

Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 (2:00 to 4:00 pm)

Virtual Meeting

Min	Item	Agenda Item	Action	Att.
5	1.0	Call Meeting to Order	Action	No
	2.0	Approval of Agenda	Approval	Yes
	3.0	Approval of Minutes of the April 27, 2022 Meeting	Approval	Yes
	4.0	Matters Arising from the Minutes	Discussion	No
15	5.0	Report from the Dean	Receive for Info	Yes
10	6.0	GSA Monthly Report	Receive for Info	Yes
25	7.0	Office of the Student Ombuds Annual Report	Receive for Info	Yes
10	8.0	FoMD: Course Exemption and Ethics Changes <i>Presenter: Greg Funk, Associate Dean, Grad - FoMD</i> <i>Motion: THAT FGSR Council approve the suite of calendar changes for programs in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, for immediate implementation upon final approval, and inclusion in the 2023-2024 calendar.</i>	Approval	Yes
10	9.0	MLCS: Termination of MA and PhD in Comparative Literature <i>Presenter: Irene Sywenky, Associate Chair, Grad - MLCS</i> <i>Motion: THAT FGSR Council approve the termination (following subsequent suspension) of the MA and PhD in Comparative Literature, as outlined in the included documents and for implementation upon final approval.</i>	Approval	Yes
10	10.0	Education: Graduate Certificate in School Leadership Transfer Credit <i>Presenter: Doug Gleddie, Associate Dean, Grad - Education</i> <i>Motion: THAT FGSR Council approve the changes to the transfer credits for the Graduate Certificate in School Leadership, in the Faculty of Education, for inclusion in the next calendar.</i>	Approval	Yes
10	11.0	SPH: Admission Requirements Calendar Changes <i>Presenter: Ruth Wolfe, Associate Dean (Professional Programs) - SPH</i> <i>Motion: THAT FGSR Council approve the amendments to the School of Public Health Entrance Requirements, as noted in the included documents, and for inclusion in the 23-24 calendar.</i>	Approval	Yes
10	12.0	SPH: GEC in Health Economic Evaluation Proposal <i>Presenter: Ruth Wolfe, Associate Dean (Professional Programs) - SPH</i> <i>Motion: THAT FGSR Council approve the new Graduate Embedded Certificate in Health Economic Evaluation in the School of Public Health for implementation upon approval and inclusion in the 23-24 Academic Calendar.</i>	Approval	Yes
5	13.0	Update on Early Discussion: Exams Policy Work	Receive for Info	No
10	14.0	Question Period: <i>Please submit questions in advance to graddean@ualberta.ca</i>	Discussion	No
10	15.0	Adjournment	Action	No

****The 2022 - 2023 FGSR Council Meeting Schedule will be distributed soon via email.**

Attendance at FGSR Council – May 25, 2022
Department/Unit Faculty Representatives

Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science	Ben Willing
Biochemistry	David Stuart
Biological Sciences	James Stafford
Biomedical Engineering	Alan H. Wilman
Business (non-departmentalized) - MBA	Michael Maier
Business (non-departmentalized) - PhD	Trish Reay
Chemicals & Materials Engineering	Hao Zhang
Chemistry	Michael Serpe
Civil & Environmental Engineering	Zaher Hashisho
Communication Sciences & Disorders	Esther Kim
Computing Science	Denilson Barbosa
Drama	Stefano Muneroni
Economics	Heather Eckert
Educational Psychology	Denyse Hayward
Elementary Education	Trudy Cardinal
English and Film Studies	Mark Simpson
History, Classics, and Religion	Heather Coleman
Human Ecology	Rachel McQueen
Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation (non-dept)	Normand Boule
Laboratory Medicine & Pathology	Jelena Holovati
Law (non-departmentalized)	Linda Reif
Library & Information Studies	Dinesh Rathi
Mathematical & Statistical Science	Christoph Frei
Mechanical Engineering	Alexandra Komrakova
Medical Genetics (Medical Sciences)	Zhixiang Wang
Medical Microbiology & Immunology	Edan Foley
Medicine	Nadia Jahroudi
Modern Languages & Cultural Studies	Irene Sywenky
MSGPC	Jennifer Hocking
Music	Michael Frishkopf
Native Studies (non-departmentalized)	Adam Gaudry
Nursing (non-departmentalized)	Dianne Tapp
Occupational Therapy	Mary Roduta Roberts
Oncology (Alternate)	Gordon Chan
Oncology (Primary)	Alan Underhill
Pediatrics (Medical Sciences)	Sujata Persad
Pharmacology	Elena Posse de Chaves
Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences (non-dept)	Arno Siraki
Philosophy	Ingo Brigandt
Political Science	Jared Wesley
Psychology	Chris Westbury
Rehabilitation Medicine - Rehabilitation Sciences	Patricia (Trish) Manns
Renewable Resources	Uldis Silins

