

GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL
Approved Minutes
Academic Planning and Priorities Committee

October 31, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

via Zoom

Voting Members

Penny Werthner, Co-Chair
Kristin Baetz
Mark Bauer – left after Item 5
Barbara Brown
Michael Hart
Dawn Johnston – left and returned during Item 7
Saaka Sulemana Saaka
Nicole Schmidt – left after Item after Item 5
Dora Tam

Non-Voting Members

Hannah Ashton
David Stewart
Melanie Zimmer

Secretary & Scribe

Cherie Tutt

Secretariat Staff

Tasha Hodzic

Regrets

Tara Beattie
Marjan Eggermont
Malinda Smith

Guests

Dave Anderson, Graduate Program Director, Precision Health Program – present for Item 7
Luisa Cruz-Milette, Program Manager, Seminars, Designations & Corporate Training, Continuing Education
– present for Item 5
Amy Dambrowitz, Registrar – present for Item 4
Jennifer de Roaldes, Associate Registrar, Admissions and Recruitment – present for Item 4
Kathryn King-Shier, Associate Dean – Graduate Education (Faculty of Nursing)
Sheila LeBlanc, Associate Vice-President, Continuing Education – present for Item 5
MacDonald Oguike, Director, Corporate Training & Workforce Development Programs, Continuing Education
– present for Item 5
Elizabeth Pando, Partner, Program Innovation – present for Item 9
Leslie Reid, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning) and Co-Chair of the Decision Support Team – present for
Items 5 & 9
Verity Turpin, Vice-Provost (Student Experience) and Co-Chair of the Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee
– present for Item 4
Dona Wanshika, Program Manager, Continuing Education – present for Item 5
Robin Yates, Dean and Vice-Provost (Graduate Studies) and Co-Chair of the Graduate Academic Program
Subcommittee

Observers

Kelly Kay Spurlock

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda**Moved/Seconded**

That the Agenda for the October 31, 2022 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

Carried**2. Remarks of the Co-Chair**

The Co-Chair remarked on recent and upcoming University events and initiatives, including the Budget Town Hall, the \$67.5M legacy gift from Joan Snyder, the opening of Mathison Hall, the inclusive excellence cluster hiring initiative, and Fall Convocation.

3. Approval of the October 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting held on October 17, 2022 be approved.

Carried

Saaka Sulemana Saaka abstained.

4. Approval of Changes to Admissions Section A.5.6 Indigenous Admissions

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Amy Dambrowitz, Jennifer de Roaldes, and Verity Turpin presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters explained that the proposed revisions aim to make Indigenous admission options and processes clearer for Indigenous learners looking to study at UCalgary either through direct entry to post-secondary or transferring from another institution. The presenters highlighted current admissions options including the Indigenous Admissions Process (differential GPA), Indigenous pathways and bridging programs, and the Indigenous Student Access Program.
- The presenters reported that the new pathways programs in the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Science, and the Schulich School of Engineering (SSE) allow students direct entry into a specific program and that the University increased the number of self-identified Indigenous students by 24% due to these programs

- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - The Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee also noted their confusion about the 'bridging' versus 'pathway' program terminology and the presenters will be working on adding these terms to the glossary so that this is clearer
 - Students in the SSE pathway program are admitted directly into the common core first year after completing foundation course prerequisites
 - If applicants do not present the standard pieces of documentation to confirm their Indigenous identity, their applications are currently reviewed case-by-case. The Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President Research (Indigenous Engagement) outlined some of the challenges with reviewing non-standard documentation.
 - The term Indigenous identity is preferred over the term Indigenous ancestry as ancestry focuses on ethnic or cultural origins of the person's ancestors, whereas identity captures with beliefs, and relations and acknowledgement from community
- The Committee commented that it was positive to see that applicants are able to provide personal statements in various formats
- The Committee requested that the 'o' in office be capitalized when referencing the Office of Indigenous Engagement

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the changes to Admissions Section A.5.6 *Indigenous Admissions* in the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the Committee for implementation for the Fall 2023 admission cycle, and as recommended by the Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee.

Carried**5. Approval of the Non-credit Advanced Project Management Diploma, Continuing Education**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Sheila LeBlanc, McDonald Oguike Luisa Cruz-Milette, and Dona Wanshika presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reported that Continuing Education has been offering programming in project management for a long time and to address the different experience levels of practitioners is proposing to create a Non-credit Advanced Project Management Diploma. The Diploma will also create a pathway and build off of the content in the existing Project Management Foundations Certificate.
- In response to questions, it was confirmed that:
 - Agile Project Management Methodology is a specific methodology which has gained popularity over the more established Waterfall Project Management Methodology

- One of the ways the program evaluates itself is through graduate surveys, there is also an advisory committee, which reviews curriculum on an ongoing basis to ensure it is consistent with any professional designations. Continuing Education also profiles the types of students who take its programs to track if students are employed following completion of it and to assess the variation of the student body.
- The Committee discussed the revenue that will be generated from this program, noting that it is relatively minor and how this may impact the sustainability of the program. It was noted that there are ongoing discussions with Continuing Education regarding the cost of its programs.
- The Committee requested that the use of Agile Project Management Methodology be consistently capitalized

