Ryerson University Graduate Studies

Office of the Vice-Provost and Dean
Yeates School of Graduate Studies

1 Year Follow-up Report

Periodic Program Review (PPR)

Building Science (MASc, MBSc)

Last Updated: January 15, 2020

1 YEAR FOLLOW-UP REPORT

Last Updated: January 12, 2020

Graduate Program:	**Building Science (M.A.Sc., M.B.Sc.)**
Peer Review Team:	Dr. Radu Zmeureanu (Concordia University) Dr. Panagiota Karava (Purdue University) Dr. Medhat Shehata (Ryerson University)
Site Visit:	December 4 and 5, 2017
PRT Report:	January 9, 2018
Program Response:	February 8, 2018
YSGS Response:	April 5, 2018
PPR Approved by Senate:	May 2, 2018
1 Year Follow Up Report:	January 12, 2020

As mandated by Ryerson Senate Policy 126: Periodic Program Review of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs[1], within one year of Senate approval of the PPR, a 1 Year Follow-Up Report is to be submitted to the Faculty Dean or Dean of Record and the Vice-Provost and Dean, YSGS, on the progress of the implementation plan and any further recommendations. This follow-up report will be also be reviewed by Programs and Planning Committee, YSGS Council, and finally Senate. The PPR Report to Senate may also include a date(s) for subsequent Follow-up Reports.

What follows are the PRT recommendations, the program responses, YSGS responses, and the implementation plan, including the 1 year follow-up status reports by the program.

The recommendations are divided into two broad categories: academic and administrative/financial and for simplicity, all of this information is presented in the form of tables

[1] https://www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/senate/policies/pol126.pdf

Academic Recommendations

PRT Recommendation	Proposed Action	Responsibility to Lead Follow Up	Timeline for Addressing Recommendation	1 Year Follow-up December 2019
Establish a PhD in Building Science.	Currently in the process of developing a proposal for a PhD in Building Science.	Associate Chair, Graduate Studies, Building Science	Program launch expected Fall 2019 upon approval	A Ph.D. in Building Science was approved by the Quality Council in December 2018 and admitted 4 domestic PhD students in September 2019, thus exceeding the targets by 100%.
Conduct an analysis of changing the MBSc in Building Science degree from 3 to 4 terms. This will include an examination of the role of the MRP.	Strike a committee of the GPC to initiate analysis. Prepare a recommendation to GPC for voting.	Associate Chair, Graduate Studies, Building Science	May 2019	A committee was struck and met in October 2018. A preliminary recommendation was agreed upon throughout the committee. A final recommendation will be made before May 2020.
Develop an industrial research chair.	Strike a committee of the Associate Chair to work with RIO to develop IRC proposal.	Associate Chair, Graduate Studies, Building Science	September 2019	As a result of efforts by the FEAS Associate Dean, Graduate Studies, supported by the FEAS Dean and the DAS Chair, the program was granted successfully an NSERC Tier 2 CRC in Building Science in Spring 2019. The department is currently conducting a search for this CRC and expects the candidate to start in January 2021. The program believes this is an important first step to acquiring an IRC. We anticipate the CRC will facilitate a proposal for an IRC. The program will work with the CRC to identify potential companies to support an IRC. The program will continue to strategize in 2021 with the goal of an IRC in the short/medium term.

Administrative and Financial Recommendations

PRT Recommendation	Proposed Action	Responsibility to Lead Follow Up	Timeline for Addressing Recommendation	1 Year Follow-up December 2019
Further develop the Building Science laboratory.	A committee chaired by the Associate Chair has already been struck and meets regularly to address this recommendation.	Associate Chair, Graduate Studies, Building Science	Currently ongoing	The Building Science Laboratory has been experiencing continued growth and development since the PPR final report. Some notable highlights include: • An extension to the original 2-year contract for the Building Science Laboratory Technician (Mr. Greg Labbé). It remains essential that this position is transferred into base budget as soon as possible. The program is working with the Dean of FEAS to make this happen. • Immediate and continued growth of lab based research at the Master's and Ph.D. level since the PPR visit (150-200% since two years ago.) • Immediate and continued growth of faculty conducting research and teaching based activities in the lab since the PPR visit (200-250% since two years ago.) • Growth of field-based building testing, providing experiential learning opportunities to graduate students in the program, led by the Building Science Laboratory Technician (3 sites in past year growth from 0 in previous.) • Continued acquisition of new equipment to expand lab capabilities. • Ongoing strategizing to continue growth of the lab.

Further develop outreach and recruitment strategies.	Associate Chair and Graduate Program Administrator to work with Associate Dean, Graduate Studies (FEAS) to further develop ongoing recruitment.	Associate Chair, Graduate Studies, Building Science	Currently ongoing Additional recommendation by September 2018 for 2018/2019 recruitment cycle.	Outreach and recruitment strategies have been expanding and are being refined. Some notable items include: • Targeted university visits have expanded with the inclusion of specific institutions that provide fundamental undergraduate education related to building science. • Creation of a Linked-In account for the graduate program providing more effective communication to our program alumnae. • The Program will explore other advanced means of marketing and recruitment in collaboration with FEAS Graduate Studies Office, YSGS and Ryerson University Advancement. • Under the sponsorship of the FEAS Graduate Studies Office, the program is being presented to the broader community of undergraduate participation in various regional and national student conferences/ congresses: ○ Conference in Sustainability in Engineering (2019, University of Northern British Columbia – Building Science Graduate Program's newly designed brochure was placed in all delegates packages and had ¼ page ad in the conference program); ○ Conference in Sustainability in Engineering 2020 (U of Waterloo, Feb 2020) career fair; ○ Conference in Diversity in Engineering 2018 career fair, November 2018;

(cont'd)	(cont'd)	(cont'd)	(cont'd)	○ Conference in Diversity in Engineering 2018 career fair, November 2018; ○ WISE (Women in Science and Engineering), January 2020 career fair; ○ Canadian Congress of Engineering Students, University of Alberta, January 2020 career fair, to name only some.

Summary Statement/Conclusion: In conclusion, we thank the external reviewers and colleagues in the Graduate Program in Building Science (GPBS)for a very thorough assessment of the strengths and challenges of the GPBS program. The PRT recommendations and GPBS's responses raise important points regarding the program, and the discussion of these will only have a positive development in the evolution of the program.