



# UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

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General Faculties Council  
Academic Planning Committee  
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, November 26, 2014  
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

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### **ATTENDEES:**

#### Voting Members:

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Olive Yonge        | Chair, Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic)     |
| Nathan Andrews     | Member, President of the Graduate Students' Association |
| Lorne Babiuk       | Member, Vice-President (Research)                       |
| Nadir Erbilgin     | Member, Academic Staff-at-large                         |
| Lise Gotell        | Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC                   |
| Loren Kline        | Member, Academic Staff-at-large                         |
| William Lau        | Member, President of the Students' Union                |
| John Law           | Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC                   |
| Jeremy Richards    | Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC                   |
| Wendy Rodgers      | Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC                   |
| Alexander Schlacht | Member, Graduate Student-at-Large                       |
| Pamela Sewers      | Member, NASA Member-at-large                            |

#### Non-Voting Members:

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Lisa Collins | Member, Vice-Provost and University Registrar |
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#### Presenter(s):

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Lisa Collins     | Vice-Provost and University Registrar  |
| Robert Haennel   | Interim Dean, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine   |
| Brenda Leskiw    | Associate Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) and Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee |
| Frank Nargang    | Science Internship Program, Faculty of Science   |
| Julie Naylor     | Assistant Dean (Programs and Operations), Faculty of Science   |
| Melissa Padfield | Deputy Registrar, Office of the Registrar  |
| Karen Pollock    | Chair, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders  |
| Mazi Shirvani    | Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research  |
| Lihong Yang      | Assistant Registrar (Admissions), Office of the Registrar  |
| Olive Yonge      | Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee                |

#### Staff:

Garry Bodnar, Coordinator, GFC Academic Planning Committee  
Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary  
Andrea Patrick, Scribe

### **OPENING SESSION**

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter:* Olive Yonge, Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC)

Discussion:

The Chair proposed to re-order the Agenda to accommodate a guest presenter's schedule.

Motion: Kline/Rodgers

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda, as amended.

**CARRIED**

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of November 12, 2014

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter:* Olive Yonge, Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC)

Motion: Erbilgin/Kline

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Minutes of November 12, 2014.

**CARRIED**

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair commented on a number of relevant issues to members.

During the discussion in relation to the Chair's comments, members expressed a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: clarification surrounding the planning and timeline of the new budget model at the University of Alberta and whether the process will be mapped out clearly within a public document; commendation to the Chair for her comments in relation to the recent leadership transition at the University of Alberta; commentary that periods of and leadership transitions can provide opportunities for positive changes; a comment that the suddenness of the changes in leadership as well as the changes to the Provincial Government, along with associated funding challenges, are all problematic and that these have resulted in a feeling of collective unease; and that the proposed budget model concept, as currently described, does not seem intimidating.

**ACTION ITEMS**

4. New Master of Science (MSc) in Speech Language Pathology/Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Rehabilitation Science Combined Degrees Program – Proposal from the Faculties of Graduate Studies and Research and Rehabilitation Medicine

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Mazi Shirvani, Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Robert Haennel, Interim Dean, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine; Karen Pollock, Chair, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To create a new combined degrees program that features two existing programs, the Master of Science (MSc) in Speech Language Pathology and the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Rehabilitation Science.

*Discussion:*

Dr Shirvani provided members with a brief summary of this proposal, adding that extensive consultation was undertaken during its development. He explained that this is an integrated proposal which will allow students to pursue the combined degrees without having to unnecessarily duplicate work. He noted that the proposed program is similar in some ways to a dual degree.

Dr Pollock explained that there is a current shortage of individuals with PhD credentials within this profession, specifically with clinical training, and that students who enter the current Master's program with plans to earn, in turn, a PhD often do not. She stated that this new combined degrees program aims to engage students early on in the educational process in the hope that students will stay to complete the doctoral program. She reported that the clinical placements have been scheduled for the end of the program in an attempt to discourage students from leaving the program early to pursue lucrative clinical careers.

During the discussion surrounding this proposal, members expressed a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: expressions of support for this proposal; a prediction that the Provincial Government will view this proposal favorably; a query whether the presenters had communicated with the Provincial Government during the development of the proposal; clarification regarding the pre-requisites for this program; that students may very likely find the integrated degrees attractive; clarification regarding the enrolment numbers; and a question as to whether there are any other institutions offering this type of programming.

Motion: Erbilgin/Kline

THAT the Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the (proposed) new Master of Science (MSc) in Speech Language Pathology/Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Rehabilitation Science Combined Degrees Program, as submitted jointly by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine and as set forth in Attachment 1, to be effective in Fall, 2015.

