

Queen's University
Senate Committee on Academic Procedures

CONVOCATION AND SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES GRADUATES

November 2012

Background

Prior to 2010, students graduating with Master and Doctoral degrees from the School of Graduate Studies participated in the Fall or Spring Convocation ceremony in which undergraduate students from their department were a part. For example, students receiving graduate degrees in History would graduate at the same ceremony in which students receiving undergraduate degrees in History would participate.

From 2010 to 2012, during Spring Convocation ceremonies, the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) had its own Convocation ceremony in which all of its graduating students took part.

Analysis and Discussion

After Spring Convocation in 2012, representatives from Faculties/Schools in addition to other units with a stake in Convocation held a debrief meeting. One topic that arose was whether the SGS should continue to have a separate ceremony during Spring Convocation.

It was thought that dispersing graduate students throughout many ceremonies may help to increase faculty attendance at Convocation, since many faculty members attend the ceremonies in which their students participate. It was noted that graduate students often see themselves more as members of their department (i.e., History) than the SGS itself and may appreciate

Summary

The Senate Committee on Academic Procedures approved this proposal at its November 7, 2012 meeting and now requests that the Senate consider the following motion:

Be it resolved that, beginning in Spring 2013, graduating graduate students will attend their individual department's or unit's Convocation ceremony and that a single ceremony held during Spring Convocation for the entire School of Graduate Studies be eliminated.

Membership

T. Alm, Interim University Registrar

L. Burlock, B.A. '14

R. Coupland, Office of the University Registrar (Secretary)

C. Esselmont, PhD candidate, Department of Philosophy

H. Everson, Faculty of Arts and Science

J. Mennell, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

J. Morelli, Department of Physics, Engineering Physics, and Astronomy

T. Shearer, School of Business (Chair)