School of Public Health (non-departmentalized)	Ruth Wolfe
Secondary Education	Bonnie Watt
Sociology	Gillian Stevens
Surgery	Fred Berry
Women's and Gender Studies	Lise Gotell

Regrets:

Earth & Atmospheric Sciences

Educational Policy Studies

Internetworking (MINT)

Absent:

Anthropology

Art & Design

Cell Biology

Communications and Technology (MACT)

Computing Science - Multimedia Program

Dentistry (Medical Sciences)

Digital Humanities

East Asian Studies

Educational Studies

Electrical & Computer Engineering

Faculte Saint-Jean (non-departmentalized)

Health Sciences Education

History, Classics, and Religion

Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation

Linguistics

Nursing

Obstetrics & Gynecology (Medical Sciences)

Occupational Therapy

Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (Medical Sciences)

Physical Therapy

Physics

Physics

Physiology

Psychiatry

Radiology & Diagnostic Imaging (Medical Sciences)

Resource Economics & Environmental Sociology

Associate Deans (Graduate) Representatives for Departmentalized Faculties
Present:

Arts	Kim Noels
Education	Doug Gleddie
Medicine & Dentistry	Greg Funk
Rehabilitation Medicine	Trish Manns
Science	Mark McDermott

Ex-Officio Representatives

FGSR Dean & Vice-Provost (FGSR Council Chair)	Brooke Milne
Vice-President (Research) (or Delegate)	Laura Beard
Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian (or Delegate)	Dale Askey
Vice-Provost and University Registrar (or Delegate)	Carlo Dimailig
FGSR Vice-Dean	Ali Shiri
FGSR Associate Dean	Andrea MacLeod
FGSR Associate Dean	Frances Plane
FGSR Associate Dean	Micah True

Graduate Program Administrators Committee (GPAC) Representatives

GPAC Member	Vacant Positions
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Graduate Student Association (GSA) Directly Elected Officials (3) & Graduate Student Association (GSA) Council Representatives (20)
Present:

<i>VP Academic</i>	<i>Bishoi Aziz</i>
Agriculture, Food & Nutritional Sciences	Emilee Storfie
CME	Sophie Shi
Internetworking	Shing Kit Lao
Medical Microbiology and Immunology	Emma Takeuchi
Neuroscience - Masters	Nicole Dittmann
Nursing	Sania Amiri-Ishani
Nursing	Megan Sommerfeld
Oncology	Andrew Locke
Pharmacology, PhD	Nayiar Shahid
Psychology	Eamin Zahan Heanoy

Observers – Non-Voting*

FGSR, HR & Operations Coordinator*	Medha Samarasinghe
FGSR Executive Coordinator*	Andrea Riewe
Graduate Ombudsperson*	Remonia Stoddart-Morrison
Graduate Ombuds Intern*	Eric Awuah
GFC Secretary*	Heather Richholt
FGSR, Director, Professional Development*	Renee Polziehn

Regrets:

Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences	Leluo Guan
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Absent:

Engineering	Tian Tang
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Regrets:

