



General Faculties Council  
Academic Planning Committee  
Approved Minutes

Wednesday, May 25, 2011  
3-15 University Hall  
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

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**ATTENDEES:**

Carl Amrhein (Chair), George Pavlich (Delegate), Phyllis Clark, Roy Coulthard, Rory Tighe, Christina Rinaldi, Loren Kline, Bob Luth, Marc Arnal, Jessica Zvonkovic, Gerry Kendal, Garry Bodnar (Coordinator), Deborah Holloway (Scribe)

**PRESENTERS AND GUESTS:**

Carl Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee  
Roger Epp, Dean, Augustana Faculty  
John Kennelly, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences  
Dru Marshall, Deputy Provost  
Anita Molzahn, Dean, Faculty of Nursing  
Marc Moreau, Assistant Dean, Admissions, Undergraduate Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry  
Mazi Shirvani, Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research  
Colleen Skidmore, Vice-Provost (Academic)  
Brent Swallow, Chair, Department of Rural Economy  
Joan White, Associate Dean, Alberta School of Business

**OPENING SESSION**

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Members agreed to the Agenda as circulated.

2. Approval of the Minutes of April 27, 2011

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Arnal/Kline

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Minutes of April 27, 2011.

**CARRIED**

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair welcomed Mr Tighe and Ms Zvonkovic to their first meeting of GFC APC. He also provided comments of interest to members.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### 4. Proposed Termination of the Faculty of Nursing's Institute of Philosophical Nursing Research (IPNR)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter:* Anita Molzahn, Dean, Faculty of Nursing

*Purpose of the Proposal:* Termination of the Institute of Philosophical Nursing Research (IPNR) as a UAPPOL-defined academic institute within the Faculty of Nursing.

*Discussion:*

Dr Molzahn presented the item, noting that while the activities currently undertaken in IPNR will continue, it has been determined that the Institute does not meet the UAPPOL definition of an "institute" and, therefore, she, as Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, proposes its termination.

Motion: Luth/Kline

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed termination of the Faculty of Nursing's Institute of Philosophical Nursing Research (IPNR) as a UAPPOL-defined academic institute, as submitted by the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval.
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**CARRIED**

### 5. Proposed (New) Doctor of Medicine/Master of Business Administration (MD/MBA) Combined Degrees Program

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenters:* Mazi Shirvani, Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Joan White, Associate Dean, Alberta School of Business; and Marc Moreau, Assistant Dean, Admissions, Undergraduate Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To offer a (new) Doctor of Medicine/Master of Business Administration (MD/MBA) Combined Degrees Program (based on the existing MD and MBA programs) to excellent medical students recognizing the value of combining medical studies with advanced management skills and expertise.

*Discussion:*

Dr White presented the item, noting that the proposal would represent the fifth combined MBA degree offered by the Alberta School of Business. The MD/MBA program was developed in recognition of an increasing demand for physicians with management skills and expertise. The combined program would combine the four-year MD degree with the MBA degree and would require, in total, five years of study. Upon successful completion of the combined program, graduates would receive both an MBA and MD. There would be no changes to the MD degree requirements other than adding an extra year to the overall requirements and allowing a break between the pre-clinical and clinical years (between year two and year three) of medical studies to allow the student to complete the requirements for the MBA.

Dr Moreau noted that the proposal represented a significant opportunity for medical students.

During the ensuing discussion, the presenters addressed questions and comments from members regarding the following matters: whether the combined program would be administered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; that the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) had negotiated with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Technology (AET) combined programs do not require their approval and this proposal serves as the precedent; and whether issues of capacity had been addressed.

Motion: Arnal/Coulthard

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, a proposed (new) Doctor of Medicine/Master of Business Administration (MD/MBA) Combined Degrees Program, as submitted by the Faculty of Business (in co-operation with the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research) and as set forth in Attachment 1, to be effective September, 2011.

**CARRIED**

6. University of Alberta (School of Business and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research) and the Otto Beisheim School of Management Overlapping (Dual Degree) Graduate Degree Program Proposal

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenters:* Mazi Shirvani, Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; and Joan White, Associate Dean, Alberta School of Business

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To offer a dual graduate degree option (based on the existing Alberta School of Business' Master of Business Administration (MBA) program) through an Agreement with the Otto Beisheim School of Management.

