrawal procedures, and on the administration of graduate records.*

This report covers the period of January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020, during which SGSC held nine meetings and three electronic votes.

The Senate Graduate Studies Committee has two subcommittees: SGSC Appeal subcommittee (Unsatisfactory Progress under GGR 1.8.2), and the SGSC subcommittee Individualized Interdisciplinary Studies Steering Committee (Individualized Interdisciplinary Studies Graduate Program).

Discussions on graduate education

SGSC discussed a variety of issues including equitability for graduate students, posthumous degree awarding, thesis postponement of publication, options for English language tests and minimum English language test score requirements. The committee looked over proposed thesis template additions for research policy certifications and for an author's declaration/statement of contributions to recognize collaboration or instances of co-authorship. Graduate course enrollment set up, and access to interdisciplinary course work were also discussed.

In response to the ongoing global pandemic, SGSC reviewed the challenges faced by graduate students and academic units along with the measures being taken to provide support across graduate studies. Key issues discussed included grading policies for Spring 2020, defence practices, leave and extension policies, financial support, and impacts on international students with regards to study permits, receiving funding, and quarantine guidelines. SGSC also reviewed the results from the GSS Survey on Remote Course Delivery in Summer 2020.

SGSC reviewed, recommended, approved and submitted to Senate curriculum changes related to the addition, deletion and modification of programs and courses, as well as revisions to regulations.

#### Revisions to Policies and Programs

- a) Graduate General Regulations:
  - GGR 1.3.3 English Language Competence
  - GGR 1.3.15 Cohort Special Arrangements
  - GGR 1.11.3 Postponement of Publication
- b) Temporary one term changes to GGRs due to public health emergency
  - Spring 2020 course withdrawal date
  - GGR 1.5.2
  - GGR 1.5.3
- c) FAS: CMPT MSc, PhD; Prof CMPT MSc; MSE MSc, PhD.
- d) FASS: ECON PhD; LAS Grad Cert; PSYC MA, PhD; MPP; SA MA.
- e) BUS: EMBA, MBA, MOT MBA; MSc Fin; MSc Acct., Acct. Grad Cert.
- f) FCAT: CA MA; VA Grad Cert; MPub.
- g) EDUC: C&I MEd; EL MA, MEd; TEAL MEd.
- h) FENV: ER MSc.
- i) FHS: HSCI MSc, PhD
- j) SCI: APMA MSc, PhD; MBB MSc, PhD.
- k) Other: MoCSSy Grad Cert.

#### New programs approved and recommended

FAS: MEng Smart Manufacturing and Systems FPP

BUS: MSc Accounting with Cognitive Analytics FPP, Grad Cert Accounting with Digital Analytics FPP; Grad Cert Financial Analysis FPP; EMBA Indigenous Business Leadership FPP, GDBA Indigenous Business Leadership FPP, Grad Cert Indigenous Business Leadership FPP; Master in Management FPP, Grad Diploma Management FPP.

FCAT: PhD Contemporary Arts FPP

#### Curriculum Changes Approved

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>New Courses</b>	<b>Courses Changed</b>	<b>Courses Temporarily Withdrawn</b>	<b>Courses Reinstated</b>	<b>Courses Deleted</b>
35	67	47	40	1	37

#### Graduate admissions, enrollments and credentials awarded per academic year

In 2019/20, the overall number of applications increased by 12% with a 26% increase in international applicants compared with the previous academic year. In the last four years, the number of applications has increased by 50% while the number of offers has only increased 10% with new enrollments remaining relatively steady.

The number of certificate and diploma credentials awarded remained higher than historical numbers, due to the granting of previously completed Education credentials.

<b>Graduate Admissions</b>	<b>16/17</b>	<b>17/18</b>	<b>18/19</b>	<b>19/20</b>
Applications	6141	7181	8221	9244
International	3272	4338	5090	6426
Domestic	2869	2843	3131	2818
Offers	2541	2686	2859	2790
Accepted offers	2009	2148	2282	2110
New Enrollments	1799	1939	1968	1871

<b>Enrollments</b>	<b>16/17</b>	<b>17/18</b>	<b>18/19</b>	<b>19/20</b>
<b>Total*</b>	4193	4415	4462	4310
<b>Degree**</b>	3572	3726	3816	3702

\*Total headcount of all graduate students (degree, certificate, diploma, exchange and qualifying)

\*\* Total headcount of master's and doctoral students

<b>Credentials Awarded</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Masters (M)</b>	1045	1125	1264	1269
<b>Doctoral (D)</b>	187	178	195	185
<b>Total</b> (including certificates and diplomas)	1377	1478	1835	1777

#### SGSC Appeals Subcommittee

No formal appeal hearings were held in 2020.

#### SGSC Individualized Interdisciplinary Studies Steering Committee

In 2020, seven students were offered admission and four students started in the Individualized Interdisciplinary Studies program. Additionally, two students were accepted as transfers from another program and one student successfully defended. At the end of 2020, 33 students were registered in this program.

#### SGSC members during 2020 were:

- J. Derksen, Chair, Dean and Associate Provost of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
- G. Agnes, Z. Druick, R. Panchasi Associate Dean(s), Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
- P. Saeedi, Chair FGSC, Applied Sciences
- S. Zwagerman, Chair FGSC, Arts and Social Sciences
- A. Gemino, C.Egri Chair (s) FGSC, Business
- P. Pasquier Chair FGSC, Communication, Art and Technology
- L. Le Mare, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies in Education
- D. Yang, Chair FGSC, Environment
- F. Lee, Director of Graduate Programs, Health Sciences
- M. Silverman, Chair FGSC, Science
- R. Adeli, GSS Executive Representative

- K. Gerlich-Fitzgerald, Associate Director, Admissions & Records
- N. White, K. Mukunda University Librarian designate(s)
- D. Lam, A. Zahir, K. Nordgren, Graduate Students
- D. Babeshko, M. Grahame Coordinator(s), Graduate Curriculum & Policy (non-voting)
- J. Kropp Recording Secretary (non-voting)