



# Graduate Studies Committee

**February 27, 2012**

**12:00PM – 1:00PM**

**Dean's Conference Room (4307, HPNP)**

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**Members:** Dr. Ray Bergeron (MC), Dr. Ian Tebbett (MC-Forensics), Dr. Joanna Peris (PD), Dr. Tony Palmieri (PC), Dr. Almut Winterstein (POP), Dr. Taimour Langae (PTR), Dr. Bill Millard (ORGS), Jonathan Schelfhout (SP)

**Guests:** Dr. Diane Beck

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## AGENDA TOPICS

- + Accept Minutes from the January 19, 2012 Meeting.
  
- + Research Showcase Cool Down
  
- + Graduate School Fellows and Grinters Review Process
  
- + Summer Research Opportunities Applications



# Graduate Studies Committee

Minutes from February 27, 2012

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**Members:** Dr. Ray Bergeron (MC), Dr. Ian Tebbett (MC-Forensics), Dr. Joanna Peris (PD), Dr. Tony Palmieri (PC), Dr. Almut Winterstein (POP), Dr. Taimour Langae (PTR), Dr. Bill Millard (ORGS), Jonathan Schelfhout (SP)

**Absent:** Dr. Diane Beck

**Guests:**

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✚ **Accept Minutes:** Meeting began at 1:06pm with the minutes from the January 19<sup>th</sup>, meeting being accepted. A minor change in the way the minutes are sent out for review, will take effect beginning next month. Minutes will now be sent out the day after the meeting for review.

✚ **Research Showcase Cool Down:** Dr. Millard apologized for the miscommunication between POP and the Deans Office during this year's Research Showcase. Next year the person in charge of the Research Showcase will have a bulleted guide to use prepared by Debbie Bambarola to better prepare a timeline for the judges, logistics, food ordering, etc. Dr. Peris volunteered the Pharmacodynamics department to run the showcase for the upcoming year. There was also a concern on the low number of posters that were presented in this year's showcase. Every graduate student and fellow should present at the poster competition. It was noted that the college may want to offer more awards in order to entice the students to participate. Perhaps awards could be tied to certain specialties that are frequently represented in the showcase, in addition to the current awards that select the best across all students. Dr. Millard reminded the members that the idea behind the poster session is to have students gain experience in presenting their work... it should not be tied to the number of awards given out. One of the members then brought up the need for extra judges. Dr. Millard agreed and explained that he would prefer if the judges were assigned to 10-12 posters or less to allow interaction with the students. Also the date of the showcase was moved a few years ago to an earlier date in the year to facilitate recruiting by inviting potential applicants to the campus. The suggestion was made that all invited applicants could be invited to a joint lunch or dinner surrounding the research showcase.

Dr. Peris also mentioned that this year there was an issue in which two posters with the same research title and data were presented by two different students. One was a Graduate student and the other was a PharmD student. After some discussion, it was agreed that as long as the author list does not change and they are being judged in two different divisions, by different judges, this approach might be acceptable. Of note, selection of the student who carried the project/or conducted the majority of work should be given preference in presenting the work and having first authorship. It would then be up to the student to do a good enough job in presenting the poster board, to win the award. Mr. Schelfhout suggested that if planned

in advance, the mentors could work with the students to find small but distinctly different research questions so that each student can take responsibility for his or her own independent work.

Dr. Peris expressed that in the future her department will most likely only allow one poster submission per research topic. Dr. Winterstein supported this approach.

- ✚ **Graduate School Fellows and Grinters process:** Dr. Millard began by explaining all of the options for fund distribution that are available according to the graduate school. Tuition waiver authority will be lost with any top offs. A survey of departments in the college agreed (except for MC which did not respond) that three \$25,000 graduate school fellowships should be given out.

The idea is for Grinters and Graduate School fellows to be rolled into one competition. Every department should submit their **top two** candidates. The departments would then vote on all applicants except the ones in their own departments. The top three winners will receive Graduate School Fellows. The next three would receive Grinter Awards. If any student were to deny an award, then the next person in line would accept that award in their place. If there ends up being a need for more than ten applicants, Dr. Millard will request an additional student from each department. ***All nominations are due by Monday, March 5th.*** Dr. Millard will consolidate votes and inform departments shortly thereafter.

- ✚ **Summer Research Opportunity Applications:** Dr. Millard has submitted to each of the departmental chairs a listing of all PharmD students who are interested in doing summer research opportunities with a faculty member. Departments are asked to provide feedback about candidates by mid-March. Dr. Millard noted that some students (most at distant campuses) did not list a faculty mentor in the application and thus it would be hard to offer an internship to those without mentors.

Meeting adjourned at 12:58pm

\*Next meeting is scheduled for March 19<sup>th</sup> at 12pm in room 4307