

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

REPORT TO ACADEMIC COUNCIL, NOVEMBER 7, 2006

1. Review of Status of New Graduate Programs

Planned for 2007/2008

2. *Master of Health Science (MHSc) in Nutrition Communication*

Motion:

To approve the submission of the proposal for an ***MHSc in Nutrition Communication*** to the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies for Standard Appraisal.

3. Program Change: *Early Childhood Studies*

4. Courses Additions/Changes:

Electrical and Computer Engineering
Early Childhood Studies

Submitted by:

Maurice Yeates, Dean
Chair, School of Graduate Studies

Status of New Programs in Graduate Review Process (programs planned for September, 2007_1)						
Approval or Action by	Responsibility	PhD Aerospace Engineering	MSW Social Work	MFA Doc Media	MJ Journalism	MArch Architecture
Ryerson Review						
Dean - SGS	Letter of Intent (LoI) – including initial analysis of financial viability	X	X	X	X	X
SGS Program & Planning Comm	Reviews LOI to determine if program appears feasible.	X	X	X	X	X
Provost	Decides to proceed based on responses to LoI. Instructs sponsors to prepare OCGS program proposal.	X	X	X	X	X
Internal/External Consultant	An expert in the field from another university reviews the proposal. Sponsors re-draft if necessary.	Bell, in	Nelson, in	Fletcher, in	Dornan, in	Covo, in
Provost	Discusses proposal with Dean, sponsor.	X	X	X	X	X
P&P	Reviews draft OCGS brief in light of I/E report – recommends to Council SGS based on academic quality	X	X	X	X	X
Council, SGS	Reviews proposal	X	X	April 20	April 20	April 20
Senate	Reviews program proposal for academic quality and moves to proceed to OCGS	X	X	May 9	May 9	May 9
Ontario Council on Graduate Studies Review						
Appraisal Committee	7 senior faculty from across Ontario + Exec. Dir read brief and comment to Ryerson. Univ can advertise program.	Campbell – Cornell Wetherhold SUNYB Dang—Syracuse Sept 28/29	Pennell -- NCS Lundy -- Carleton June 15/16	Nichols-SFS Sept 27/28 Rothman-Miami Sept 7/8	McKercher-Carl.U Medsger – SFS Sept 25/26	Carter—Buffalo Fraker—Berkeley Sept 28/29
External Consultants	2 or 3 selected, visit Ryerson for a two day period. Prepare reports for submission to OCGS, which sends reports to Ryerson.	X	X	X	X	X
Ryerson	Responds to report(s)		X	X	X	C Report in hand
Appraisal Committee	Reviews report and response and presents recommendation to OCGS (All graduate Deans in Ontario)		Oct 26			
OCGS Executive Director	Informs Ryerson of decision, provides letter required by Ministry for funding claim. OCGS meeting.					
Further Procedures						
Board of Governors	Program is presented to Board of Governors for approval of financial viability.					
Ministry	The Program is presented to the Ministry for approval					
Provost	Provost decides about implementation					

Status of New Programs in Graduate Review Process (programs planned for September, 2007_2)						
Approval or Action by	Responsibility	MA in Media Production	MSc Computer Science	MHSc Nutrition Communication	MSc Applied Mathematics	
Ryerson Review						
Dean - SGS	Letter of Intent (LoI) – including initial analysis of financial viability	X	X	X	X	
SGS Program & Planning Comm	Reviews LOI to determine if program appears feasible.	X	X	X	X	
Provost	Decides to proceed based on responses to LoI. Instructs sponsors to prepare OCGS program proposal.	X	X	X	X	
Internal/External Consultant	An expert in the field from another university reviews the proposal. Sponsors re-draft if necessary.	Feldman, in	Stacey, in	Levine, in	Seco	
Provost	Discusses proposal with Dean, sponsor.	X	X	X		
P&P of SGS	Reviews draft OCGS brief in light of I/E report – recommends to Council SGS based on academic quality	X	X	X		
Council, SGS	Reviews proposal	April 20	April 20	Oct 26		
Academic Council/Senate	Reviews program proposal for academic quality and moves to proceed to OCGS	May 9	May 9	Nov 9		
Ontario Council on Graduate Studies Review						
Appraisal Committee	7 senior faculty from across Ontario + Exec. Dir read brief and comment to Ryerson. Univ can advertise program.	Thompson-Syracuse De Kerckhove-UT Oct 16/17	Matwin--Ottawa Sandhu – GMU Nov 16/17			
External Consultants	2 or 3 selected, visit Ryerson for a two day period. Prepare reports for submission to OCGS, which sends reports to Ryerson.					
Ryerson	Responds to report(s)					
Appraisal Committee	Reviews report and response and presents recommendation to OCGS (All graduate Deans in Ontario)					
OCGS Executive Director	Informs Ryerson of decision, provides letter required by Ministry for funding claim. OCGS meeting.					
Further Procedures						
Board of Governors	Program is presented to Board of Governors for approval of financial viability.					
Ministry	The Program is presented to the Ministry for approval					
Provost	Provost decides about implementation					

2. The School of Graduate Studies has reviewed the proposal for an *MHSc in Nutrition Communication* listed below, and submits it to Academic Council for its approval for it to be sent to the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies for external review ('standard appraisal'). Vol. I of the brief ('The Program') is available for review in the office of the Secretary of Academic Council, and Volumes I & II ('The Program', and 'Curricula Vitae') are available for review in the office of the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies (EPH 439). Vol. I of the brief ('The Program') is also available for review at www.ryerson.ca/graduate/temp. Username: gradstudies Password: 4ryerson

It is planned that the *MHSc in Nutrition Communication* will be implemented in Fall 2007.

