



University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

TO: Academic Policy and Programs

SPONSOR: Vivek Goel

CONTACT INFO: provost@utoronto.ca

DATE: March 24, 2004 for the meeting on May 12, 2004

AGENDA ITEM: 3

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

School of Graduate Studies: Proposal for an In-Program Master of Philosophy Degree (M.Phil.)

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee has authority to recommend to Academic Board for approval changes which establish a new degree program.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

HIGHLIGHTS:

The In-Program Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) degree will only be awarded to students enrolled in Ph.D programs and would receive this degree on route to their Ph.D. Award of the M.Phil degree would recognize that a candidate for the Ph.D. has completed a substantial program of pre-thesis requirements. Each graduate unit would decide whether to offer the M.Phil degree. Proposals from a graduate unit to offer this degree will require the approval of relevant divisional executive committees as well as the SGS Council.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

Although there are no direct resource implications to this proposal, a number of measures must be put into place to administer this degree. There will be a transcript notation upon awarding this degree; students will not attend Convocation to receive this degree; a diploma will be available upon payment of a fee.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs recommend to the Academic Board for approval:

THAT the proposal for an In-Program Master of Philosophy Degree (M.Phil.) as specified in the attached letter from the School of Graduate Studies dated March 15, 2004 be approved.



School of Graduate Studies

University of Toronto

April 15, 2004

Professor Vivek Goel
Interim Vice-President and Provost
Room 225, Simcoe Hall
27 King's College Circle
University of Toronto

Dear Professor Goel:

With respect to my original letter of March 15, 2004, I am writing to confirm that SGS Council approved the following motion at its meeting of March 23, 2004:

THAT SGS Council approve the proposal for an In-Program Master of Philosophy Degree (M.Phil.).

The motion and supporting documentation were attached with the letter of March 15, 2004.

Mr. Andrew Drummond, Secretary to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs, has informed my office that the item will appear on the agenda of the May 12 meeting of AP&P, for approval.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Alderdice
Secretary to SGS Council
and Coordinator of Policy, Program and Liaison

/smr

c.c.	S. Acker	T. Chan	D. Coombs
	G. Ferris	U. De Boni	A. Drummond
	C. Johnston	B. Katz	V. Makarovska
	M. Marrus	S. Moore	L. Yee
	S. Zaky		

H:Council/FollowUp/2003-2004/March 23/M.Phil Degree



School of Graduate Studies

University of Toronto

March 15, 2004

Professor Vivek Goel
Interim Vice-President and Provost
Room 225, Simcoe Hall
27 King's College Circle
University of Toronto

Dear Professor Goel:

The following motion is on the agenda of the upcoming March 23, 2004 SGS Council meeting:

THAT SGS Council approve the proposal for an In-Program Master of Philosophy Degree (M.Phil.).

The motion and supporting documentation are attached. The divisional Executive Committees of the School of Graduate Studies have discussed this proposal. It has also been discussed at SGS Council on several occasions.

We will confirm this approval on March 24, after the SGS Council meeting. In the meantime, we hope you are able to place this item on the agenda of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs meeting scheduled for March 31.

On behalf of the Council of the School of Graduate Studies and pending SGS approval, I am presenting this item to Governing Council committees, for approval.

Yours sincerely,

per Jane Alderdice
Secretary to SGS Council
and Coordinator of Policy, Program and Liaison

Encl.
/smr

c.c.	S. Acker	T. Chan	D. Coombs
	G. Ferris	U. De Boni	A. Drummond (with attachments)
	C. Johnston	B. Katz	V. Makarovska
	M. Marrus	S. Moore	L. Yee
	S. Zaky (with attachments)		

H:Council/FollowUp/2003-2004/March 23/M.Phil Degree

Motion

School of Graduate Studies Council Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Item 6.

6. Proposal for a Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) In-Program Degree

MOTION (/) that SGS Council approve the proposal for an In-Program Master of Philosophy Degree (M.Phil.).

See the executive summary and proposal attached.

NOTE:

This proposal has been discussed by the divisional Executive Committees of the School of Graduate Studies. It has also been discussed at SGS Council on several occasions.

With SGS Council's approval, this item will be forwarded to Governing Council committees for approval, and to the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies for information or approval, as appropriate.

