

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

REPORT TO SENATE, OCTOBER 7, 2008

1. Review of Status of New Graduate Programs
 - New Programs Planned for 2009
 - Continuing Programs in Review Process

2. ***Master of Arts in Philosophy***

Motion

That the Senate approve the submission of the proposal for a ***Master of Arts in Philosophy*** (MA) to the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies for Standard Appraisal.

3. ***Master of Professional Communication***

Motion

That the Senate approve the submission of the proposal for a ***Master of Professional Communication*** (MPC) to the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies for Standard Appraisal.

Submitted by:



Maurice Yeates, Dean
Chair, School of Graduate Studies Council

Status of New Programs in Graduate Review Process (programs planned for September 2008 and 2009)									
Approval or Action by	Responsibility	MSc Applied Mathematics	PhD Pol Studies	MBSc/MASc Building Sc.	MA Lit of Mod	MPI Urban Devpt	MA Fashion	MA ProfCom	MA Phil.
Ryerson Review									
Dean - SGS	Letter of Intent (LoI) – including initial analysis of financial viability	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SGS Program & Planning Comm	Reviews LOI to determine if program appears feasible.	X	X	X	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	X	X	X
Internal/External Consultant	An expert in the field from another university reviews the proposal. Sponsors re-draft if necessary.	Seco U of T	Carroll McMaster	Straube, Waterloo	Srerbnik, Calgary	Qadeer Queen's	Rouse U Arts London	Fletcher York	Brown UofT
Provost	Discusses proposal with Dean, sponsor.	X	X	X	X	X	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	X	X	X	X	X
Council, SGS	Reviews proposal	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Senate	Reviews program proposal for academic quality and moves to proceed to OCGS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
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.	X Bona, Illinois Bland, Toronto	McMullin-- UWO Prince—Vict April 15/16	Zmeureanu- Concordia Lam- C-Mel Jan 31/1	Wallace–Alb Stone--Dal March 6/7	Vos – Fla Atl Burayidi – Wisc (Oshk) March 3/4	Lemire Alb Berzowska Conc Aug 25/26	Oct 7	Oct 7
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	X	X			
Appraisal Committee	Reviews report and response and presents recommendation to OCGS (All graduate Deans in Ontario)	X	X	X	X	X			
OCGS Executive Director	Informs Ryerson of decision, provides letter required by Ministry for funding claim. OCGS meeting.	X	X	X	X	X			
Further Procedures									
Board of Governors	Program is presented to Board of Governors for approval of financial viability.			X	X	X			
Ministry	The Program is presented to the Ministry for approval			X	X	X			
Provost	Provost decides about implementation			X	X	X			

Status of Continuing Programs in Graduate Review Process (2008 and 2009)								
Approval or Action by	Responsibility	MASc/PhD EnSciMan	MASc/MEng Phd Civil Eng	MASc/ MEng /Phd Mech Eng	MA Pub Admin	MSA Spatial Analysis	MASc/MEng Phd Chem Eng, 08/09	MA Economics 08/09
Ryerson Review								
Dean - SGS	Letter of Intent (LoI) – including initial analysis of financial viability							
SGS Program & Planning Comm	Reviews LOI to determine if program appears feasible.							
Provost	Decides to proceed based on responses to LoI. Instructs sponsors to prepare OCGS program proposal.							
Internal/External Consultant	An expert in the field from another university reviews the proposal. Sponsors re-draft if necessary.							
Provost	Discusses proposal with Dean, sponsor.							
P&P of SGS	Reviews draft OCGS brief in light of I/E report – recommends to Council SGS based on academic quality							
Council, SGS	Reviews proposal							
Senate	Reviews program proposal for academic quality and moves to proceed to OCGS							
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.	Duenker-Dal Smardon-SUNY Syrac Jan 31/1	Habib -- Calgary Li – Ohio St April 21/22	Abbrev Brief	Abbrev Brief	Thrall -Fla WongGMU June 2/3	submitted	submitted
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	Not required	Not required	X		
Ryerson	Responds to report(s)	X	X			X		
Appraisal Committee	Reviews report and response and presents recommendation to OCGS (All graduate Deans in Ontario)	X	X			X		
OCGS Executive Director	Informs Ryerson of decision, provides letter required by Ministry for funding claim. OCGS meeting.	X GQ	X GQ		X GQ			
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 a *Master of Arts in Philosophy* listed below, and submits it to Senate 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 Senate, 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 (YDI-1109). Vol. I of the brief ('The Program') is also available for review at www.ryerson.ca/graduate/temp.
Username: gradstudies Password: 4ryerson