President (or Delegate)	President Flannigan
FGSR Associate Dean	Samer Adeeb
Director, Centre for Teaching & Learning*	Janice Miller-Young
Chair, FGSR Academic Appeals Committee*	Moin Yahya

Absent / Alternates:

<i>GSA President</i>	<i>Anas Fassih</i>
<i>VP Labour</i>	<i>Hiren Kaklotar</i>
Civil & Environmental Engineering	Mona Ahmadirad
Civil Engineering	Babalola Olabode
Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	Mohamed Ali
Educational Psychology	Mehrdad Yousefpoori Naeim
Mechanical Engineering	Kashif Javed
Mechanical Engineering	Farzad Aghazadeh
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	Nazif Mahbub
Paediatric	Sabrin Bashar
Pediatric	Violet Sun
Pharmacology	Julia Nichols
School of Public Health	Ademola Itiola

FGSR, EA to the Associate Deans*	Dena Giroux
FGSR, Graduate Awards Supervisor*	Amanda Brown
FGSR, BFA Awards GSMS*	Justine Gill
FGSR, Program Services Team Lead*	Kris MacManus

*Non-Voting

FGSR Council May 25, 2022

1.0 Call to Order at 2:03 PM

Vice-Provost and Dean, Brooke Milne, called the meeting to order. Members requiring further support with the virtual platform can reach out to Andrea Riewe for help. Those with voting authorities will have received an email with links. Voting members were asked to have this open in preparation for the voting items.

2.0 Approval of Agenda for May 25, 2022

Moved / Seconded: Elena Posse de Chaves/Greg Funk

Approved by consent.

3.0 Approval of Minutes of April 27, 2022

Moved / Seconded: Heather Coleman/Greg Funk

Discussion / Amendments:

- Andrew Lock, GSA rep for Oncology was in attendance and will be added to the minutes.

Approved by electronic vote.

4.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

None

5.0 Report from the Dean

Dean Milne noted that the FGSR Governance report for the 2021-22 Academic year was included in the package. The report details all of the graduate calendar and policy items passed by council this academic year.

Supervision:

- The Progress Report forms continue to roll out for all Thesis-based Students and their Supervisors.
- Thank you to the students, faculty, and staff who have reached out with questions, clarifications, and suggestions. We appreciate your patience and collaboration as we implement this new process.
- We will continue to update the [FAQ](#) so please look there or reach out to us directly at graddean@ualberta.ca
- Some concern has been raised from Supervisors/Co-supervisors with active thesis-based students who have not yet received the email with instructions for the Progress Reports. Unfortunately, this is because we do not have a record of their role as a Supervisor/Co-supervisor in relation to the student. We are working with our graduate administrative contacts in each academic unit to collect this information, and will release another round of reports once we have it.

- We have received positive feedback on the ease of use for the form, which we appreciate. Thanks to those in FGSR and IST who have worked hard to develop this important progress reporting tool.

Ukraine Conflict:

- On March 31, 2022, FGSR sent an email to graduate chairs and graduate advisors with information about institutional support for Ukrainian graduate students and applicants.
 - We have had about 150 enquiries from prospective graduate students, but the volume of enquiries seems to be waning.
 - Specific applicant/student queries can be directed to graddean@ualberta.ca
 - Please remember to “flag” any Ukrainian applications that you are sending to FGSR.

Convocation:

- We are pleased to advise that there are 1309 graduate students convocating with degrees, and 22 students convocating with embedded graduate certificates this Spring 2022. We know this is the culmination of years of hard work from our graduate students, but also from Faculty and Staff who have guided and supported them. Thank you all.

FGSR Associate Dean Announcement:

- Dr. Samer Adebbe will be departing his Associate Dean role to take on a new and exciting leadership opportunity as Acting Chair in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering effective July 1, 2022.
- Over the past year, Samer has worked across programs in the College of Natural & Applied Sciences as well as serving as chair of the FGSR Graduate Scholarship Committee. Samer's energetic, friendly, and collaborative approach in graduate program administration within his portfolio and across FGSR has been a valued asset.
- Please join me in thanking Samer for his service and support of graduate students and graduate education at the University of Alberta. We wish him every success in his new role and all future endeavors.
- NOTE: FGSR will be posting an open call for expressions of interest to fill this important administrative portfolio working in collaboration with our colleagues and graduate programs in CNAS.