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of the Advanced Project Management Diploma program, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried**6. Approval of the Termination of the Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Diploma and the Combined Master of Nursing/Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Diploma**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Kathryn King-Shier and Robin Yates presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters provided an overview of the history of the Nurse Practitioner (NP) Post-Master's Diploma program and explained the challenges with the program and the variety of alternatives that were considered prior to bringing the proposal to terminate the program. It was explained that the Faculty is opting to terminate the program, and in response to changes to NP education by the Canadian Council of Registered Nurse Regulators the Faculty of Nursing will be exploring post-licensure opportunities for NPs
- In response to questions, the presenters explained:
 - That no cuts are foreseen to support staff as a result of this program termination
 - The background and reasons for why this program was not terminated earlier even though it was low enrolment. It was confirmed that low enrolment programs are reviewed annually by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and the Provost's Office with the appropriate Faculties/Programs. The Committee suggested that when looking at low enrolment programs for termination the demographics of the students in the programs should be considered.
- The Committee commented that although it is unfortunate to see programs terminated the proposal is well supported and this program is no longer sustainable in its current format and that the Faculty has the support of Alberta Health, and it will be exciting to see what the Faculty brings forward for NPs in the future

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the proposed termination of the Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Diploma and the Combined Master of Nursing/Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Diploma, effective December 30, 2022, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried**7. Approval of a Program Change for the Master of Precision Health**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Kathryn King-Shier and Robin Yates presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters explained that the Master of Precision Health (MPH) is part of a ladder pathway including a certificate and diploma, of which the first students commenced in the certificate in Fall 2021. The proposed change to delete MDPR 680 and to reduce the total number of required units is being brought forward after receiving feedback from students regarding the format/schedule for the MPH and consideration by the program that the content from MDPR 680 can be captured within MDPR 681.
- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - The deletion of MDPR 680 will not limit students from examining transdisciplinary topics, as the program itself is inherent transdisciplinary and students could still explore a transdisciplinary topic as part of their capstone project (MDPR 681). It is felt that keeping MDPR 680 is not advantageous for students and could impact their overall experience.
 - There has been better enrolment than anticipated in this program, and it is not believed that the loss of tuition revenue from MDPR 680 will impact the program

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the change in course requirements in the Master of Precision Health degree program, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried**8. Approval of Revisions to Graduate Admissions Section A.1 English Proficiency Qualifications**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Robin Yates presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter reported that the proposed changes are being brought forward to ensure that applicants have the correct level of English proficiency to be successful in their studies and to improve accessibility. The changes include updating the *DUOLINGO* minimum test scores, as recommended by *DUOLINGO* to align with *TOEFL* and *IELTS* minimums and accepting *Cambridge English Qualifications* test scores for admission. It was noted that *Cambridge English Qualifications* tests have been accepted for undergraduate admissions for some time.
- There were no questions

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the changes to Admissions Section A.1 *Qualifications, English Language Proficiency* of the Graduate chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried

9. Report back on the Sharing of the *ii' taa'poh'to'p* and Indigenous Engagement – Recommendations and Equity Diversity Inclusion and Accessibility – Recommendations for Program Proposal Development

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Leslie Reid, Christine Johns and Elizabeth Pando presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reported that at the September meeting, the Committee requested that it would appreciate a report back on any comments/feedback gathered by the presenters when sharing the *ii' taa'poh'to'p* and Indigenous Engagement – Recommendations and Equity Diversity Inclusion and Accessibility – Recommendations for Program Proposal Development guidelines (the guidelines) with its subcommittees and beyond
- The presenters noted that the recommendation documents have now been shared with all the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee's subcommittees and associate deans
- The feedback from these groups was categorized into three areas, 1. How the guidelines provide support in developing new programs and program innovation, 2. What questions remain on the guidelines, and 3. What supports academic units need moving forward to implement the guidelines
- Highlights from the feedback included the desire to expand the use of these guidelines, that these are beneficial documents for adding clarity around expectations and how units should be moving forward, that Faculties/units have undertaken this work to varying degrees, and that while there is desire to best utilize these documents there is also a need for further support in these areas

- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - Support with understanding the documents was not the focus of the feedback, as this will be provided by the Program Innovation Team and Program Partners, but that individuals were looking for additional expert or specific (e.g., curriculum development or admissions) support and that it was felt there would be benefits from having more central support beyond the current Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President Research (Indigenous Engagement) and Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President Research (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusions) and their existing teams
 - The Decision Support Team (DST) does/will provide those working on proposals advice on how to consider and integrate the recommendations in the guidelines, but it is important that this work be commenced at the ideation phase of proposal development and the Program Partners are assisting with guiding this. The Program Innovation Team has also launched a [website](#) with more information. The team is also working on creating a list of resource persons in various Faculties who can assist with this work.
 - The Academic Program Subcommittee and the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee are also carefully considering these documents and how they can guide each committee's questions and how each committee can support a culture of learning together
 - The guidelines are meant to be used as a resource to assist with program proposal development and to encourage thinking reflectively, consider questions and recommendations regarding Indigenous Engagement and Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility
- It was noted that:
 - Next steps should also include how these documents will be further shared with academic units and faculty, it was suggested that the Program Innovation Team may want to organize a workshop on an annual basis
 - It may be helpful to have an explanation of the role of the Decision Support Team somewhere
 - These documents may be helpful for curriculum reviews, as this work is closely tied to program proposal development and the use of the documents in this way could also ensure they are seen/known by more academic staff
- The Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President Research (Indigenous Engagement) reported that his team is exploring grant opportunities to be able to create a position with a focus on program/curriculum development and acknowledged that there are supports in place, but that they can be expanded
- The Committee expressed that these are good steps forward to support the University's commitment to Indigenous Engagement and Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility

10. Subcommittee Reports for the: Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee and Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda for information only.

11. Other Business

There was no other business.

12. Motion to Adjourn

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee adjourn the October 31, 2022 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Cherie Tutt
Meeting Secretary