

General Faculties Council
GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting #28
April 26, 2017, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

A167

Voting Members

Lisa Young, Co-Chair – left during Item 7
Rob Kremer, Academic Co-Chair
Jalel Azaiez – left during Item 7
Adrienne Offenbecker
Quentin Pittman
Angelique Saweczko
Joelle Welling

Regrets

Cheryl Dueck
Lawrence Harder
David Nordstokke

Guests

Carol Berenson, Educational Development Consultant, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning – present for Item 7
Rob Deardon, Associate Professor (Biostatistics), Faculty of Science and Cumming School of Medicine (Adjunct) – present for Item 5
Sally St. George, Coordinator Master of Social Work Clinical Specialization – present for Item 6

Observers

Kelly Hoglund, Program Support Specialist, present for Items 5 – 7
Lindsay Penner, Program Support Specialist, present for Item 7
Heather Smith-Watkins, Analyst, Planning and Reviews Items 5 – 7

Non-Voting Members

Christine Johns
Liza McCoy
Tanya Zdorenko

Secretary

Susan Belcher

Scribe

Cherie Tutt

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the April 26, 2017 Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee meeting be approved.

Carried

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

The Co-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- It is anticipated that the Faculty of Graduate Studies will bring forward a policy regarding graduate funding in the Fall Term
- The University's first Giving Day will occur from April 27 to 29 with a goal to create 50 scholarships in 50 hours. Donations will be able to be directed to a specific Faculty.
- The Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approved the Registration Exemption Regulations recommended by the Committee at its April meeting

The Academic Co-Chair made no remarks.

3. Approval of the March 22, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee meeting held on March 22, 2017 be approved, with the requested amendment.

Carried

4. Approval of Calendar Changes: Faculty of Science and Faculty of Environmental Design

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Lisa Young, Co-Chair, and Tanya Zdorenko, Graduate Calendar Editor, presented these changes.

Highlights:

- The proponents reported that the GAPS Calendar Working Group has reviewed all of the proposed Calendar changes and recommends the changes to the GAPS

Faculty of Science

- In response to questions, it was confirmed that:
 - Science 601 and 603 can be taken after Candidacy, as they are not required courses for the degree program
 - Students will receive credit for Science 601 and 603, but the courses are not included in the Grade Point Average and are not intended to fulfil required option courses
 - The Taylor Institute's (TI) Professional Learning Certificate in Teaching in Higher Education will have generic programming applicable for all graduate students, whereas Science 601 and 603 will be specifically focused on teaching and learning in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) academic disciplines
- The Committee discussed the distribution of pass/fail versus graded courses
- The Committee discussed the rationale for the change in the course hours for Geology 699 from H(3-3) to H(3-3) or H(3-0) or H(0-6), and the option to use more than one set of course hours for topics courses with different formats. The Registrar remarked that it would be unusual to approve three options for course hours, specifically one that only has lab hours identified ((0-6)), and

recommended that the course hours be changed to H(3-3) or H(3-0). The Committee suggested that the Graduate Calendar Coordinator consult with the Department of Geoscience to determine if the (0-6) course hours were proposed for a field topic, and if so that a new field course be created with topic options.

Faculty of Environmental Design

- There were no questions regarding the Calendar changes for the Faculty of Environmental Design

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar changes for the Faculty of Science, as set out in the document provided to the Committee

Carried

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar change for Geology (GLGY) 699 Selected Topics in Geology, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group, with the requested amendment.

Carried

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar changes for the Faculty of Environmental Design, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group.