Operational updates and reminders were included in the written report, which we encourage you to review.

Discussion / Questions:

- A Council member asked for more information on the funding available to Ukrainian applicants should they be admitted.
 - At this time, the only confirmed funding from the institution is for the first year tuition waiver and living expenses. The University is exploring what other, sustainable sources of funding it could provide. It is important to note that once a student registers and is active in their program they will be eligible for institutional sources of funding including

- various scholarships, emergency bursaries, among others. Once more details are finalized around ongoing support, FGSR will communicate details to Council members.
- A Council member wondered if and when departments would be able to have a look at the progress reports and how they could include additional questions for students to answer.
 - FGSR is working on getting the selection of optional questions confirmed by each department. The students will be able to reference a list that shows which questions their respective departments would like them to answer in the report. We will work with the GPAC members to confirm that list over the coming days.
 - We will also post a blank PDF of the full form so students, supervisors, and graduate administrators can see the questions in the reports.
 - A Council member asked when incoming students would be able to register for the ethics and academic integrity courses INTD 710 and 720.
 - Incoming students will be eligible to register for the courses in the weeks leading up to the start of the fall term. Once they have their student ID and CCID they can register in beartracks.
 - Departments are able to provide multi-year funding packages to Ukrainian applicants without it disadvantaging students during the initial financial needs assessment for the first year's financial support.
 - A Council member noted that some students have already received their Progress Reports. They will need to know what optional information they should include. The member also asked if students would only fill out the questions that the department indicated were required.
 - FGSR will be getting the list of department/faculty required questions posted as soon as possible so students can consult and add information accordingly.
 - There are questions about milestones, requirements, and timing that all students will be expected to answer; however, there is a designated section that has an open field to allow students to include the information required by their programs.
 - The timing for this year's rollout means that some units have already finished their reports or are just getting them underway. We hope to iron out those details for the second round and initiate the forms at the time that better suits individual programs.
 - A Council member suggested that maybe departments should remain in charge of their own forms and link to the department specific questions in the FGSR form.
 - Dean Milne clarified that the FGSR forms are not optional and are meant to include all the standard information for all graduate students. As this process is iterative, FGSR will look into how programs can include additional requirements within the form for future rounds. At this time, the goal is to ensure consistency and completion of this annual meeting/reporting.
 - A Council member wanted to know if forms could be customized by Faculties.
 - Ideally, we will be able to customize to a certain degree but we do not want there to be 75 different versions.
 - A Council member asked what the process was once the forms were submitted to FGSR and if Grad Chairs and ADs had access to the reports.
 - EDRMS, the system that supports the electronic workflow, is undergoing an upgrade this summer. Once that is complete, IST will be able to provide access to advisors and

- graduate administrators to view the dashboard. This will show the progress of each report.
- Students and supervisors will be sent (via email) a PDF of the completed report.
 - All graduate advisors and graduate chairs will be able to view the reports in the official student file in Al Fresco. If you do not have access or would like instructions on how to access these files, we can share that information.
 - FGSR will flag any files that have a rating of 'in needs of improvement' to the FGSR GSSA with the program in their portfolio. The GSSA and/or relevant FGSR Associate Dean will then be able to reach out to the program Graduate Chair to enquire and offer support.
- A Council member asked for clarification on the steps after students receive unsatisfactory ratings.
 - An unsatisfactory rating provides a very clear point of intervention for FGSR to reach out to the supervisor and the program. If the student is in need of improvement then the GSSAs/Associate Deans can provide support to establish a remediation plan with clear milestones and timelines. If the situation does require the student to withdraw, then FGSR can support that procedure.
 - As we move forward with this process, the standard and regular reporting will ensure transparency for the student and the supervisor. Both will be aware of what has been agreed to within the meeting for a set time in the future. Once these expectations are clear, the supervisor, the department, and FGSR can support the student to ensure they are able to regain satisfactory standing. However, if they are unable to meet the milestones and tasks, there is a record with mutually agreed details of the goals to demonstrate the student is not progressing on them. At this time the student may consider voluntarily withdrawing, or FGSR can support the supervisor, Grad Chair, or AD Grad with a RTW process.
 - A Council member noted that she was unclear about who was evaluating the reports.
 - To be clear, the reports are not being evaluated, and certainly not for content at FGSR. FGSR, is however, flagging any reports that have an unsatisfactory rating for next steps.
 - If the department wants to review the reports they are able to access them via Al Fresco.
 - A Council member requested that for future iterations there be options to upload details and also to give timely access to department users. Often the reports are factored in allocating funding for the upcoming year.
 - A Council member wanted to check if she did have access to view the reports.
 - All Grad Coordinators who are on the DSA or FSA forms have access to view the official student file.

