MINUTES

Meeting of the GC Policy Committee
Wednesday, 12th January 2022, 12.30-13.50
Location: Zoom

Present: Teresa Dobson, Brett Eaton, Michael Hunt, Susan Porter, John Ries, Laura Sly (Chair), Mark MacLachlan, Jenny Phelps, Sean Smukler, Cheryl Dumaresq (guest), Taryn Cigagna (guest), Max Read, Arafat Safdar

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND REGRETS
   Shannon Hagerman (Introduction)
   Mopelola Akinlaja (Introduction)
   Jocelyn Stacey (Regrets)

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

   All } That the agenda be approved.

   Carried

3. MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES

   All } That the minutes be approved.

   Carried

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES

Joint PhD

- Jenny provided a brief overview of the program and mentioned that more consultation was needed for the pathway to take effect.
- Mark asked if the tuition was to be paid by the candidates – Jenny responded that they would not and explained that JDRF would pay VIRS fee up to one year. The students, however, would be paying for their medical insurance (like all other students). Brett asked if this fee structure was related to their participation in graduate courses – Jenny said that this program was meant strictly for research studies but there was another pathway for the visiting students who wanted to take graduate-level courses.
- Taryn raised concerns around the visa status of visiting students – Jenny mentioned GoGlobal’s Global Virtual Classroom under which a student would be able to take courses in the partner universities and credits would then be awarded by the home university – Cheryl said this program was still in development.
- Mopelola asked if this pathway would be available to students from other local universities (such as SFU)– Jenny said that for most of the Canadian universities, there were existing
agreements which enabled students to take courses in other universities – VIRS is not needed as other mechanisms are available.

- Cheryl raised concerns around the fact that the supervisor may not meet the requirement to be a co-supervisor under JDRF, something which may lead to some administrative back and forth – She also highlighted potential issues of housing these students on campus – Jenny clarified that JDRF students would not get housing just because of their JDRF but will only be considered ‘eligible’ for housing like other students and that the eligibility period would be limited due to availability.

- Susan asked if the approval of co-supervisor was not to be acknowledged by the host institution as well? She also asked if the JDRF pathway was necessarily exclusive (excluding Canadian institutions) – Jenny asked the group if this pathway should be available to students form other Canadian universities –

- Mark asked questions around the intellectual property regulations related to this pathway - what if a student makes a big discovery at a UBC lab? – how does it get treated w.r.t. Intellectual Property protocols – he said that a sign-off would be needed from the advisors at both the institutions — Jenny asked about how do these issues get dealt with currently – Mark said that a student coming into VIRS is like a group member, if they make a discovery, VIRS is thought to be an external scholarship that pays them and it would fall under UBC IP policy.

- Jenny asked the group if they thought the university would benefit more from collaborative supervised research and if there was a desire for more of the joint conferral of the degrees – Brett said that the joint conferral does not matter either to the supervisor or to the student – what matters to a supervisor is to be recognized and named in the final thesis – He further said that joint conferral should not be the ultimate target. Rather, it should be on establishing relationships – Mark agreed with that.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:56pm.