Motion

That the Senate approve the submission of the proposal for a *Master of Arts in Philosophy* 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 Master of Arts in Philosophy Executive Summary

The proposed Ryerson MA in Philosophy is a 5-term program in the core areas of philosophy. The program is designed as a capstone degree for students who wish to broaden or deepen their undergraduate experience in philosophy and as a stepping-stone degree for students planning to pursue a PhD in philosophy. It includes both a Major Research Paper and a Thesis stream, and plans to enrol 13 students each year for a steady state enrolment of 26.

Objectives: The program is designed to meet several objectives, including these:

- *To offer students exposure to the core areas of philosophy.* The program includes courses on the nature of the human self; the grounds of our moral and political obligations; the character of scientific inquiry; the value of aesthetic and religious claims and experiences; society's influence on our conceptions of ourselves and our world; and questions about the ultimate nature of reality.
- *To offer a broad range of ways of engaging with these core areas.* Students will explore both recent works from the leading figures in contemporary philosophy as well as the foundations of current debates through close study of the most important philosophical texts of the past.
- *To prepare students for PhD programs in philosophy.* By providing students with a broad exposure to the core traditions, eras and topics in philosophy, along with the opportunity to write a Major Research Paper or Thesis, the program will position students to gain entry to, and succeed at, top-ranked PhD programs in Canada and the United States.
- *To develop valuable professional skills.* The program's required Professional Seminar, its unique Graduate Teaching Sequence, and its innovative Area Readings requirement are designed to develop the analytical, communication, organization, study and research skills needed to succeed in the program and in the general workplace.

Viability: The program responds to clear needs within Ryerson, the Greater Toronto Area, and the province as a whole.

- *It fills an important gap in Ryerson’s slate of graduate programs.* The Ryerson University Act includes a mandate to “advance” the “intellectual, social, moral, cultural and spiritual development” of its students. The proposed program will offer the kind of careful and sustained reflection on the most profound aspects of the human condition needed for developing one’s character in these respects.
- *It targets existing student demand within the Greater Toronto Area.* Though MA programs in philosophy are offered at the University of Toronto and at York University, they together accept only 30 of the over 200 MA applications they receive each year. The program’s unique features will make it attractive to many of these students.
- *It offers new educational opportunities where Ontarians choose to live.* While the Greater Toronto Area accounts for over 40% of Ontario’s total population, only 16% of Ontario’s philosophy MA students study in the area. The program would bring the Toronto’s provincial share to about 25%. Moreover, recent studies indicate that as many as 40,000 additional undergraduates will soon enter the GTA university system, with many aiming at graduate-level study in all disciplines, including philosophy. The program will thus help meet the province’s long-term educational needs.

Faculty: The Philosophy Department at Ryerson has a proven record of excellence in teaching and research, a record that is demonstrated by an impressive list of national and international publications, and that has been recognized through a large number of research grants and awards. The department, currently composed of 13 tenured or tenure-track members and 2 limited term members, has developed a plan to hire as many as 5 additional philosophers in the next few years.

Curriculum: The program has two streams, represented in the following chart.

Stream	Term 1 (Fall)	Term 2 (Winter)	Term 3 (Spring/Summer)	Term 4 (Fall)	Term 5 (Winter)
Thesis	Professional Seminar; 2 electives	3 electives	MA Research; Area Readings	MA Research	Thesis
Major Research Paper	Professional Seminar; 2 electives	3 electives	MA Research; Area Readings	MA Research; 1 elective	MRP; 1 elective

Enrolment: The program anticipates enrolling 13 students each year, for a steady state enrolment of 26. While the program will be attractive to students with an Honour’s BA in Philosophy, since many students discover philosophy late in their undergraduate career, it will also be attractive to those with an Honour’s BA in a related subject and who have substantial experience in philosophy at the undergraduate level.

