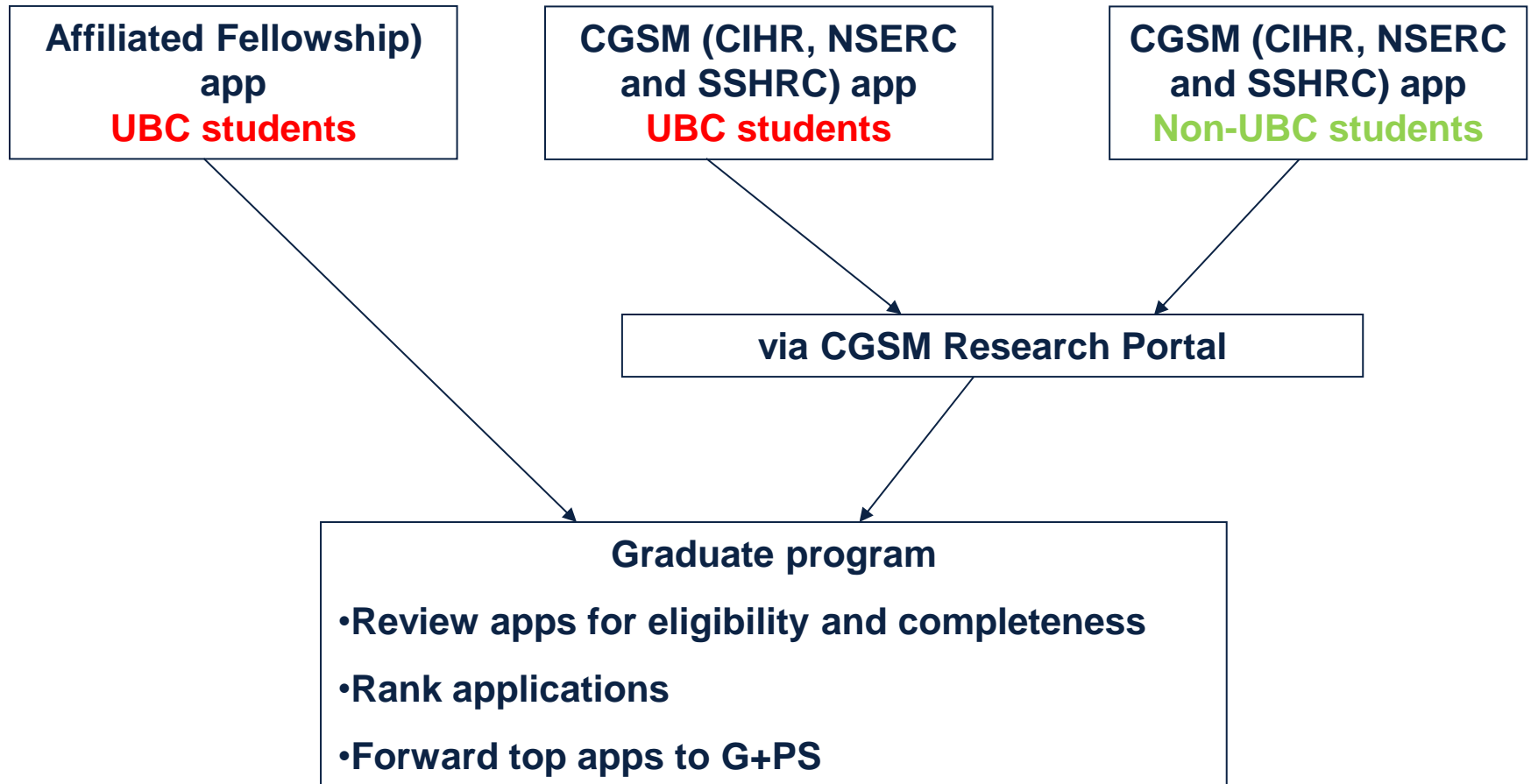


Scholarship Adjudication Workshop

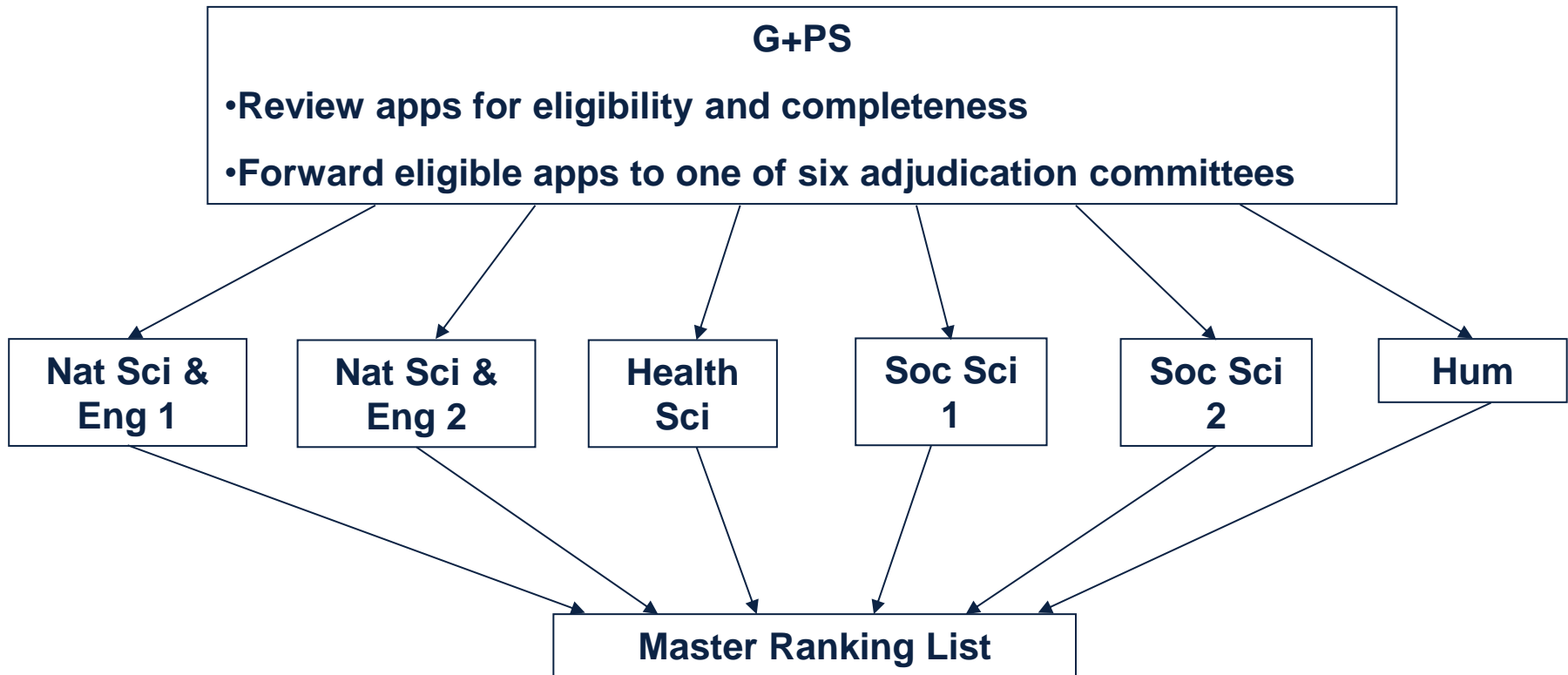
Presentation date: 13 May 2014



CGSM Competition Overview



Competition Overview



Competition Overview

| Master Ranking List | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Jones – CIHR |
| 2. | Singh - Affiliated |
| 3. | Cushan - NSERC |
| 4. | Wong - NSERC |
| 5. | Thompson - SSHRC |
| 6. | Wright - NSERC |
| 7. | Tennebrau - Affiliated |
| 8. | Lowrie - CIHR |
| 9. | Etc. |

CIHR CGSM Offer List
UBC Allocation: **40**
First offers made via CGSM
Research Portal: 1 April

NSERC CGSM Offer List
UBC Allocation: **75**
First offers made via CGSM
Research Portal: 1 April

SSHRC CGSM Offer List
UBC Allocation: **86**
First offers made via CGSM
Research Portal: 1 April



Adjudication Committees

- Graduate Programs
 - Varies; examples?
- Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
 - Faculty members recommended by Dept Heads, grad advisors, colleagues
 - Disciplinary committees for CGSM; interdisciplinary committees for other competitions (i.e., Aboriginal Graduate Fellowships)
 - 3 to 7 faculty members per sub-committee (CGSM)
 - Each application reviewed by two committee members
 - Committee members rank ~ 30 applications each
 - Submit individual rankings to G+PS
 - Rankings normalized to a bell curve score out of 100
 - Scores sent to entire committee in advance of in-person meeting
 - Meet to discuss discrepancies and finalize scores



Ranking Spreadsheet

| Gill (CHEM) | Smith (ZOOL) | Walley (SOIL) | Zhang (EOSC) | Average | Discrepancy | Student |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| 95 | 92.5 | | | 93.75 | 2.5 | Toms |
| | 76.7 | 68.9 | | 72.8 | 7.8 | Santos |
| 63.3 | | | 75.8 | 69.55 | 12.5 | Young |
| | 57.9 | | 64.5 | 61.2 | 6.6 | Brcic |
| 48.6 | | 63.4 | | 56 | 14.8 | Liu |
| 54.8 | | 19.6 | | 37.2 | 35.2 | Talazi |
| | | 32.5 | 25 | 28.75 | 7.5 | Watkins |



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GRADUATE AND
POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES

Eligibility vs. Selection Criteria

Eligibility (CGSM)

- Canadian citizen or a permanent resident
- Registered in eligible grad program while holding award