Motion

To approve the submission of the proposal for an *MHSc in Nutrition Communication* to the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies for Standard Appraisal.

Note: *Once a program is approved by OCGS, it is presented to the Board of Governors for approval.*

The Provost has final authority to determine whether a program may proceed.

RYERSON UNIVERSITY

MHSc in Nutrition Communication

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ryerson University's School of Nutrition is a leader in the education of professionals working in the area of nutrition and food. This proposal has been developed to address the need for a master's level program in the field of nutrition communication that would build upon Ryerson's unique undergraduate program and the emerging programs in the School of Graduate Studies. The goal of the program is to facilitate the development of advanced knowledge in the area of communicating nutrition and food issues to audiences that range from small (i.e. via individual and group counselling) to large (e.g. via traditional mass media and new media). This program would offer a professional and research-oriented graduate program in nutrition communication and would prepare students for work in the public or private sectors and in research.

Nutrition is highly important to Canadians and this program builds on the strengths within our program and communication expertise within the University. Due to the growing availability of medical and health care information through various forms of media, people are becoming interested consumers of nutrition and health information. However, one implication of the public's interest in health care information is that people are now more likely to obtain medical knowledge from media outlets rather than health care professionals. The reportage of health studies is big business for media outlets, in particular nutrition-related studies. (ADA, 2006) However, journalists do not always fully understand the science behind the study, and the subsequent reportage has the potential to fall short of communicating to the public what truly is important. (ADA, 2006) The greatest concern for food and nutrition professionals is that the display of prominent and provocative headlines arising from single, or poorly reported, studies

1 After the media feeding frenzy: Whither the women's Health initiative dietary modification trial? Journal of the American Dietetic Association, June 2006: 794-99.

may influence public behaviour away from the most current recommendations for healthful eating.

There is no comparable program in Canada and students must travel elsewhere to develop this advanced expertise. Recent developments in the School of Nutrition have created a fertile environment for research and practice in this area. The program will be aligned with the Interpersonal Skills Centre in the Faculty of Community Services, Centre for Studies in Food Security and a new school based Centre for Online Nutrition Communications. The complementary objectives of the graduate program and the centres will generate a higher level of research activity than would otherwise be possible. Students will have the option of doing either a major research paper (research option) or course work only (professional option). Graduates who select the course work route will be well prepared for work within the realms of public health nutrition, policy work in government, working with journalists and other media personnel. Within health-care facilities, they will provide advanced counselling and professional practice, and within agencies or industries, they can work as nutrition communication specialists. Students who select the research option will be prepared for any of the aforementioned professional options, as well as further graduate studies at the doctoral level.

Ten of the eleven faculty members in the School of Nutrition will participate in this program, as well as faculty from other programs in Community Services, (e.g., School of Nursing), Psychology, Professional Communication, and the Faculty of Communication and Design (e.g., Media Studies, Journalism and Media Documentation). All of the faculty in the School of Nutrition have doctoral degrees and are actively engaged in research.

Students selected for the program will require a strong background in nutrition from programs such as Nutrition, Food Science and/or Kinesiology. The prerequisites will also include courses in research methods and statistics. Students will also be expected to have excellent writing skills.

Schedule of courses

Course Type	Fall	Winter	Spring-Summer (one of the following three options)
<i>Required</i>	Biostatistics and Epidemiology for Nutrition Research	Elective	Major Research Paper OR Practicum Course OR
<i>Required</i>	Theoretical Approaches to Nutrition and Health Behaviour	Elective	
<i>Required</i>	Nutrition Communication with Diverse Audiences	Elective	3 Other elective courses
<i>Required</i>	Graduate Seminar	Graduate Seminar	X

The following elective courses will be available for all students:

Nutrition Policy

Advanced Interpersonal Nutrition Communication

Advanced Research in Approaches to Healthy Living

Risk Analysis: Assessment, Perception and Communication

Immigration & Settlement: Changing Multicultural Mosaic of the GTA

Communication and Culture: The Body and the Culture of Modernity

Communication and Culture: Social Theory and Communication Processes

Self-directed Readings Course

Practicum Course

FCAD: Media Languages: Forms and Approaches

FCAD: Topics in Cross-Cultural Communication

FCAD: Audiences and the Public

MN 8920: Health Policy: A Comparative Analysis

MN 8911: Population Health and Health Promotion: Community and Global Perspectives

MN8910: Individuals and Families Experience with Health and Illness: Theoretical Perspectives

The rich group of electives from other graduate programs within the School of Graduate Studies will not only enhance our own program but also promote student interactions across graduate programs.

