



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: 6

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

School of Graduate Studies: Proposal for the Department of Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry to change the admission requirements of the Ph.D. degree program.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee has authority to approve minor changes to admission policies and practices of individual programs.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

HIGHLIGHTS:

The proposed change entails the introduction of a Ph.D. Qualifier Exam to the Department's Graduate Program. Currently, the Department assesses a student's candidacy through reading committees (particularly the first one) for direct admit Ph.D.'s or at a Transfer Oral for students in a masters program that wish to transfer. The Qualifier Exam should provide a more formalized structure for assessing the student's candidacy for the Ph.D.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

There are no new/additional financial resources required to implement the program change. The changes to the programs are planned to be included into the SGS Calendar for 2004-2005.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs approve:

THAT the proposal for the Department of Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry to change the requirements of the Ph.D. degree program, as specified in the attached letter from the School of Graduate Studies dated March 15, 2004.



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 of the Department of Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry to change the requirements of the Ph.D. degree program, as specified in the attachment, effective September 2005.

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.	D. Coombs	A. Drummond
	G. Ferris	C. Johnston
	R. Sage	L. Yee
	S. Zaky	

H:Council/FollowUp/2003-2004/March 23/ChemEng Admission Requirement



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 of the Department of Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry to change the requirements of the Ph.D. degree program, as specified in the attachment, effective September 2005.

The motion and supporting documentation are attached. Division III Executive Committee approved the proposal at its meeting of March 2, 2004.

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. Approval of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs will permit inclusion of this new information into the SGS Calendar for 2004-2005. Please let me know if you require any further information.

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 information or approval, as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

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

Encl.
/smr

c.c.	D. Coombs	A. Drummond (with attachments)
	G. Ferris	C. Johnston
	R. Sage	L. Yee
	S. Zaky (with attachments)	

Motion

School of Graduate Studies Council Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Item 9.

9. Program Requirement Changes:

9.1: Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry

MOTION (/) THAT SGS Council approve the proposal of the Department of Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry to change the requirements of the Ph.D. degree program, as specified in the attachment, effective September 2005.

See attached.

NOTE:

Division III Executive Committee approved the proposal at its meeting of March 2, 2004.

With SGS Council approval, this item will go to Governing Council committees for information or approval as appropriate.

February 23, 2004,

Professor Grant Ferris
Associate Dean
School of Graduate Studies
University of Toronto: Sent via email with hardcopy to follow.

Dear Professor Ferris

RE: Ph.D. Qualifier in Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry

Our Department would like to introduce a Ph.D. Qualifier Exam to our Graduate Program (attached). I would appreciate it if you could bring this forward at the next Division III Executive Committee meeting if possible (March 2, 2004). We'd like to introduce this beginning in September 2004.

The main shift from our current practice is that at present we assess a student's candidacy through reading committees (particularly the first one) for direct admit Ph.D.'s or at a Transfer Oral for students in a masters program that wish to transfer. The qualifier should provide a more formalized structure for assessing the student's candidacy for the Ph.D.

I look forward to discussion of this at the meeting.

Sincerely,

D. Grant Allen,
Associate Chair (Graduate Coordinator)
Dept of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry
Phone: (416) 978-8517; Fax: (416) 978-8605; Email: allendg@chem-eng.utoronto.ca

*Ph.D. Qualifying Exam and M.A.Sc. Transfer Proposal
Of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry
As approved by Division III Executive Committee
March 2, 2004*

- 1) The qualifying exam will be administered early in a Ph.D. student's term to ensure students are qualified to complete a program, and to facilitate degree completion in a timely manner.
- 2) Two groups of students will be considered: Those admitted to the M.A.Sc. program who wish to transfer to a Ph.D. by way of a 'Transfer Oral' that will be considered the Ph.D. qualifying exam; and those who are directly admitted to a Ph.D. because they have a suitable research masters degree will do a Ph.D. qualifying exam.
- 3) In both transfer oral and qualifying exam, the committee will consist of the usual reading committee (supervisor(s) plus two other faculty) as well as an independent graduate faculty member from within the department who is appointed by the Graduate Coordinator. The independent faculty member will be selected from an appropriate field of study and will act as the chair of the exam. The evaluation of the student will be based on the student's research proposal (written and oral) and its defence as well as the student's course grades in the course. The committee will vote on pass/fail/retake.