Carried

5. Recommendation of the Creation of a Specialization in Biostatistics in Mathematics and Statistics and Revisions to the Specialization in Biostatistics in Community Health Sciences

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Rob Deardon, Associate Professor (Biostatistics), Faculty of Science and Cumming School of Medicine (Adjunct), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent explained that, in order to improve the biostatistics offerings at the University by leveraging expertise and fostering collaboration between the Foothills and Main Campuses, it is being proposed that a Specialization in Biostatistics be created within both the PhD and MSc (thesis-based) programs in Mathematics and Statistics and that the Specialization in Biostatistics within the PhD and MSc (thesis-based) programs in Community Health Science be revised
- The Committee reviewed the interdisciplinary characteristics of the specializations, and it was clarified that an interdisciplinary program can be defined as a specialization that is available to students in more than one discipline
- In response to a question, it was confirmed that the content of STAT 721 'Statistical Inference' is suitable for Masters level students

- The Committee discussed the course requirements for the specializations, and in particular, the choice to have epidemiology as a core course, rather than an elective, for the specialization within Mathematics and Statistics
- The Committee suggested that:
 - The proposals be reviewed for consistency, so that they are presented to the APPC in a similar format
 - The proponent consider not including “Python” in the name of the new programming course, to allow greater flexibility to teach different programming languages

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the revisions to the Biostatistics Specialization in the Community Health Sciences Master of Science (thesis-based) and Doctor of Philosophy programs, effective September 2018, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee approve the revised Calendar wording for the Biostatistics Specialization in the Community Health Sciences Master of Science (thesis-based) and Doctor of Philosophy programs, contingent upon approval of the revisions to the Specialization, as set out in the document provided to the Committee.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a Biostatistics Specialization for the Mathematics and Statistics Master of Science (thesis-based) and Doctor of Philosophy programs, effective September 2018, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee approve the new Calendar wording for the Biostatistics Specialization in the Mathematics and Statistics Master of Science (thesis-based) and Doctor of Philosophy programs, contingent upon approval of the Specialization, as set out in the document provided to the Committee.

Carried**6. Recommendation of the Suspension and Termination of the Social Work Post-Master’s Diploma**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Sally St. George, Coordinator Master of Social Work Clinical Specialization, Faculty of Social Work, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent reported that the Social Work Post-Master's Diploma was designed as a route for entry into a PhD in Social Work for students who were unable to commit to a full-time PhD program. However, the Faculty has seen declining demand, as students who complete the Post-Master's Diploma are unable to apply for scholarships or funding when they transfer into the PhD program, and are therefore choosing to apply directly to the PhD. Because of these reasons the Faculty no longer feels it is sustainable to continue to run the Post-Master's Diploma.
- The Committee suggested that the language in the proposal regarding Faculty approval of the suspension be revised to indicate that the Ministry of Advanced Education is the final approval authority for the suspension and termination

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the immediate suspension and termination of the Post-Master's Diploma in Social Work, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee approve the Calendar changes for the Post-Master's Diploma in Social Work, contingent upon approval of the suspension and termination of the Post-Master's Diploma in Social Work, as set out in the document provided to the Committee.

Carried**7. Not-for-academic Credit Professional Learning Certificate in Teaching in Higher Education**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Carol Berenson, Educational Development Consultant, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Co-Chair explained the routing for not-for-academic-credit proposals
- The proponent reported that the TI has developed a proposal for a new not-for-academic-credit Certificate in University Teaching and Learning for graduate students. It was explained that the Certificate will develop students' skills in post-secondary teaching.
- It was reported that consultation with students regarding the development of the Certificate has been very positive, as it is believed that completion of the Certificate will give University of Calgary students a competitive edge in the academic job market and also provide them with relevant transferrable skills
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - The predicted attrition rate for the Certificate is based on current experience
 - Consultation with academic staff has been generally positive
 - The TI has consulted with Carolyn Emery, Associate Dean (Research), regarding the development of a similar certificate for postdoctoral scholars

- The Committee discussed:
 - The flexible design of the Certificate and the option for students to complete the required workshops over either one or two years
 - The content of the different workshops, specifically what types of opportunities will be available to students to implement the concepts taught in the workshops, and the possibility that, in the future, students may have the opportunity to teach in the University's global challenge courses
 - The types of materials which may be included in a student's dossier upon completion of the *Developing Your Teaching Dossier* workshop
- The Committee suggested that the TI consult with Continuing Education regarding student record management for not-for-academic-credit credentials

8. Status of Program Approvals

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

9. Other Business

There was no other business.

10. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee adjourn the April 26, 2017 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Susan Belcher
University Secretary