Each year 20 full time students will be admitted to the program and will graduate at the Fall convocation. We anticipate a very high demand for this program and expect that the application process will be very competitive.

3. Program Change: *Early Childhood Studies*

The Early Childhood Studies graduate program has added a course-only option, starting Fall 2007. This is to accommodate a 'professional' stream to complement the 'research' stream already in place.

4. Course Additions/Changes: *Early Childhood Studies*

- i) The following *Immigration and Settlement Studies* courses will be cross-listed into the *Early Childhood Studies* graduate program:

Equity for Newcomers

Multicultural Cities – Planning Policies

- ii) The following two courses will have the calendar course descriptions changed to the following new descriptions:

CS8927 Social and Political Contexts for Early Childhood Professionals

The course explores social and political factors that shape learning opportunities and determine access to early childhood education programs. An historical and international perspective will be used to examine the respective roles of the family, government, non-profit sector and for-profit sector in providing early childhood education. Students will be provided an opportunity to develop their roles as advocates and change agents within a particular education/care context.

CS8931 Canadian Policies Affecting Children

This course will critically examine a wide range of Canadian social policies that touch the lives of young children. Policies that impact children's health, care, education, family life, and future well-being will be evaluated. The course will include the assessment of public policies that specifically affect Aboriginal children and public policies that specifically affect the children of newcomers. The beliefs and values that form the foundation for present policies will be clarified. Options for future policy development will be discussed.

GRADUATE COURSE CHANGE FORM - 1

APPROVALS AND SIGNATURES:

Program Director (following approval by Program Committee)

Name: Dr. Judith Bernhard

Signature: _____

Date: Sept 20, 2006

Chair, Department

Name: Dr. Rachel Langford

Signature: _____

Date: Sept 20, 2006

Dean, Teaching Faculty

Name: Dr. Usha George

Signature: _____

Date: Sept 20, 2006

Dean, Graduate Studies (following approval by the SGS Programs and Planning Committee and SGS Council)

Programs and Planning Committee Approval Date:

Name: Dr. Maurice Yeates

Signature: _____

Date: _____

SGS Council Approval Date:

Name: Dr. Maurice Yeates

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Secretary of Academic Council

Name: Dr. Diane Schulman

Signature: _____

Date: _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: If the course change form does not accommodate all the necessary information, explanation, or background pertaining to the proposed change(s), please provide additional commentary here.

COURSE CHANGE FORM – 2 School of Graduate Studies

Graduate Program: Early Childhood Studies

Initiating School/Department: Graduate Studies

Approval of VP Academic: _____

Dr. Errol Aspevig

Course Number	Course Title	Mark with "X"			Required Elective? Y/N	Credits	Programs Affected	Implement Date	Purpose of Change
		Amended	Deleted	Added					
	Learning Theories Applied to Learning Technologies			X	N	1	MA, ECS	W2007	To add more electives
	Directed Studies in ECS			X	N	1	MA, ECS	W2007	To add more electives
	Special Topics in ECS			X	N	1	MA, ECS	W2007	To add more electives

GRADUATE COURSE CHANGE FORM - 1

APPROVALS AND SIGNATURES:

Program Director (following approval by Program Committee)

Name: Dr. Alagan Anpalgan

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Chair, Department

Name: Dr. Sri Krishnan

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Dean, Teaching Faculty

Name Dr. Stalin Boctor

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Dean, Graduate Studies (following approval by the SGS Programs and Planning Committee and SGS Council)

Programs and Planning Committee Approval Date:

Name Dr. Maurice Yeates

Signature: _____

Date: _____

SGS Council Approval Date:

Name Dr. Maurice Yeates

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Secretary of Academic Council

Name Dr. Diane Schulman

Signature: _____

Date: _____

COURSE CHANGE FORM - 2 School of Graduate Studies

Graduate Program: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Initiating School/Department: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Approval of VP Academic: _____

Dr. Errol Aspevig

Course Number	Course Title	Mark with "X"			Required Elective?	Credits	Programs Affected	Implement Date	Purpose of Change
		Amended	Deleted	Added					
EE85XX	Digital CMOS VLSI Integrated Circuits			X	Elective	1	EM001, EM002, EM003, EM004, EP001	Winter 2007	Complementary to existing course.
EE81XX	Wireless Networks			X	Elective	1	EM001, EM002, EM003, EM004, EP001	Winter 2007	Advanced course, mainly for doctoral students.
EE82XX	Computer Networks			X	Elective	1	EM001, EM002, EM003, EM004, EP001	Winter 2007	Existing undergrad course to be offered to graduate students.
EE81XX	Opto-electric Devices			X	Elective	1	EM001, EM002, EM003, EM004, EP001	Winter 2007	Device level course. New faculty hire has expertise in this area.
EE84XX	Advanced Digital Control of Power Electronics			X	Elective	1	EM001, EM002, EM003, EM004, EP001	Winter 2007	Advanced course, mainly for doctoral students.