



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Academic Standards Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Thursday, June 16, 2016
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Nataraj (Nat) Kav	Chair (Delegate), Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Dion Brocks	Member (Delegate), Dean, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Deborah Burshtyn	Member (Delegate), Dean, Graduate Studies and Research
Yvette d'Entremont	Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculté Saint-Jean
Scott Jeffrey	Member (Delegate), Dean, Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences
Clive Hickson	Member (Delegate), Dean, Education
Fay Fletcher	Member (Delegate), Dean, Extension
Brenda Leskiw	Member (Delegate), Dean, Science
Rebecca Nagel	Member (Delegate), Dean, Arts
Carla Peck	Member, Academic Staff
Marina Banister	Member, Vice-President (Academic), Students' Union
Carolyn Ross	Member (Delegate), Dean, Nursing
Natalie Sharpe	Member, Director of the Student Ombudservice
Sam Stowe	Member, (Delegate), Vice-Provost and University Registrar
Firouz Khodayari	Member, Vice-President (Academic), Graduate Students' Association
Kasia Tymczak	Member, Undergraduate Student at-Large

Presenter(s):

Nataraj (Nat) Kav	Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee
Deborah Burshtyn	Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research
Dean Zaragoza	Executive Director, Health Sciences Council
Kate Peters	Portfolio Initiatives Manager, Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Staff:

Meg Brolley, Coordinator, GFC Academic Standards Committee
Andrea Patrick, Scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Ross/Khodayari

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of May 19, 2016

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Khodayari/Leskiw

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Minutes of May 19, 2016.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair reminded members that the meetings in 2016-17 will begin at 10:00 a.m. instead of 9:00 a.m.

In addition, he pointed out that all Deans have been reminded to renew their delegates on the Committee.

He commented on the conclusion of Spring Convocation, adding that the new Chancellor was installed at the last session.

Finally, the Chair acknowledged all members departing the Committee and thanked them for their service.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Items Deemed Minor/Editorial

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Jeffrey/Fletcher

4A. Office of the Registrar: Proposed Approval of Transfer Credit for June 2016

THAT GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, proposed approval and denial of Transfer Credit for June 2016, as submitted by the Office of the Registrar.

CARRIED

4B. Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences: Changes to Existing Academic Standing with respect to First-Class Standing

THAT GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, proposed changes to existing academic standing with respect to First-Class Standing, as submitted by the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

CARRIED

5. Proposed Changes to the University Bloodborne Pathogens Policy in the University Calendar

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Dean Zaragoza, Executive Director, Health Sciences Council

Purpose of the Proposal: The Health Sciences Council has been working with University Health Centre, Office of Emergency Management, Alberta Health Services, and all Health Sciences Faculties on developing a consolidated medical testing/immunization requirement Calendar section to replace the individual Faculty Calendar sections. The University of Alberta's policy on bloodborne pathogens is designed to align with Alberta Health Services immunization standards and to limit the possibility of transmission of bloodborne pathogens within the educational setting.

Discussion:

Mr Zaragoza noted that this proposal stems from the need to revise the University Bloodborne Pathogens Policy to align with current practices in infection control and prevention of bloodborne pathogens. He highlighted changes within the policy including clarification of student responsibilities with regards to medical testing and immunization. He reported that his team worked with various groups to develop a consolidated section which would replace the individual Faculty sections within the University Calendar, and that consultation was broad across the academy during its development.

Members discussed methods to protect confidentiality, and suggested a few editorial changes deemed friendly by the Chair.

Motion: Brocks/Leskiw

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee recommend to General Faculties Council revisions to the University Bloodborne Pathogens Policy contained in the University Calendar, as set forth in Appendix 1 as amended, to take effect in 2017/2018.

CARRIED

6. Proposal from the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research regarding laddering of Post Baccalaureate Certificates and Diplomas into Course-based Master's programs

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Deborah Burshtyn, Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Purpose of the Proposal: To provide increased access to graduate education and flexibility for students, laddering is a potential mechanism to allow students to use courses taken in certificates and apply them toward pursuing and completing a master's degree program.

Discussion:

The Chair began the discussion by inviting members to comment on whether this proposal should be recommended to General Faculties Council (GFC), or approved by the Committee under delegated authority. Dr Burshtyn added that this is an important consideration at this time, due to the ongoing discussions at GFC about delegated authority. She noted that consultation surrounding this proposal was deliberate, in light of this consideration, and suggested that perhaps GFC could be notified for general awareness.

Dr Burshtyn provided a summary of the proposal, adding that the intent of the proposal is to provide more flexible pathways for students who are not ready to commit to a master's program. She further noted that decisions around the admissibility of certificate credit would be made at the program level and that, in all cases, a capstone would be requirement for completion as a registered master's student.

Members engaged in discussion surrounding the term “laddering”, and members suggested including a clear definition of the term.

Members considered, at length, accurate ways to word this specific proposal so that these guidelines are clear to the community, most importantly students and Faculties. As a result, members suggested various editorial changes to the proposal to provide additional clarity.

Motion: Burshtyn/Fletcher

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the policy for laddering of Post Baccalaureate Certificates and Diplomas into Course-based Master’s programs as proposed by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, and as set forth in Attachment 1, as amended at the June 16, 2016 meeting, to be effective immediately upon approval.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. External Programs for Review and Programs in Progress on Campus: Standing Item

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Nat Kav, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee; Kate Peters, Portfolio Initiatives Manager, Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

Ms Peters provided an update to members in regards to items currently being considered by the Provincial Government:

To be Proposed to Government :

- Suspension proposal for Diploma in Dental Hygiene (after July 1, 2016)

Currently with Advanced Education (AE) undergoing System Coordination Review:

- (New) PBC Bridging to Canadian Physical Therapy Practice
- (New) PBC Indigenous Sport and Recreation
- (New) Major in Fashion Business Management in the Bachelor of Science
- Load Change to the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Sexual Health
- (New) Program Proposal for MSc in Urban and Regional Planning
- Suspension to Admission in the Adult Education Route of the Bachelor of Education
- (New) PhD in Indigenous Studies
- (New) University Certificate in Early Learning and Childhood Education
- (New) University Certificate in Digital Learning
- (New) University Certificate in Adolescent Literacy

Referred to CAQC for Review:

- (New) PharmD Program

Sent back from the Ministry:

- (New) Program Proposal for MSc in Audiology

Recently Approved:
None. (since November)

The Chair reported that he is forwarding a letter to the Ministry requesting an expedited review of the PharmD program.

There was no further discussion.

8. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

9. Items Approved by the GFC Academic Standards Committee by email ballots (non-debatable)

There were no items.

10. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

11. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.