



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Academic Standards Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Thursday, March 19, 2020
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Tammy Hopper, Chair
Joel Agarwal
J Nelson Amaral
Radim Barta
Mary Beckie
Dion Brocks
Jason Carey
Janice Causgrove Dunn
Gerda de Vries
Bill Dunn
Scott Jeffrey
Mia Lang

Andras Marosi
Bernadette Martin
Karsten Mündel
Rebecca Nagel
Christy Raymond
Norma Rodenburg
Victoria Ruetalo
Hassan Safouhi
non-voting:
Amy Dambrowitz
Remonia Stoddart-Morrison
(delegate)
Helen Vallianatos

REGRETS:

Angela Bayduza
Marion Haggarty-France
Nathalie Kermoal
Norman Neumann
Shannon O'Byrne
Natalie Sharpe
Yimmie Sonuga
Kristof Van Assche

Staff:

Heather Richholt, Coordinator

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair of GFC Academic Standards Committee (ASC)

Motion: Jeffrey/Causgrove Dunn

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

- COVID-19 Update
- Temporary Measures, Undergraduate International Enrolment

Presenter(s): Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair of ASC; Melissa Padfield, Vice-Provost and Registrar

Discussion:

The Chair asked Melissa Padfield, in her role as the Chair of the Public Health Response Team's Covid-19 Subcommittee on Academic Impacts, to give an update.

Ms Padfield explained the changes to English Language Proficiency requirements that had been made as a temporary measure for fall 2020 admissions due to the closure of test centres. She went over some of the

proposals coming from the subcommittee including a move to credit/non-credit grades for winter term 2020 courses.

During the discussion members asked questions and expressed comments including but not limited to: methods for final exams and assessments; help for instructors that was available from the Centre for Teaching and Learning; grades of credit, non-credit, and incomplete; what other institutions in Alberta and Canada were doing in regards to final grades; issues for programs that required accreditation; pressure on students and instructors; authority given to the Deans to make exceptions; finding a solution that was the most equitable; plans to add explanatory notations to transcripts; potential for instructors to write recommendation letters for outstanding students; the goal to allow for degree completion and advancement in programs; and the potential to extend timelines for appeals currently underway.

CONSENT AGENDA

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Consent Agenda Mover and Seconder: Nagel/Raymond

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of February 13, 2020

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Open Session Minutes of February 13, 2020.

CARRIED

4. Items Deemed Minor/Editorial

A. Transfer Credit Approvals and Denials for March 2020, Office of the Registrar

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the transfer credit approvals and denials for March 2020.

CARRIED

B. Proposed Changes to Graduation Regulations, Faculty of Native Studies

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to graduation requirements for students in the Faculty of Native Studies.

CARRIED

C. Proposed Changes to Admission Requirements, Faculty of Science

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to graduation requirements for students in the Faculty of Native Studies.

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

5. Proposed Changes to Existing Regulations for Concurrent Registration, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Brooke Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee to provide new and more specific language relating to requests for concurrent registration in more than one academic program (undergrad and/or grad). The

proposed language clarifies what concurrent registration is, its intent, and procedures to follow to make a request for consideration and approval.

Discussion:

Dr Milne explained that the goal for items 5, 6, and 7 was greater consistency and clarity in FGSR's administrative processes which would result in greater equity for students and alignment with peer institutions and industry standards.

Members discussed the example of concurrent registration in a graduate program and an Education-After Degree program, the potential for exceptions to be determined on a case by case basis, and the decision resting with the Dean of FGSR.

Motion: Mündel/Causgrove Dunn

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, new and amended language regarding Concurrent Registration in more than one Degree Program, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval and to be published in the 2021-2022 Calendar.

CARRIED

6. Proposed Changes to Existing Regulations for Approved Leaves of Absence, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Brooke Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean, FGSR

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee to provide new and more specific language to facilitate decision making when a graduate student indicates to their supervisor, program administrator, and/or graduate chair that they need to take time away from their program of study.

Discussion:

Members discussed the intended use of "regular leave" for exceptional circumstances when other leave provisions would not apply.

Motion: Jeffrey/Causgrove Dunn

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to existing language on Approved Leaves of Absence as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval and to be published in the 2021-2022 Calendar.

CARRIED

7. Proposed Changes to Existing Regulations for Readmission, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Brooke Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean, FGSR

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee to provide new language regarding student applications for readmission to their program of study after a period of time has passed. Related to this is the inclusion of new language regarding knowledge currency. If a student applies for readmission 10 or more years after their initial program start date, they will be required to demonstrate knowledge currency and/or repeat certain program milestones to demonstrate they are up to date in their field of study.

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

Motion: Jeffrey/Mündel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, new language regarding student applications for readmission, as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval and to be published in the 2021-2022 Calendar.

