



General Faculties Council
 Academic Standards Committee
 Approved Open Session Minutes

Thursday, October 19, 2017
 2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Tammy Hopper, Chair
 Janice Causgrove Dunn, Vice-Chair
 Radim Barta
 Dion Brocks
 Deborah Burshtyn
 Jason Carey
 Sandra Davidson
 Faith Davis
 Gerda de Vries
 Fay Fletcher

Clive Hickson
 Scott Jeffrey
 Andras Marosi
 Bernadette Martin
 Karsten Mundel
 Rebecca Nagel
 Melissa Padfield
 Fraser Brenneis (Delegate)
 Shane Scott
 Natalie Sharpe
 Alexander Wong

Non-voting
 Norma Rodenburg

REGRETS:
 Nathalie Kermoal
 Carla Peck

STAFF:
 Meg Brolley, Coordinator
 Andrea Patrick, Scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Mundel/Davidson

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of September 21, 2017

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Mundel/Jeffrey

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Minutes of September 21, 2017.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair provided comments on quality assurance reviews undertaken in 2016/17 and noted that excerpts of the final reports would be discussed at the GFC Academic Planning Committee, the Board Learning and Discovery Committee, and would then be available on the Provost's website.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Items Deemed Minor/Editorial

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

Omnibus Motion: Scott/Martin

4A. Approval of Transfer Credits for October 2017

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, approve the proposed Transfer Credit for October 2017 as submitted by the Office of the Registrar, to take effect on final approval.

CARRIED

4B. Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences: Changes to Admission and Re-admission Deadlines

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, approve the proposed Changes to Existing Admission and Re-admission Deadlines, as submitted by the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, to be included in the 2018/19 Calendar.

CARRIED

4C. Changes to Admission, BSc in Medical Laboratory Science, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, approve the proposed Changes to Existing Admission Requirements for the BSc in Medical Laboratory Science, as submitted by the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, to be included in the 2018/19 Calendar.

CARRIED

4D. Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research: Changes to General Academic Standing Requirements, MSc in Physical Therapy, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, approve the proposed Changes to General Academic Standing Requirements, MSc in Physical Therapy, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, to take effect 2018/19.

CARRIED

5. Proposed Changes to Admission and Academic Regulations, BSc in Radiation Therapy, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Fraser Brenneis, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry; Leslie Wutzke, Divisional Administrator, Oncology

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss and approve proposed changes to the admission and academic regulations of the Radiation Therapy Program.

Discussion:

The committee discussed the proposed requirement for students to complete a full year and conditional standing. The proposal was withdrawn by the Faculty for further consideration.

6. Proposal from the Faculty of Nursing - Admission/Transfer and Academic Standing; Substantive Changes to Undergraduate Nursing Curriculum

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Greta Cummings, Dean; Olive Yonge, Vice-Dean; Sandra Davidson, Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs), Faculty of Nursing

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss and approve substantive changes to the Undergraduate Nursing program, the proposed transition plans (cross-walks), and the associated admissions and academic standing calendar changes for these program changes.

Discussion:

Dean Cummings noted that this proposal represents two years of planning and extensive development culminating in over one hundred program recommendations. The proposed changes are student-focused, meet Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) accreditation standards and comply with competencies required by the College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta (CARNA). Dr Davidson indicated that the new program aims to develop nurse leaders who can facilitate change in a clinical setting.

Dr Yonge explained the cross-walk plan which was developed to allow students who entered the programs in the fall of 2017 to move into year two of the new programs in the fall of 2018.

Members, during the discussion, commended the presenters for their proposal, and a member suggested an editorial amendment to the calendar wording.

Motion: Scott/Mundel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, proposed changes to Admission/Transfer and Academic Standing Regulations, as proposed by the Faculty of Nursing, as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect Fall 2018.

CARRIED

7. Proposal from the Faculty of Graduate Studies & Research for a new course-based MA in History of Art, Design and Visual Cultural (HADVC), Department of Art and Design

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Deborah Burshtyn, Vice Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Betsy Boone, Professor, Faculty of Arts

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss and approve the proposed course-based MA in the History of Art, Design and Visual Culture.

Discussion:

Dr Burshtyn provided members with an overview of this proposal. Dr Boone reported that the proposed program was developed as a complement to the existing MA and PhD programs and would prepare students to work in the field. It provides a more flexible graduate degree option for students.

Members discussed the use of existing courses within the proposed program as well as admission requirements and learning outcomes.

Motion: Davidson/Nagel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority, Admission/Transfer and Academic Standing regulations for a new course-based MA in History of Art, Design and Visual Culture (HADVC) in the Department of Art and Design, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Arts, and as set forth in Attachment 1.

CARRIED

8. Proposal from the Faculty of Graduate Studies & Research for a new combined MSc in Physical Therapy/PhD in Rehabilitation Science (MScPT/PhD) program, Department of Physical Therapy and the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Trish Manns, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies, Rehabilitation Medicine; Deborah Burshtyn, Vice Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss and approve the proposed admission/transfer and academic standing regulations for a new combined MSc in Physical Therapy/PhD in Rehabilitation Science (MScPT/PhD).

