

GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL
Approved Minutes
Academic Planning and Priorities Committee

November 21, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

via Zoom

Voting Members

Penny Werthner, Co-Chair
Kristin Baetz
Mark Bauer – left during Item 5
Barbara Brown
Marjan Eggermont
Dawn Johnston
Malinda Smith
Dora Tam

Non-Voting Members

Melanie Zimmer

Secretary

Courtney McVie

Scribe

Cherie Tutt

Regrets

Hannah Ashton
Tara Beattie
Michael Hart
Saaka Sulemana Saaka
Nicole Schmidt
David Stewart

Guests

Rebecca Archer, Associate Dean, Academic, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine – present for Item 5
Aylin Atilla (Director WIDE initiative and Associate Dean Professional Development) Faculty of Veterinary Medicine – present for Item 5
Patsy Knutson, MA, Program Manager, Domestic Programs, Continuing Education – present for Item 4
Sheila LeBlanc, Associate Vice President (Continuing Education) – present for Item 4
Vui Kien Liao, Sr. Program Manager Business & Technology Programs, Continuing Education – present for Item 4
Jacob Thundathil, former Associate Dean (Graduate Education and Internationalization), Faculty of Veterinary Medicine – present for Item 5
Ewa Wasniewski, Director, Domestic Programs, Continuing Education – present for Item 4

Observers

Kelly Hogle, Partner, Program Innovation – present for Item 5
Elizabeth Pando, Partner, Program Innovation – present for Item 4

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 November 21, 2022 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

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

The Co-Chair remarked that:

- The Strategic Planning Oversight Committee (STPC) has begun meeting and opportunities for participation in the process for both the internal and external communities are upcoming. The STPC is looking for academics to sit on its working group and members should reach out to the Co-Chair with suggestions. It was clarified that the academics appointed to the working group do not need to be administrators but should ideally have either expertise or interest in strategy development and stakeholder participation.
- The reviews for the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Indigenous Engagement) and the Vice-Provost (Libraries and Cultural Resources) are underway and feedback can be provided through the Provost and Vice-President (Academics) [website](#)

3. Approval of the October 31, 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 31, 2022 be approved.

Carried**4. Approval of the Business Analysis Certificate Program, Continuing Education**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Sheila LeBlanc, Ewa Wasniewski, Vui Kien Liao, and Patty Knutson presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reported that Continuing Education (CE) has offered business analysis curriculum for several years, but that it did not align with the International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA) professional association requirements and that to respond to demand from students who wish to seek certification from the IBBA it is proposing to create a new Business Analysis Certificate

- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - The majority of students registered with CE are not often looking to complete a specific credential, such as a certificate, but rather students enrol in specific courses, which allow them to develop/build their skills, and as a result CE does not measure program success based on program completion
 - Due to the change in number of hours and high percentage of content and that needed to be revised to create the proposed Certificate the proposal is being presented as a new program versus a redesign
 - The University does also offer credit programming in this space through the Master of Data Science and Analytics and Graduate Diploma in Data Science and Analytics, Specialization in Business Analytics
 - CE has started using its student registration system to gather data related to equity-deserving groups. In the summer CE established an Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility (EDIA) Committee, which has been examining current state and working on opportunities and alignment with this institutional priority.
 - Tuition is set based on an analysis of other similar credentials offered by CE and externally and CE's expertise in a specific area
- The Committee discussed:
 - The reasons for developing programs as either non-credit or credit and the key differences, trends in professional education, the potential for non-credit programming to count towards a credit program, and the benefits of Faculties and CE working together to provide different routes and options for students to enter the University
 - The tuition fees for the program and concerns that recent budgets presented for CE programs to the Committee may not be sustainable. The Committee requested that this feedback be shared with CE and encourage CE to further consider how they set their fees and budgets with sustainability being considered at the forefront.
- The Committee noted that the content on page 19 of the proposal, which included curriculum links, was corrupted, and requested that this page be resubmitted, so that the final record is correct
- The Committee requested that going forward CE work with the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion on its approach to data collection to ensure consistency and coordination of unit-specific data with institutional data

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of the Business Analysis Certificate Program, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried

5. Approval of the Creation of the Leaders in Veterinary Medicine program

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Jacob Thundathil, Robert McCorkell, Rebecca Archer, and Aylin Atilla presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters provided an overview of the Leaders in Veterinary Medicine Combined Program and highlighted changes made to the proposal in response to feedback received from the Committee in the spring. Changes include further details on how the program will incorporate Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (EDIA) principles and EDIA initiatives underway, ways in which the program will ensure students' research progresses, how student wellness and experience will be supported, and funding options.
- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - It is not anticipated that the program will have similar attrition to combined MD/PhD programs as the program has not been designed with similar financial incentives. During the admissions process students will be assessed for their suitability for this program. For the PhD in particular, students will need the skills gained from the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) portion of the program for their research. The presenters also noted the importance of career mentorship and the role of the supervisory committee for keeping students on track.
 - The budget was prepared by the Faculty's financial partner, and the presenters will follow-up to ensure any salary increases for the staff groups are included
 - Details relating to the Alberta Residency admissions requirement are outlined for applicants in the admissions manual, the student application loan site also defines this
 - The minimum GPA to be considered for admission is 3.0, but the actual average for students who are admitted is usually closer to 3.7. The average was lowered as part of a change to admissions practices to consider applicants more holistically.
 - The proposed peer mentorship program is based on successful mentorship programs that have been implemented in the US, which were developed around recommendations from the American Veterinary Medical Association's EDIA Committee
 - Other EDIA initiatives include the hiring of a manager of wellness, inclusion, diversity and equity, student recruitment in
- The Committee discussed:
 - The potential challenges that could face this program and the need for continuous monitoring, in particular of attrition rates
 - The considerations that went in to setting the tuition fees
 - The minimum GPA to be considered for admission and
 - That a lot of the additional EDIA content is aspirational and there is still a lot of work for determining how the aspirations will be implemented. It is important that there is a differential approach and not one size fits all.

- The Committee noted the emphasis the Faculty has placed on addressing student mental health and wellness, but encouraged that focus on this be continual due to the intensity of these programs and the nature of students who may be attracted to them
- The Committee suggested revisions to the terminology in the section of the proposal referencing gender equity and requested that the [Language of EDI - Glossary](#) be shared with the presenters and to others developing proposals
- The Committee requested that going forward the Faculty work with the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and the Registrar's Office on its approach to data collection to ensure consistency and coordination of unit-specific data with institutional data

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of the Leaders in Veterinary Medicine Program (Combined Doctor of Veterinary Medicine/Master of Science in Veterinary Medical Sciences, and combined Doctor of Veterinary Medicine/Doctor of Philosophy in Veterinary Medical Sciences), as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried**6. Other Business**

The Committee discussed titling of programs, and that it may be beneficial to give this more thought as a group in future.

The Co-Chair agreed to speak to Deans' Council regarding the importance of EDIA data coordination with the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.

7. Motion to Adjourn

The Academic Planning and Priorities Committee adjourned the November 21, 2022 meeting by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Courtney McVie
University Secretary