

**Queen's University**  
**Senate Committee on Academic Procedures**  
Report to Senate – September 24, 2009

**CHANGE OF DEGREE PROGRAM NAMES FOR GRADUATE DEGREES**

**Background**

On March 27, 2009, the University Secretary requested that the Senate Committee on Academic Procedures (SCAP) review a proposal received from the Associate Vice-Principal and Dean of the School of Graduate Studies regarding a change of degree program names for graduate degrees in Mathematics and Statistics.

The Chair of SCAP requested that the Office of the University Registrar and the School of Graduate Studies collaborate to fulfill the Secretary's request.

**Analysis and Discussion**

Staff from the Office of the University Registrar and the School of Graduate Studies conducted extensive research utilizing Senate minutes and information received from the Ontario Council of Graduate Studies. It was confirmed that there were a number of instances in which degree program names differed between the two offices and a decision was made to investigate all cases of differentiation, rather than to focus on that of Mathematics and Statistics alone.

Research showed that the degree name discrepancies arose when an official name change for a department was approved by Senate. When the department name change was approved, any graduate degree names were also changed by the School of Graduate Studies to correspond to the new department name, although the degree name changes were not formally approved by Senate and were not changed by the OUR in the Student Information System.

**Recommendations**

Discussions between the OUR and SGS resulted in the decision to communicate a request to Senate asking for approval to change graduate degree program names to those on file at the SGS and that, in the future, all degree program name changes would be forwarded to Senate for its approval. This will ensure appropriate governance and accuracy of degree program names are in official academic records.

It should be noted that students currently enrolled in a degree program with an old name will be transferred in the student system to the degree program with a new name. Those who have already completed their degree program will not be transferred to maintain the integrity of the official transcript.

**Summary**

The Senate Committee on Academic Procedures recommends the following motion be considered for action at the October 22, 2009 meeting of Senate:

*Be it resolved that the following graduate degree program names be changed to new names as indicated in the table below, as of October 1, 2009, and that future graduate degree program name change requests be forwarded to Senate for its approval in all instances before becoming official.*

<i>Degree</i>	<i>Old Degree Program Name</i>
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<i>Ph.D. (Direct entry)</i>	<i>Microbiology</i>	<i>Microbiology and Immunology</i>
<i>M.Sc.</i>	<i>Pharmacology</i>	<i>Pharmacology and Toxicology</i>
<i>Ph.D.</i>	<i>Pharmacology</i>	<i>Pharmacology and Toxicology</i>
<i>M.A.Sc.</i>	<i>Physics</i>	<i>Physics, Engineering Physics, and Astronomy</i>
<i>M.Sc.</i>	<i>Physics</i>	<i>Physics, Engineering Physics, and Astronomy</i>
<i>Ph.D.</i>	<i>Physics</i>	<i>Physics, Engineering Physics, and Astronomy</i>

**Membership**

- J. Atkinson, Faculty of Arts and Science
- C. Beach, Chair, Faculty of Arts and Science
- J. Brady, University Registrar
- R. Coupland, Secretary, Office of the University Registrar
- S. E. Matrix, Faculty of Arts and Science
- C. Price, School of Business
- E. Tolley, Faculty of Arts and Science
- P. Welsh, Faculty of Law