Discussion:

Dr Manns reported that this proposal provides an avenue for exceptional students to combine clinical and research training using two existing programs.

There was no discussion.

Motion: Martin/Jeffrey

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority, Admission/Transfer and Academic Standing regulations for a new combined MSc in Physical Therapy/PhD in Rehabilitation Science (MScPT/PhD) in the Department of Physical Therapy, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, and as set forth in Attachment 1.

CARRIED

9. Proposed Changes to Existing Admission Requirements, MSc Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Shaniff Esmail, Associate Chair, Department of Occupational Therapy

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss and approve proposed changes to existing admission requirements for the MSc in Occupational Therapy.

Discussion:

Dr Esmail reported that this proposal includes three changes to admission requirements for the MSc in Occupational Therapy including communicating minimum scores for the English Language Requirement as per FGSR standards, the addition of an online situational judgment test (CASPer), and the removal of extraneous information to simplify related sections of the Calendar.

During the discussion, members sought clarification about the effectiveness and utilization of the CASPer tool.

Motion: Carey/Brenneis

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to existing admission requirements for the MSc in Occupational Therapy, as proposed by the Faculty of Graduate Studies & Research, as set forth in Attachment 1, to be effective in Spring term 2018.

CARRIED

10. Proposal to Waive English Language Proficiency Requirement, MBA, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and Alberta School of Business

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Deborah Burshtyn, Vice Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Michael Maier, Associate Dean, Master's Programs, Alberta School of Business

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss allowing the Alberta School of Business to waive the English Language Proficiency (ELP) requirement which will enable them to offer a degree where the language of instruction is in Mandarin without determining the English Language Proficiency of the applicants.

Discussion:

Prior to the formal presentation of this proposal, the Chair noted that the committee would need to consider the governance routing path of this item; specifically, whether the committee would use its delegated authority from GFC to approve this item, or recommend it to GFC in light of the institutional implications.

Dr Maier reported that the MFM and MBA programs, which will be delivered in China, apply to mature learners seeking advanced professional degrees who may not have the required English language skills to pass the current ELP requirements. He indicated that the courses would be delivered in Mandarin by instructors at partner institutions XJTU and Tsinghua. He added that the program standards conform with other existing degrees as well as the Government of Alberta guidelines for Off-Shore Program Delivery. He confirmed that the transcript will reflect that the language of instruction is Mandarin.

During the discussion, members expressed concern with waiving the ELP requirement, and sought clarification about how conflicts between students and instructors and grade appeals would be handled.

After a discussion of the committee's authority relative to this proposal, the committee agreed that this item should be forwarded to GFC for decision with a recommendation from ASC and that a reflection of the committee's discussion be contained in the Outline of Issue.

Motion: Jeffrey/Mundel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee recommend that General Faculties Council approve the proposed waiver of the English Language Proficiency requirement for the Master of Financial Management (MFM) and the Master of Business Administration (MBA) programs delivered in Mandarin by the Alberta School of Business.

CARRIED

11. Proposal to add the Canadian Academic English Language Computer Edition (CAEL CE) examination as a way to fulfill the English Language Proficiency Requirement

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Melissa Padfield, Deputy Registrar

Purpose of the Proposal: 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 to add the CAEL CE, a new language assessment examination, as an acceptable way to fulfill the English Language Proficiency requirements.

Discussion:

Ms Padfield reported that the CAEL CE (Canadian Academic English Language Computer Edition) is an improved, computerized version of the CAEL Assessment that will be available in the fall 2017. The paper-based CAEL will continue to be available in 2017.

A question arose about the usage of CAEL.

Motion: Padfield/Mundel

THAT the Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the addition of the Canadian Academic English Language Computer Edition (CAEL CE) examination as a way to fulfill the English Language Proficiency Requirement, as set forth in Attachment 2, to be included in the 2017/2018 University Calendar, and to take effect for the 2018-2019 admissions cycle.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Kate Peters, Portfolio Initiatives Manager, Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Purpose of the Proposal: To provide an update to the Committee in regards to current proposals being considered by the Provincial Government.

Discussion:

Ms Peters provided members with an update on programs currently being reviewed by the Provincial Government:

To be Proposed to Government:

(New) Load Change in BSc Dental Hygiene : Substantive changes approved by APC November 16, 2016; Published in 2017-18 calendar, first intake of students in September 2017

Currently with AE undergoing System Coordination Review:

(New) Health Care Aide (Préposé aux soins de santé (PSS) Certificate Program, Centre collégial de l'Alberta, Campus Saint-Jean approved by APC April 19, 2017

Currently with CAQC undergoing Quality Review:

(New) Major in Fashion Business Management in the Bachelor of Science approved by APC February 10, 2016

External Reviews Requested:

University of Lethbridge for a new specialization in its Master of Arts program (Cultural Resource Management)

A member enquired about the status of a program.

13. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

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

There were no items.

15. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

16. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.