*Discussion:*

Dr White introduced the proposal by describing the reputation of WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management. She noted that the program would result in two degrees/parchments. The expected benefits include the ability to attract additional high-quality international students to the University of Alberta and provision of an opportunity to our students to attend a highly-respected international institution.

During the ensuing discussion, the presenters addressed questions and comments from members regarding the following matters: clarification regarding course and credit requirements; and a request to define the acronym 'WHU' somewhere in the document. [Subsequent to the meeting, Dr White undertook to modify the agreement that accompanied the above-noted proposal to include the full name of WHU (Wissenschaftliche Hochschule für Unternehmensführung).]

Motion: Kline/Rinaldi

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, a proposal for an overlapping dual graduate degree program between the Alberta School of Business and the Otto Beisheim School of Management (WHU), submitted jointly by the Alberta School of Business and the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon final approval.

**CARRIED**

7. Proposed Name Change for the Department of Rural Economy to the Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology (REES)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenters:* John Kennelly, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, and Brent Swallow, Chair, Department of Rural Economy

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To change the name of the Department of Rural Economy to the Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology.

*Discussion:*

Dr Kennelly presented the item, noting the proposed name change represents a more accurate depiction of the education and scholarship undertaken in the Department and will result in increased visibility of the research, teaching, and service roles. The proposal received the unanimous approval of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Council. He noted that while the proposal is supported by a number of University departments, Campus Saint-Jean, and external stakeholders, and has the qualified support of the Department of Sociology, the Department of Economics does not support this change.

Dr Swallow provided a history of the Department, including its previous and current names. He noted that the current name does not reflect the focus of the Department or the norms within related professions. He noted that the focus had shifted to resource, environmental, and agricultural economics and environmental sociology. The proposed name better reflects the capacity and activities of the Department.

In response to a question regarding whether external stakeholders, particularly the Government of Alberta, would be concerned with the removal of "rural" from the name, Dr Swallow confirmed that the Department's partners are very familiar with the work of the Department and no concerns had been raised.

Motion: Luth/ Zvonkovic

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed name change of the Department of Rural Economy to the Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology (REES), as submitted by Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon final approval.

**CARRIED**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

8. Summary of the Academic Unit Review Report for Augustana Faculty

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenters:* Dru Marshall, Deputy Provost; and Roger Epp, Dean, Augustana Faculty

*Purpose of the Proposal:* The Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), following the procedures in Academic Unit Reviews Guidelines, January 2007, reports to the GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC) and the Board Learning and Discovery Committee (BLDC) on completed unit reviews, for their information and discussion.

*Discussion:*

Deputy Provost Marshall began the discussion by outlining the purpose and processes employed regarding Unit Reviews. Unit Reviews are conducted to ensure high-quality programs and administrative procedures and policies at the University. Regarding the Unit Review of Augustana Faculty, she noted the high quality of the review team, reporting that they were very impressed with Augustana Faculty and provided constructive suggestions and advice. She added that the outgoing and incoming Deans had worked closely on the report before members.

Dr Epp reported that the process had been very valuable. He highlighted, in particular, that the review affirmed the distinctive identity of the Faculty and acknowledged the high level of internationalization achieved. Regarding suggestions about curricular and student engagement, he expressed agreement and noted that some improvements are already underway. Issues regarding attracting and retaining students would be addressed over a longer term.

During the ensuing discussion, the presenters addressed questions and comments from members regarding the following matters: that the findings are a challenge to the University to respect and protect Augustana Faculty's distinct identity and find new ways to encourage an even greater level of contribution by the Faculty to the University's mission; the role of graduate teaching and programming; and the requirement for new science infrastructure.

The Chair outlined many of Dean Epp's accomplishments, noting his term as Dean is coming to a close. He and the Committee members congratulated and thanked Dr Epp for his success and contributions.

9. Question Period

There were no questions.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

10. Items Approved by the Committee by E-Mail Ballots

There were no items.

11. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

**CLOSING SESSION**

12. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:05 pm.