CARRIED

8. Proposed Changes to Existing Regulations for Conflict of Interest for Supervisory and Examination Committees, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Janice Causgrove Dunn, Associate Dean, FGSR

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee to provide additional guidelines in cases where there is a conflict of interest between a supervisor and a member of the supervisory committee.

Discussion:

Members discussed instances when a conflict could not be avoided such as when there were only 1 or 2 individuals available with subject matter expertise.

Motion: Mündel/Carey

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, new and amended language regarding Conflict of Interest for Supervisory Committee Members, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval and to be published in the 2021-2022 Calendar.

CARRIED

9. Proposed New Combined Master of Business Administration/Master of Science in Occupational Therapy Program (MBA/MScOT), Faculty of Business, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Michael Maier, Associate Dean, MBA Program, Alberta School of Business; Shaniff Esmail, Associate Chair, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine - Occupational Therapy; Janice Causgrove Dunn, Associate Dean, FGSR

Purpose of the Proposal: The combined MBA/MScOT will permit interested candidates to obtain both an MBA and MScOT in three and one-half years. The combined MBA/MScOT program would target a select group of Occupational Therapy students who are looking for a program that provides the opportunity to graduate with a professional, clinical degree with additional business management skills and expertise. The proposed effective date is for Fall 2020.

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

Motion: Carey/Jeffrey

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, entrance requirements and academic standing regulations for a new combined Master of Business Administration/Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program (MBA/MScOT), as set forth in Attachments 1 and 2, to take effect for Fall 2020 admission, and to be published in the 2021-2022 Calendar.

CARRIED

Motion: Martin/Carey

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee recommend that the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, a new combined Master of Business Administration/Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program (MBA/MScOT), as set forth in Attachments 1 and 2, to take effect for Fall 2020 admission, and to be published in the 2021-2022 Calendar.

CARRIED

10. Proposed Embedded Certificate in Language Documentation and Revitalization, Faculty of Arts

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Jordan Lachler, Associate Professor, Department of Linguistics, Faculty of Arts

Purpose of the Proposal: To establish an embedded Certificate in Language Documentation and Revitalization (CLaDR). Through a combination of course work and hands-on experience, this embedded Certificate will provide the awareness, training, and skill sets needed for our undergraduate students to meaningfully engage with and contribute to the vital work reclaiming and revitalizing minority languages, particularly in Indigenous (including First Nations, Métis and Inuit) communities.

Discussion:

Dr Lachler gave an overview of the proposed certificate and noted that its goal was to bring together core teaching strength and student interest.

Members expressed their support for the embedded certificate.

Motion: Causgrove Dunn/Nagel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, approve the proposed embedded Certificate in Language Documentation and Revitalization, as submitted by the Faculty of Arts, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect July 1, 2020

CARRIED

11. Proposal from the Faculty of Extension for a Non-credit Certificate: Commercial Transport Occupational Health and Safety Certificate

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Mary Beckie, Associate Dean, Academic and Student Affairs, Faculty of Extension; Christie Schultz, Assistant Dean, Academic, Faculty of Extension; Nimmi Nayyar-Dua, Program Team Lead, Health, Safety, Environment and Planning, Faculty of Extension

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposed Commercial Transport Occupational Health and Safety Certificate (non-credit will be developed and offered through a collaboration with Alberta Motor Transport Association (AMTA), combining existing U of A curriculum for OHS professionals with complimentary coursework designed by AMTA to meet the needs of today's OHS professionals working or aspiring to work in the commercial transportation industry.

Discussion:

Dr Beckie gave a brief overview of the proposal and thanked the ASC Subcommittee on Standards for their suggestions

Motion: Jeffrey/Barta

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed Commercial Transport Occupational Health and Safety Certificate as submitted by the Faculty of Extension, as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect Fall Term 2020.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

12. University of Alberta Non-Credit Credential Framework- Micro Credentials

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair of ASC; Christie Schultz, Assistant Dean, Academic, Faculty of Extension

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss and receive feedback on the proposed development of a Non-Credit Credential Framework for approval by GFC.

Discussion:

The presenters explained that the framework would be used to add efficiency and consistency with non-credit offerings across the university. They further noted that revenue generation was a priority and micro credentials were trending in the non-credit credentials realm.

Members discussed the variety of non-credit credentials available and degrees of approvals needed.

13. External Programs for Review and Programs in Progress on Campus: Standing Item (no documents)

Presenter(s): Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair of ASC

Discussion:

The Chair noted that there was nothing new to report.

14. Question Period (no documents)

Presenter(s): Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair of ASC

Discussion:

Members asked about plans for moving spring/summer session to remote delivery and implications to experiential learning, and health sciences clinicals and fieldwork.

INFORMATION REPORTS

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

There were no items.

16. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

17. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.