6.0 GSA Monthly Report

Bishoi Aziz, GSA VP Academic, presented the GSA monthly report. The report profiles the new GSA executive members. They have been busy with transitioning the new members into their roles. The VP External will serve as the chair of the ABGSA which is a province-wide lobbying group with representatives from the GSAs at UofA, UCalgary, ULeith, Athabasca U, and Concordia U of Edmonton. The VP Labour is in the midst of bargaining on the collective agreement. Dean Milne,

Associate Dean True, and Medha Samarasinghe will be attending the next GSA Council meeting to speak about upcoming initiatives and proposals.

The GSA will host their first in person coffee break since February 2020 in Triffo Hall. Finally, the new executive is working on their strategic plan for the new year.

Dean Milne asked Mr. Aziz to introduce himself. He is a recent graduate of the MSc in Pediatrics at the UofA and is a new PhD student. He also has a MD from Egypt. He is excited to represent graduate students in this new role.

Dean Milne took a moment to thank the outgoing GSA executive members for their hard work and collaboration. She also extended her thanks to all the student representatives that sit on committees and engage on matters that impact them and their fellow graduate students.

7.0 Office of the Student Ombuds Annual Report

Presenter: Remonia Stoddart-Morrison, Graduate Ombudsperson

Dean Milne invited Graduate Ombudsperson Remonia Stoddart-Morrison to present the annual Office of Student Ombuds report. Ms. Stoddart-Morrison introduced herself and invited the 2022-23 Graduate Intern to introduce himself. Eric Awuah-Oso is a second year PhD student in the Department of Anthropology.

Ms. Stoddart-Morrison provided a brief overview of the services offered by the Ombuds Office and gave some data for the year.

- The Ombuds Student Office is a confidential, accessible, and independent service that offers advice and support to students related to conflicts, and discipline related to their academic life.
- With graduate students, specifically, the focus of the Ombuds office is on early intervention and conflict resolution. Ideally, the office can be a starting point rather than a last resort for addressing issues. Their goal is to facilitate strong and open relationships between members of the UofA community. They consider issues from multiple perspectives and try to help involved parties arrive at a mutually agreeable solution.
- In addition to her role, the office also has a Director, an undergrad ombudsperson, and three interns including Eric. In addition to running workshops, and attending meetings with students, the graduate ombudsperson's main goal is to provide confidential consultation to graduate students and medical school residents.
- The office considers institutional policies and procedures as well as attempting informal conflict resolution when supporting graduate students. The Ombuds acts as an impartial advisor and ensures that students are treated fairly and equitable in the dispute resolution process.
- The presentation outlined graduate stats from April 2021 to May 2022.

Questions/Discussion

- A Council member wondered if international students are more reluctant to bring their concerns forward because they are concerned about issues outside of their program like their

immigration status or other personal factors. He also asked if there were any specific reasons for the rise in visits over the past two years. Finally, he asked if there were obstacles for implementing restorative practice programs.

