




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

ATTENTION	Senate	DATE	January 10, 2022
FROM	Jeff Derksen, Chair of Senate Graduate Studies Committee		
RE:	2021 Annual Report of SGSC		

I am pleased to submit the 2021 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, 2021 to December 31, 2021, during which SGSC held eleven meetings and one electronic vote.

SGSC Appeals Subcommittee (appeals of Unsatisfactory Progress under GGR 1.8.2)

One formal appeal hearing took place in 2021.

SGSC Individualized Interdisciplinary Studies Steering Committee

In 2021, five applications were reviewed. Three students were offered admission and two accepted. By the end of 2021, 2 students graduated and there are 34 active students in the program.

Discussions on Graduate Education

SGSC discussed various issues including commencement of face-to-face course delivery and in person research, policies around student complaints as well as changes to the transcript policy for prospective students. Among other issues reviewed were revisions to graduate units and credit hours, standardization of capstone units, parchment standardization and the removal of CO notation. The committee also discussed certain recommendations from the Ministry of Advanced Education for Full Program Proposals. SGSC reviewed, recommended, approved and submitted to Senate, curriculum changes related to the addition, deletion and modification of programs and courses, as well as a full program proposal and a notice of intent.

Revisions to Policies and Programs

- a) Graduate General Regulations:
 - GGR 1.5.2 Competency Grading Basis
- b) FAS: Sustainable Energy Engineering MSc, Mechatronic Systems Engineering, PhD
- c) FASS: Public Policy MA, Psychology PhD, Linguistics of a First Nations Language Graduate Certificate, Master of Arts in International Studies
- d) FCAT: Publishing MPub, Contemporary Arts MA, Contemporary Arts PhD, Master of Fine Arts, Master of Digital Media, Interactive Arts and Technology MA, Interactive Arts and Technology MSc
- e) FENV: Resource and Environmental Management PhD, Geography MA, Geography MSc, Resource and Environmental Management MRM (Planning)
- f) BUS: Master in Management, Graduate Diploma in Management, Master of Business Administration MBA, Science and Technology Commercialization Graduate Certificate, Management of Technology MBA, Executive MBA
- g) EDUC: Educational Practice Med,
- h) SCI: Actuarial Science MSc

New Programs Recommended

FAS: Professional Cybersecurity MSc FPP, Professional Visual Computing MSc FPP, Sustainable Energy Engineering Meng NOI

FASS: Master of Arts in Indigenous Languages and Linguistics FPP, Double Master of Arts in Applied Security and International Policy NOI

BUS: Graduate Certificate in Data Analytics FPP, Graduate Certificate in Digital Innovation

Curriculum Changes Approved

Program Changes	New Courses	Course Changes	Courses Temporarily Withdrawn	Courses Reinstated	Courses Deleted
29	29	36	24	4	9



Graduate Admissions, Enrolments and Credentials Awarded per academic year

These numbers include Fall 2020, Spring 2021 and Summer 2021. The overall number of applications increased by 0.5% with a 7% increase in international applicants compared to the previous academic year and a 15% decrease in the number of domestic applicants. SGSC discussed the application numbers in Spring 2021 and Summer 2021 were impacted by the uncertainty during the application period around COVID-19 and the application number dramatically increased in Fall 2021 (which will be included in next year’s annual report).

In the last four years, the number of applications increased by 30% while the number of offers extended increased 5% with new enrollments remaining relatively steady.

Graduate Admissions	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21
Applications	7181	8221	9244	9287
International	4338	5090	6426	6881
Domestic	2843	3131	2818	2406
Offers	2686	2859	2790	2812
Accepted offers	2148	2282	2110	2156
New Enrollments	1939	1968	1871	1919

Enrollments	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21
Total*	4415	4462	4310	4370
Degree**	3726	3816	3702	3763

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

** Total headcount of master’s and doctoral students

Credentials Awarded	2018	2019	2020	2021
Masters (M)	1125	1264	1269	1291
Doctoral (D)	178	195	185	174
Total (including certificates and diplomas)	1478	1835	1777	1738

SGSC members during 2021 were:

- J. Derksen, Chair, Dean and Associate Provost of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
- G. Agnes, 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. Muntean GSS Executive Representative
- K. Gerlich-Fitzgerald, Associate Director, Graduate Admissions, Records & Registration
- N. White, K. Mukunda, University Librarian designate(s)
- R. Adeli, J. Foerster, D. Lam, Z. Peng, P. Taheri, A. Zahir, Graduate Students
- D. Babeshko, M. Grahame, H. Buteau, Coordinator, Graduate Curriculum & Policy (non-voting)
- R. Anyankpele, J. Kropp, N. Strutt (Recording Secretary) (non-voting)