



GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

*Report to Academic Council
at its meeting of February 28, 2017*

FOR ACTION

1. PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering – New Field

The Graduate Studies Committee recommends:

That Academic Council approve the new field in Power Systems and Power Electronics

Rationale

The committee recommends the approval of the new field in Power Systems and Power Electronics. Courses in this field are already being offered as there are a number of faculty members with research in this area. Adding the field will allow for formal recognition and to market this expertise within the program. There are also a number of exiting labs to support the new field: Power Systems Protection and Automation Laboratory, Advanced Storage Systems and Electric Transportation (ASSET) Laboratory, Power Electronics and Drives Applications Lab (PEDAL), and Electrical Power Laboratory. No new additional resources are required.

2. Master of Applied Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering – New Fields

The Graduate Studies Committee recommends:

That Academic Council approve the four new fields in Communications and Signal Processing; Control Systems; Software Systems; and Power Systems and Power Electronics

Rationale

The committee recommends the approval of the new fields. This change is to reflect in the Master's program the fields offered within the PhD program. It will allow the Faculty to better market existing research strengths to students. No new resources are required.

3. Proposal for renaming the Office of Graduate Studies to School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

The Graduate Studies Committee recommends:

That the name change be recommended by Academic Council to the Board of Governors for approval

Rationale

“School” conveys a primary academic/intellectual/scholarly mission whereas “Office” presents more of an administrative primary role. Such a name change would be advantageous, both internally and externally to UOIT. The roles and responsibilities of the Office/School (summarized in Appendix 1) would not change as a result of the renaming.

FOR INFORMATION

The committee also approved the following:

1. Master of Information Technology (MITS) – Minor program adjustment

The committee approved a change to the MITS program allowing for a course-based option for students. This is an attractive option for those students who come from industry to enhance and broaden their skills in different areas of IT security by taking additional courses instead of the capstone.

2. Master of Applied Science and PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering – Minor program adjustment

The committee approved a minor program adjustment based on an outcome to the recent program review. The external reviewers recommended the removal of the second seminar course from the ECE PhD degree requirements and revisions to the first seminar course to better reflect the needs of students. The current seminar courses are shared, therefore a new course (ENGR 6007G: PhD Seminar for ECE) was created and Seminar II was removed from the requirements for this program. To reflect the changes to the PhD program a new course was also created in the MASc program (ENGR 5007G).