**CARRIED**

5. Proposed Name Change for the Faculty of Science's Industrial Internship Program (IIP) to the Science Internship Program (SIP)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Frank Nargang, Science Internship Program, Faculty of Science; Julie Naylor, Assistant Dean (Programs/Operations), Faculty of Science

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To change the name of the Faculty of Science's work experience program from the Industrial Internship Program (IIP) to the Science Internship Program (SIP).

*Discussion:*

Professor Nargang explained that this proposal relates to workplace internships available to students in the Faculty of Science, adding that a significant reason for the proposed name change is that the current name is vague and inaccurate, as the term “industry” is not reflective all of workplace internships carried out by the Faculty’s students. He commented that the proposed name change aligns with other Faculties’ internships wherein the offering Faculty’s name is included within the title of their specific program. He noted that the name change is not intended to alter the program, although other non-related changes are being considered. He stated that the students and related Departments within the Faculty of Science, as well as other Faculties, are in support of this proposal.

Members, during the discussion surrounding this proposal, provided a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: clarification about the number of students who enroll in this program; clarification with regard to the role the employer plays in assessing students during their workplace internships; whether there is a certain Grade Point Average (GPA) required for admission in the program; an expression of concern relating to the minimum GPA; concern with the employer’s role in offering students opportunities; concern about the proposal materials as they relate to the wording of the Motion; and commentary that it would be beneficial to discuss the details of the program itself at another time.

Mr Bodnar clarified that the other changes set out within the proposal’s documentation were approved by other bodies and/or GFC-mandated processes. The Chair clarified that GFC APC was being asked on this occasion to consider only the proposed name change for the IIP.

Motion: Lau/Andrews

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed name change for the Faculty of Science’s Industrial Internship Program (IIP) to the Science Internship Program (SIP), as submitted by the Faculty and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect in 2015-2016.

**CARRIED**

6. Proposed Calendar Changes Related to the Office of the Registrar’s Enrolment Management Plan

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Brenda Leskiw, Associate Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) and Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee; Lisa Collins, Vice-Provost and University Registrar; Melissa Padfield, Deputy Registrar, Office of the Registrar; Lihong Yang, Assistant Registrar (Admissions), Office of the Registrar

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To approve proposed changes to the University Calendar in order to be published for the 2015-2016 academic year, with formal implementation in the 2016-2017 academic year; and to make updates to the relevant University Calendar sections related to admissions that will reflect the proposed changes put forward by the Office of the Registrar in its Ten Point Enrolment Management Plan. Changes have also been made to the ordering of sections and the language used to improve clarity and consistency.

*Discussion:*

Ms Collins provided members with a summary of the proposal, adding that this item had previously been considered by the GFC Academic Standards Committee (ASC) Subcommittee on Standards (SOS), as well as GFC ASC, where it was recommended forward by members. She explained that, in collaboration with a number of individual Faculties at the University of Alberta and as part of the administrative management of the Office of the Registrar’s Enrolment Management Plan, this comprehensive proposal is

the result of a recent, thorough review of the University Calendar with an aim to identify sections requiring revision. She noted that, in addition to changes to language and terminology, there are substantive revisions, including a change to the application for admission deadline. She notified members that, as part of the Office of the Registrar's Enrolment Management Plan, there will be a need for further revisions to the University Calendar beyond those before GFC APC on this occasion. Finally, she reported that she was recently in China obtaining feedback on this initiative from some of the University's partner institutions.

Dr Leskiw stated that the review of the University Calendar, as part of the preparation for this proposal, was a lengthy, deliberative process. She noted that the tools being presented to Faculties to manage the process of enrolment are considered beneficial and that the enrolment management pilot project identified earlier this Fall was more about clarifying related processes.

Ms Padfield commented that the proposed changes have been received positively both within the University of Alberta as well as externally.

During the discussion surrounding this proposal, members expressed a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: a suggestion for a 'friendly amendment' to the proposal; clarification regarding admission practices to programs requiring portfolio submissions or auditions; a request for an update about Ms Collins' recent trip to China; clarification regarding the proposed application deadlines; and clarification regarding the institution's targeted recruitment efforts in China.

Motion: Kline/Rodgers

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend to General Faculties Council proposed changes to the University Calendar, as submitted by the Office of the Registrar and as set forth in Attachment 3 (as amended), for implementation in 2016-2017 (with publication in the University Calendar in 2015-2016).

**CARRIED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### 7. Question Period

There were no questions.

## **INFORMATION REPORTS**

### 8. Items Approved by the GFC Academic Planning Committee by E-Mail Ballots

There were no items.

### 9. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

## **CLOSING SESSION**

### 10. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:20 pm.