- Have completed, as of December 31 of the year of application, between zero and 12 months of full-time studies
- Not have previously held CGSM
- First-class academic average in each of last two years

Selection

- 50% Academic Excellence
- 30% Research Potential
- 20% Personal Characteristics and Interpersonal Skills



Challenges

Grades

- Different grading systems
- Different grading standards
 - UBC class size and class average
- Conversion of grades to UBC scale

Reference letters

- A few stand out; is everyone in the top 2%?

Research proposals

- Importance of writing to non-experts
- Significance of research?

Graduate Program rankings

- Considered before or after application is scored
- Importance of departmental memos



Other issues

Conflict of Interest:

- G+PS adjudicators do not review applications from their home department / program
- If an adjudicator has knowledge of the applicant beyond what is provided in the application file, and feels that knowledge will influence their review of the application (either positively or negatively), the adjudicator must notify the G+PS of the conflict of interest and recuse him or herself from reviewing that application. Should an adjudicator be unsure whether a conflict of interest exists, he or she is to contact the G+PS to discuss the matter.

Access and Privacy Guidelines

- Secure disposal of application materials
- Notes for personal reference of adjudicators not kept
- One copy of all other materials kept for one year after decision



Panel Questions / Discussion

1. What sets an excellent application apart from a good application?
2. What are two or three of the most common problems you see in students' scholarship applications?
3. What can grad programs and supervisors do to support their students' scholarship applications?



Small Group Discussion

- In groups of 4-5, discuss one or both of the following questions (~10 minutes)
- Discussion of key ideas with larger group (~15 minutes)

Questions:

1. What are some challenges faced by adjudicators?
2. In what ways could the adjudication process be improved / made more transparent?



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