**York University**

**Faculty of Graduate Studies  
Faculty Council Meeting**

**Minutes**

**Thursday, February 7, 2019**  
**3:00 p.m.  
N940 Ross Building (Dr. Robert Everett Senate Chamber)**

### Present: K. Amoui-Kalareh, D. Cabianca, N. Couto, S. Datta (Chair), C. Ehrlich, K. Gingerich, H. Gomez, G. Grau, S. Henders, S. Henry, G. Kalman-Lamb, L. Kamenitz, A. Kosavic, M. Kristal, M.C. Leps, T. Loebel (Dean), C. MacCallum Fraser, A.A. Mitchell, W. Moir, R. Petranker, S. Pisana, M.M. Schiff (Recording Secretary), P. Vandergeest

### *Regrets: L. Gilbert, K. Houde, A.V. Hudson, U. Khan, A. Perry, A. Ricci*

### 1.  Welcome and Chair’s Remarks

Chair Suprakash Datta welcomed members of Council to the meeting. He read the Indigenous Acknowledgment as provided by the Aboriginal Education Council:

“York University acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Huron-Wendat, and the Métis. It is now home to many Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge the current treaty holders, the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.”

### Councillor Kurosh Amoui-Kalareh announced a Graduate Students’ Association event scheduled for 5:30 p.m. the same day, the Association’s the Annual General Meeting.

### 2.  [Minutes](http://gradstudies.yorku.ca/files/2019/01/fgs-council-minutes-december-6-2018-for-february-2019-.docx) of Previous Meeting (**December 6**,**** 2018) (.docx)

### The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### 3.  Business Arising from the Minutes

### There was no business arising from the minutes.

### 4. Dean's Remarks and Discussion

### Dean Tom Loebel discussed pressing matters of the day with Council.

### The Ontario government has mandated that university tuition for programs funded by the province be reduced by 10%. Since a 3% increase had been planned for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, there will in effect be a 13% budget reduction for next year and a 16% reduction the following year. The reduction does not apply to unfunded international students, or students in deregulated programs. The loss to York will be about $46 to $48 million in the first year, or a cut to all units of about 4.5% in the first year. How will the cuts be achieved without damaging academic planning and support? Innovate programs and supporting students remain priorities. The Faculty of Graduate Studies will protect its student support budget first and foremost.

### The Ontario government has also decided that many supplementary student and referenda fees will be optional for students, except for fees that go to support academic services, athletics, recreation, career, student buildings, transit passes, health and counselling. Some current fees will become optional, including student government fees, but what that will look like in the end remains to be determined. The Graduate Students’ Association health plan will remain mandatory; at this time it is not known how administrative fees would be collected.

### The government is also changing Ontario Student Assistance Program thresholds so there will be more loans, rather than grants. The grace period for commencing repayments has been removed.

### Councillor Kurosh Amoui-Kalareh posited that recent political changes by the Ontario government relate to the government’s new free speech policies.

### 5.  New Graduate Program

\* \* \*   F o r   A p p r o v a l   \* \* \*

Approved at the November 14, 2018, meeting of Faculty of Graduate Studies’ Academic Planning & Policy Committee; revised after external review

[**Proposed Graduate Program in Management in Artificial Intelligence**](http://gradstudies.yorku.ca/files/2019/01/fgs-council-proposed-new-graduate-program-management-artificial-intelligence-february-2019.pdf) (includes learning outcomes) (.pdf) | [**External review**](http://gradstudies.yorku.ca/files/2019/01/fgs-council-external-report-new-graduate-program-management-artificial-intelligence-february-2019.pdf) (.pdf) | MMAI

### Associate Dean of Schulich and councillor Detlev Zwick introduced this item to Council. The proposed Master of Management in Artificial Intelligence program is designed to prepare individuals to seek and obtain meaningful employment in artificial intelligence-related management positions, whether in private, public or non-profit organizations. Artificial intelligence-related fields include data science, machine learning, visualizations, natural language understanding, intelligent robotics, knowledge representation, reasoning and management, intelligent agents, human computer interfaces, and recommendation systems. The proposed new graduate program addresses a growing need in post-graduate management education for programs that train students in the task of managing the design and implementation of practical related solutions and technologies. The program seeks to produce such graduates.

### Councillor Zwick drew attention to the external review reports attached to the agenda. He discussed how the proposal had been improved as a result, including stressing the managerial content of the program in organizational management courses. He noted that the support of the Vector Institute has been key.

### Discussion by councillors focused on the required course exploring the ethics of Artificial Intelligence, offered by the Graduate Program in Philosophy, a new course offered outside of the Schulich School of Business graduate programs.

### Councillor Zwick noted that ethics components have been integrated into other existing courses in the new degree, as well as the important new required philosophy course in ethics.

It was moved, seconded and **CARRIED**, unanimously,

**“that the proposed new Graduate Program in Management in Artificial Intelligence (Faculty of Graduate Studies) be APPROVED.”**

### 6.  Changes in Degree Requirements

Approved by the Faculty of Graduate Studies’ Academic Planning & Policy Committee on December 12, 2018

\* \* \*   F o r   A p p r o v a l   \* \* \*

**Graduate Program in Economics**[**Change in course requirements**](http://gradstudies.yorku.ca/files/2019/01/fgs-council-economics-degree-requirement-change-proposal-and-rationale-february-2019.doc) (.doc) | [**Learning outcomes**](http://gradstudies.yorku.ca/files/2019/01/fgs-council-economics-masters-learning-expectations-february-2019-1.docx) (.docx)

Dean Tom Loebel introduced this item to Council on behalf of the program. The program is seeking to eliminate the two-course writing requirement at the Master’s level, instead having one such course requirement with a sufficient writing component. This change will provide needed flexibility in course selection while maintaining some attention to writing skills.

It was moved, seconded and **CARRIED**, unanimously,

**“that the changes in degree requirements proposed by the Graduate Program in Economics (Faculty of Graduate Studies) be APPROVED.”**

### 7. Senate Synopses

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Summaries of Senate meetings of [**December 13, 2018**](https://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/files/senate-synopsis-20181213.pdf) and [***January 24, 2019***](https://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/files/senate-synopsis-20190124.pdf) (URL/.pdf)

The Senate summaries were received *for information*.

### 8.  Other Business

### There was no other business.

### 9.  Adjournment

### The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.