- Ms. Stoddart-Morrison clarified that based on the general student population; international students were twice as likely to seek out support services from the Ombuds.
- The office does outreach by attending department orientations and takes opportunities to participate in events with partners across campus.
- The Ombuds is within the Dean of Student's portfolio and this year they will be looking into building on the restorative practices programming.

Dean Milne thanked Ms. Stoddart-Morrison and Mr. Awuah-Oso for the presentation and for the overview of this important service on campus.

8.0 FoMD: Course Exemption and Ethics Changes

Presenter: Greg Funk - Associate Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Dean Milne invited Associate Dean Funk to present on the proposed changes to course exemptions and ethics requirements to programs in FoMD.

AD Funk outlined that graduate programs in Medicine, Pediatrics, and MMI (Medical Microbiology and Immunology) are proposing that students admitted into their PhD programs who have a MSc degree (in a relevant field from a recognized institution) have fewer course requirements than students entering the PhD program with a BSc. The change to the calendar language also permits substitution of a specific required course with a different course at the same level if the required course has been taken as part of a previous degree. These changes address some program design issues and clarify the process rather than having programs and students request exemptions to the established regulations.

Finally, the Ethics and Academic Citizenship requirements are being added/updated to be in line with the institutional requirement for all graduate students.

Motion: Be it resolved that FGSR Council approve the suite of calendar changes for programs in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, for immediate implementation upon final approval, and inclusion in the 2023-2024 calendar.

Moved / Seconded: Ruth Wolfe/Samira El Atia

Questions/Discussion:

- A Council member asked if there were concerns about the vagueness of the language about "relevant field" and "recognized institution".
 - The wording is meant to be open and allow for consideration of specific situations by the graduate admissions committees. FGSR has ways to confirm accreditation of

international institutions as part of the admissions process, so the programs would rely on that assessment.

- A Council member noted that the GSA was in support of this proposal and would like other programs to follow this example. He asked for clarification on the Ethics requirement.
 - FGSR's institutional Ethics requirement is for all graduate students and is replacing the previous offering. This calendar change happens to be one of the first to ensure that the calendar language or calendar entries are reflective of what the new regulations and requirements are so this is one of the first ones that's come through in order to make sure that there's that clarity and congruence between what the institutional regulation is but it's also embedded within the program specific regulation.

Approved by electronic vote.

9.0 MLCS: Termination of MA and PhD in Comparative Literature

Dean Milne introduced Associate Chair, Grad Irene Sywenky to provide an overview of the proposal.

Dr. Sywenky outlined that this proposed termination is coming after a suspension of the program in 2016. Due to some administrative changes that moved the program content from the Office of Interdisciplinary studies to the Department of MLCS, the program became extraneous. Students pursuing a MA or PhD in MLCS can get the same background by completing a second level specialization in transnational and comparative literature. The impact of this has been minimal on students, and through the initial suspension process, students were given options and provided guidance to transition. The department does continue offering the discipline under a second level specialization, and there continues to be an annual intake of graduate students in this area of work.

Motion: Be it resolved that FGSR Council approve the termination (following subsequent suspension) of the MA and PhD in Comparative Literature, as outlined in the included documents and for implementation upon final approval.

Moved / Seconded: Trish Reay/Doug Gleddie

Questions/Discussion:

None.

Approved by electronic vote.

10.0 Education: Graduate Certificate in School Leadership Transfer Credit

Vice-Provost and Dean Milne introduced Associate Dean Doug Gleddie to outline the proposed changes.

AD Gleddie summarized the proposed language changes for the School Leadership certificate, which was created in collaboration with Alberta Education to fit the leadership quality standard certification. That

certificate required two courses which students could take as open studies. This became an issue when the program would need to ask for an exception each time from FGSR. The proposed wording now clarifies how the courses could be included to meet the Alberta Education agreement.

Motion: Be it resolved that FGSR Council approve the new Graduate Embedded Certificate in Health Economic Evaluation in the School of Public Health for implementation upon approval and inclusion in the 23-24 Academic Calendar.

