Graduate Briefing Session

Tuesday, April 7, 2015
Governing Council Chambers
9:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m.

Locke Rowe - Dean, Graduate Studies and Vice-Provost, Graduate Research and Education
SGS Review & Update

1. SGS Review

2. Appointment of new Dean and VP Graduate Research and Education

3. Short-term questions?
   • What does SGS do?
   • What should SGS do?
   • What is the role of the VP Graduate Research and Education
Current Directions

Orienting away from some areas
• Redundancies, inefficiencies, governance, regulation

Orienting toward others
• Graduate education, experience, outcomes and engagement

Cultural change
• A facilitator and an agent of innovation
• An advocate for graduate students and graduate studies
Orienting Away From:

Overlap and redundancies
- Graduate UTQAP is now largely with VP AP
- Graduate calendar is now largely with VP AP

Costly and likely ineffective regulatory behaviours
- Non-standard admissions
- PhD externals
- Checks on transcripts of graduates
- Departmental audits

SGS regulations
- More flexibility and trust in interpretation
- A longer term rethink with the GEC
Graduate student experience

- Realigning Student Services (25 people)
  - E.g., a new welcoming “concierge”
- Developing a presence at UTM and UTSC
- The Buildings
- Grad Life
- Embedded Services
- IT Upgrade
  - progress tracker
  - electronic forms
  - mild irritations
Space
2\textsuperscript{nd} Happiest Day of Your Life
The New Macdonald FOE Room
Graduate student outcomes and engagement

- Special Advisor on Graduate Skills Development and Engagement (Reinhart Reithmeier)
  - Increased support for the current GPS program
  - Expansion and integration of the program
  - Tracking and engagement of alumni
Graduate student education

• Special Advisor on Innovation in Graduate Programming (Suzanne Akbari)
• Innovations in the Basic Med. Sci. PhD.
• Rethinking the Humanities PhD
  • JHI and the Chair’s Working Group
• Task Force on Time to Completion
Culture Shift

Culture shift will probably be the most enduring change

- A facilitator and an agent of innovation
- An advocate for graduate students and graduate studies
- Team player, particularly in innovation
  - Provost’s office
  - The divisions
  - GSU
  - Integrating IT systems
- A large task will be changing the external culture
Culture Shift: External Views

1. The view of SGS within the Provost’s Office

2. The view of SGS by graduate students, particularly doctoral stream students
   - Services we provide
   - Nature of our relationship with GSU

3. The view of SGS by faculty
GSU – SGS Collaboration

• Best Practices
  • supervisor- student relationships
  • financial transactions
• Conflict Resolution Advising Centre
• Building a presence at UTSC and UTM
• Task Forces
  • Time to Completion
  • Recruitment
Transitions at SGS