Once this proposal receives final approval, graduate units will be eligible to submit proposals to Executive Committee and SGS Council for the inclusion of this degree in their Ph.D. program offerings. Such programs must meet the minimum requirements set out in the overall proposal for the M.Phil. Approval of both the divisional Executive Committee and SGS Council will be required. When final approval is secured for the degree within an individual program, all students then registered in that program will be eligible for the degree. Former students, that is, those no longer registered in a Ph.D. program, will not be eligible for the M.Phil. degree.

School of Graduate Studies
University of Toronto

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a proposal for an in-program master's degree to be instituted at the University of Toronto, to be known as the Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) and to be awarded only to students enrolled in Ph.D. programs. Students would receive this degree en route to the Ph.D., when they have completed all requirements for the degree exclusive of the thesis. Award of the M.Phil. degree would recognize that a candidate for the Ph.D. has completed a substantial program of pre-thesis requirements for the Ph.D.

Each graduate unit would decide for itself whether the awarding of this degree to its students is consistent with its doctoral program and disciplinary culture. A proposal from a graduate unit to offer this degree will require the approval of the relevant divisional executive committee as well as SGS Council.

This proposal has been discussed on two occasions by the four divisional Executive Committees, and was fully debated at two meetings of SGS Council prior to the January 27 meeting.

There are no direct resource implications to this proposal. However, there are a number of measures that must be put into place in order to administer this degree. There will be a transcript notation upon the awarding of this degree. Students will not attend Convocation to receive this degree; a diploma will be available upon payment of a fee.

A number of major North American research universities--e.g., Columbia University, New York University, Rutgers University, and Yale University--offer a similar in-program Master of Philosophy degree, i.e., a degree awarded en route to the Ph.D. when the candidate has completed an advanced stage of the Ph.D. program, using the designation 'M.Phil.'.

January 21, 2004



School of Graduate Studies

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Proposal for a new Master's Degree: An In-Program Master of Philosophy Degree

This is a proposal for an in-program master's degree to be instituted at the University of Toronto, to be known as the *Master of Philosophy (MPhil)* and to be awarded only to students enrolled in PhD programs. Students would receive this degree en route to the PhD, when they have completed all requirements for the degree exclusive of the thesis. Award of the MPhil degree would recognize that a candidate for the PhD has completed a substantial program of pre-thesis requirements for the PhD.

Each graduate unit would decide for itself whether the awarding of this degree to its students is consistent with its doctoral program and disciplinary culture. A proposal from a graduate unit to offer this degree will require the approval of the relevant divisional executive committee as well as SGS Council.

Proposed In-Program Master of Philosophy (MPhil) Degree:

1. The MPhil degree will be conferred only as an in-program degree on candidates for the PhD, who are in good academic standing, according to the General Regulations of the *SGS Calendar*.
2. The requirement for the MPhil degree will be that the candidate has completed all requirements for the PhD degree exclusive of the thesis, including course requirements, language requirements, departmental examinations. (Some graduate units require candidates to register in courses that run continuously throughout the PhD program, e.g. ongoing research seminar courses. Such courses would be exempt from the foregoing condition.)
3. Only graduate units whose requirements for the PhD degree include substantial pre-thesis program requirements, such as significant course requirements, departmental qualifying examinations, and language requirements, will offer the MPhil degree. Normally, a graduate unit will be authorized to award the MPhil degree:
 - a) to candidates admitted on the basis of a bachelor's degree only when its program requirements for this category of student include the completion of at least five full-course equivalent graduate courses and a departmental qualifying examination; and
 - b) to candidates admitted on the basis of a master's degree only when its program requirements for this category of student include the completion of at least three full-course equivalent graduate courses (exclusive of any taken in the master's program) and a departmental qualifying examination.
4. A graduate unit approved to offer the MPhil degree will identify in its Calendar entry the specific requirements for the degree, as imposed by paragraph 2, above, for candidates in its PhD program.
5. No graduate unit will be required to offer the MPhil degree.

6. The MPhil degree will be awarded only in absentia.
7. Graduate units awarding the MPhil degree will inform SGS when eligible candidates in their graduate units have completed the requirements for the degree. These students will receive a notation on their transcripts saying that they have been awarded the MPhil degree; those who wish to receive a diploma in addition will be required to pay a diploma fee.
8. Candidates for the PhD who have been awarded the MPhil will not be eligible to transfer from the PhD to an MA/MSc program.

January 6, 2004