Moved / Seconded: Dinesh Rathi/Samira ElAtia

Questions/Discussion:

None.

Approved by electronic vote.

11.0 SPH: Admission Requirements Calendar Changes

Vice-Provost and Dean Milne introduced Associate Dean Ruth Wolfe to present the proposed calendar changes.

AD Wolfe summarized the three key points that the proposed language is consolidating. The requirements across programs, now including MACE, are being consolidated. In preparation to integrate EDI and recommendations from the TRC, there will be required Indigenous content. Finally, the alternate ELP pathways will be included in the updated language requirement.

She noted that the GPST and PRC committee were very helpful in strengthening the proposals with some modest changes and updates. She appreciated their support and insights.

Motion: Be it resolved that FGSR Council approve the amendments to the School of Public Health Entrance Requirements, as noted in the included documents, and for inclusion in the 23-24 calendar.

Moved / Seconded: Trish Reay/Greg Funk

Questions/Discussion:

None.

Approved by electronic vote.

12.0 SPH: GEC in Health Economic Evaluation Proposal

AD Wolfe outlined the proposed Certificate in Health Economic Evaluation. The explanatory memo explains the proposed certificate in detail; however, the summary is that 12 units of graduate course equivalents of which nine are required and three credits that are electives will respond to the demand for this specialized skill set in the field. The certificate requirements incorporate values based needs, and

has strong support both internal to the UofA and also by external organizations. Students have also identified this area as a top priority.

Motion: Be it resolved that FGSR Council approve the new Graduate Embedded Certificate in Health Economic Evaluation in the School of Public Health for implementation upon approval and inclusion in the 23-24 Academic Calendar.

Moved / Seconded: Mark/Doug Gleddie

Questions/Discussion:

None.

Approved by electronic vote.

13.0 UPDATE on EARLY Discussion: Exams Policy Work

Vice-Provost and Dean Milne introduced Associate Dean Micah True to present a brief update on the discussions around the Exam Policies.

AD True thanked everyone who has, to date, participated in providing constructive feedback and insights to the proposed calendar language. He emphasized that this proposal is still in the early consultation period so there is still a lot more work to be done in receiving feedback and drafting the regulations. He did note that while the google form was meant to collect feedback from council members and other relevant stakeholders, it has been circulated widely. This has led to a lot of unrelated commentary that wasn't particularly constructive.

Once we get through the feedback we will likely share a Frequently Asked Questions document that can outline some of the key questions and provide explanations or possible solutions. It's become clear, even in the early discussions, that there is a lot of diversity in processes and practices among graduate programs/academic units. These concerns and others will be incorporated into the next draft which will be circulated for more consultation in the fall with both Council and with PRC.

Dean Milne reiterated that the work is ongoing and acknowledged the working group who provided important initial insights into the draft.

14.0 Question period

AD Funk raised a question about the international tuition differential.

- This is an important topic and in general, graduate student funding is a key topic that FGSR will want to work on in the coming months. Ensuring funding for students is stable and predictable will become a priority given the rising costs of tuition and living. Both strategically and institutionally if the UofA is really focusing on growth, we will need to be focusing on sustainable growth. Given how complicated the issue of fees are there is not much more to comment on with certainty at this point; however, we will bring this issue up next year for further discussion.

Graduate Chair Sujata Persad asked for some clarification on the relationship between FGSR and the College Associate Dean of Education. What are the relationships and interactions?

- This is unclear at the moment for FGSR. We expect that they will work with their college ADs Grad and other key stakeholders as well as with the ADs at FGSR who look after their college within their portfolios. Their focus will likely include looking for opportunities within their colleges.

AD MacLeod touched on the issue of tuition to note that there will need to be an assessment of how to support international students adequately especially when we are relying on international tuition as a source of revenue for the institution.

15.0 Adjournment

Vice-Provost and Dean, Brooke Milne, acknowledged and thanked all the members of FGSR Council for their efforts over the last year in the work we have done together. She wished everyone some time to recharge over the summer before resuming another academic year.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:59PM.