



General Faculties Council  
**ACADEMIC PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE**  
Approved Minutes

Meeting #48  
March 9, 2020, 2:00 p.m.

A 167

***Voting Members***

Leslie Reid, Co-Chair  
Jim Brandon, Academic Co-Chair  
Isabelle Barrette-Ng  
Kevin Dang  
Paul Mains  
Mary O'Brien  
Angelique Saweczko

***Secretary***

Susan Belcher

***Scribe***

Elizabeth Sjogren

***Regrets***

Jocelyn Hayley  
Peggy Hedges  
Christine Johns  
Karen Then

***Guests***

Kim Johnston, Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning; Academic and Planning), Schulich School of Engineering – present for Item 5  
Virginia Tumas, Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) – present for Item 4

***Observers***

Jaclyn Carter, Governance and Student Appeals Coordinator, University Secretariat  
Sara Fedoruk, Analyst, Planning and Reviews, Office of the Provost – present for Items 4-6  
Kelly Hoglund, Program Support Specialist, Office of the Provost – present for Items 4-6

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The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Agenda for the March 9, 2020 Academic Program Subcommittee meeting be approved.

**Carried**

## **2. Remarks of the Co-Chair and Academic Co-Chair**

The Co-Chair thanked the members for preparing for today's meeting, noting that proposals that move on to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee for approval are made stronger by the efforts of this committee.

The Academic Co-Chair updated members on his health, and specifically noted that being actively back to work is a positive thing.

## **3. Approval of the January 27, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

### **Moved/Seconded**

That the Minutes of the Academic Program Subcommittee meeting held on January 27, 2020 be approved.

**Carried**

## **4. Recommendation of the Closure of the Faculty of Arts Collaborative Programs (BA/BSc Psychology and BA/BA Honours Sociology) at Red Deer College**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Virginia Tumas presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the proposal, specifically noting that the decision to end the Faculty's Psychology and Sociology collaborative programs at Red Deer College is motivated by the need to facilitate the high demand for these programs at the University's main campus and that the collaborative programs operate at a significant financial loss every year
- The Committee discussed that:
  - Faculty members who volunteer to teach the courses at Red Deer College are replaced by sessional instructors for the courses held on our Calgary campus, and it is desirable to have these experienced faculty members back teaching on the main campus. In response to a question, the proponent noted that it is unlikely that more sections of courses will be added when the faculty members return, but it will benefit students to have these experienced teachers in the main campus classrooms.
  - Students who take the collaborative degree programs enter in the third year of their degree program, and are registered as students of the University of Calgary. The proponent confirmed that admission to the collaborative degree programs is currently suspended, and students currently in the program will be able to complete the program before it is terminated.
  - Red Deer College is developing its own four-year Psychology degree program, and possibly a four-year Sociology degree program, to begin in Fall 2021. It is also possible that the institution will be granted 'university' designation in the future
- The committee suggested that the proposal clearly describe:
  - The current assignment of teaching duties at the Red Deer College and main campus, including that faculty members currently receive an additional reduction of course load if they volunteer to teach at the Red Deer College

- That the collaborative programs are two-year programs, with students admitted in their third year, and that courses will be offered at Red Deer College for the next two years in order to guarantee that students currently admitted to the collaborative degree programs will compete
- In response to a question, it was reported that some Red Deer College students may enroll in the courses offered at the college until termination of the collaborative program (paying tuition to the University), if there is space available. These students would be able to continue their studies until the new Red Deer College degree programs are launched.

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the suspension, effective August 15, 2020, and eventual termination of the Faculty of Arts Collaborative Programs (Psychology and Sociology) at Red Deer College, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

**Carried**

**5. Recommendation of the Load Change to the Minor in Mechatronics in the Schulich School of Engineering**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Kim Johnston presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the proposal, and emphasised that Mechatronics already exists as a minor available to fourth-year Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering students, and that it is proposed to now extend this to be a minor available to students after their first year, and expand availability to include Electrical and Software Engineering students
- In response to questions, the proponent reported that:
  - Students in the existing Mechatronics minor develop highly valuable skills, and the proposed change is not in response to shortcomings in the existing program, but to open up a successful program to more students
  - The Faculty will use its established program placement process to determine which students will be admitted to the minor. In the existing process, students apply to their preferred programs, and then placement is made based on grade point average.
- The Committee suggested that the proposal more clearly describe that the change adds one course to the Mechanical Engineering program and two courses to the Electrical and Software Engineering programs, and that the proposal more clearly describe the program placement process
- The Committee noted that the Faculty's statement on Student Mental Health Considerations, including the use of classroom intervention initiatives and special events to promote student health, is an excellent application of the principles in the University's Mental Health Strategy

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the load change to the Minor in Mechatronics in the Schulich School of Engineering, effective August 15, 2020, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

**Carried**

**6. Status of Program Approvals**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda for information only.

**7. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**8. Adjournment**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Program Subcommittee adjourn the March 9, 2020 meeting.

**Carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

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Susan Belcher  
University Secretary