3. The School of Graduate Studies has reviewed the proposal for a ***Master of Professional Communication*** listed below, and submits it to Senate 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 Senate, 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 (YDI-1109). Vol. I of the brief ('The Program') is also available for review at www.ryerson.ca/graduate/temp.
Username: gradstudies Password: 4ryerson

Motion

That the Senate approve the submission of the proposal for a ***Master of Professional 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 Master of Professional Communication Executive Summary

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Ryerson University proposes to establish a Master of Professional Communication program that will address the growing societal need for formally qualified communication specialists to plan, implement and oversee organizational communication at an advanced level. The program is presented in recognition of several factors: the increasing impact of new technologies has revolutionized communication principles and practices over the past decade; this transformation has spurred a growing theoretical debate about the implications of such changes and created a pressing need for highly educated critical practitioners; graduate level education in Professional Communication in Canada lags significantly behind its US peers as evidenced by a survey of Canadian and US comparators and by interviews with Canadian industry executives. The proposed MPC provides the optimal balance between analytical/interpretive and practical knowledge needed to take advantage of this opportunity.

Ryerson's professional orientation and its urban campus in the centre of Canada's business capital make it ideally positioned to develop a graduate program in the emergent field of Professional Communication. The Department of Professional Communication is well-suited to offer the proposed MPC. Founded in 1972, the Department of Professional Communication (formerly Business and Technical Communication) currently provides a range of courses and a Business Communication Minor to undergraduate students. The demand for the Department's courses is high as reflected in its 3500 day course registrants and 1900 Continuing Education students. As part of the Faculty of Communication and Design (FCAD), the Department of Professional Communication will operate the proposed Master of Professional Communication in conjunction with the Edward S. Rogers School for Advanced Communication. The Rogers School is unique in Canada in its commitment to professionally-oriented graduate programs in communication. Graduate programs in the Rogers School are united by their interdisciplinary focus on communication studies, media technologies, and cultural production. Students in the MPC will benefit from facilities, opportunities and contacts arising within other programs. Like the other programs in the Rogers School, the MPC will be located in the Rogers Communication Centre, a state-of-the-art communication studies facility.

The MPC program meets all of the conditions and requirements outlined in Ryerson University's Academic Plan as they relate to graduate programs of study. As stipulated by OCGS guidelines for professional masters' degrees, the program will be open to applicants from a range of undergraduate degrees.

The program curriculum is designed for full-time participants and anticipates accepting its first cohort of students in September 2009. The intake is targeted at twenty students per year. The program has a comprehensive core sequence of required courses, a range of electives that allow students to acquire expertise in an area of focus, an action-research internship, and a major paper and presentation (MPP) based on the internship. The requirement for the MPC degree is 10 course units over a period of three semesters including completion of the MPP. Student academic performance will be monitored each term through grade evaluations, a progress report at the end of the second semester, and meetings with faculty supervisors. The curriculum is represented in table form below:

FIRST SEMESTER		
Library Research Colloquium	Required	0
Professional Communication: History, Theory, Practice	Required	1
Research Methods	Required	1
The Virtual Organization	Required	1
Visual Rhetoric in Public Contexts	Required	1
SECOND SEMESTER		
Three Courses from Table I	Electives	3
Action-research Internship		1
THIRD SEMESTER		
Major Paper & Presentation (MPP) (based on internship)	Required	2
TOTAL CREDITS		10

TABLE I – ELECTIVE COURSES (1 Credit Each)
Advanced Editing and Document Design
Advanced Speaking and Presentation Technology
Audiences and the Public
Communication and Legal Issues
Communication and Technology
Crisis Communication
Media Languages
Proposal Writing, Grant Seeking and Fundraising
Special Topics in Professional Communication
Strategic Media Relations
Topics in Cross-Cultural Communication

Twenty-eight faculty provide extensive scholarly depth and professional diversity. There are ten core faculty committed exclusively to the MPC program. Nine of these hold doctorates while the tenth holds a law degree and is a doctoral candidate in the final stages. All have active research programs, all are tenured or tenure-stream, and many have professional experience. Complementing these ten core faculty, an additional eighteen faculty with expertise, professional practice and research records in numerous communication fields are associated with the program. Sixteen of these have doctorates.

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