General Faculties Council
Academic Standards Committee
Approved Minutes

Thursday, October 20, 2011
3-15, UHALL
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

ATTENDEES:
Bill Connor (Delegate) - Chair, Ada Schmude (Delegate), Andy Cheema (Delegate), Vikki Northrup (Delegate), Natalie Sharpe, William Street (Delegate), Nat Kav (Delegate), Harry Prest (Delegate), Elaine Geddes (Delegate), Ken Porteous (Delegate), Walter Archer (Delegate), René Poliquin (Delegate), John Law (Delegate), Gurston Dacks (Delegate), Kaysi Kushner (Delegate), Dion Brocks (Delegate), Janice Causgrove-Dunn (Delegate), Sentil Senthilselvan (Delegate), Liz Taylor (Delegate), Ed Blackburn (Delegate), Brenda Leskiw (Delegate) – Vice-Chair, Matthew Li, Pat Schultz, Garry Bodnar (Coordinator and Scribe)

PRESENTERS AND GUESTS:
Allen Berger, Dean, Augustana Faculty
Bill Connor, Interim Vice-Provost (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee
Deborah Eerkes, Director, Office of Student Judicial Affairs
Michael Frishkopf, Associate Professor, Department of Music (and Associate Director, Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology)
Tim Parker, Professor of Psychology, Augustana Faculty
Harry Prest, Associate Dean, Augustana Faculty
Yves Sauvé, Assistant Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
William Street, Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Street/Porteous

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of September 15, 2011

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Geddes/Poliquin

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Regular Session Minutes of September 15, 2011.

CARRIED

3.   Comments from the Chair

The Chair commented on a number of items of interest to members.

Ms Schmude reported to members that she had contacted the University of Windsor since the last meeting of GFC ASC to discuss with representatives of that institution the initiative they had undertaken to support students who appeared to be failing at mid-term time in the Fall term. She noted that it was predominantly Arts-related departments that were participating in this endeavour and providing on-going support to students in apparent academic jeopardy. Ms Schmude stated she would continue to monitor this project at the University of Windsor and likely report back to GFC ASC later this academic year on its progress and success rate(s).

Ms Schultz briefly outlined for members the content and purpose of the PLAR (Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition) Course Application Form, distributed to GFC ASC at this meeting. She indicated that she would be forwarding this form to members *via* e-mail, as well, and that, if anyone required more information on the form or its use, they were welcome to contact her directly.

ACTION ITEMS

4.   The Following Proposal(s) are Deemed Minor/Editorial (GFC ASC's Terms of Reference (Mandate) (3.A.i and iii)) by the Interim Vice-Provost (Academic) and Chair, GFC ASC, and are APPROVED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY FROM GFC IN A SINGLE OMNIBUS MOTION.

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Bill Connor, Interim Vice-Provost (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee

Purpose of the Proposal: Members were asked to review the individual items for detail on proposed changes submitted by Faculties and the Office of the Registrar.

Discussion:
A member noted a minor editorial correction to page 19 of the material before members (Section 205.9.14 of the *University Calendar*).   Professor Poliquin, representing the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research's interests in the proposed changes set out on this page of the material, agreed to this revision.

4A.   Faculty of Arts Proposed Changes to Existing Admissions/Transfer Requirements (Including Those for the Bachelor of Arts (BA) (Major in Planning))

Motion:

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, proposed changes to existing admission/transfer requirements (including those for the Bachelor of Arts (BA) (Major in Planning)), as submitted by the Faculty of Arts and as set forth in Attachment 4A of the documentation, to take effect in 2012-2013. **CARRIED**

4B.   Office of the Registrar Course Approvals and Denials for October, 2011

Motion:

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from GFC, the proposal for approval of courses for transfer credit, as submitted by the Office of the Registrar and as set forth in Attachment 4B, to take effect upon approval.

CARRIED

4C. Faculty of Education Proposed Changes to Existing Academic Standing (Academic Warning) Requirements

Motion:

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, proposed changes to existing academic standing ('Academic Warning') requirements, as submitted by the Faculty of Education and as set out in Attachment 4C of the documentation, to be effective in 2012-2013.

CARRIED

4D. Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Proposed Changes to Existing Admissions/Transfer Requirements for Graduate Programming

Motion:

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, proposed changes to existing admission/transfer requirements for graduate programming, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and as set out in Attachment 4D of the documentation (as amended), to be effective in 2012-2013.

CARRIED

4E. Faculty of Science Proposed Changes to Existing Admission/Transfer Requirements for the Bachelor of Science (BSc) with Specialization in Planning Degree Program

Motion:

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, proposed changes to existing admissions/transfer requirements for the Bachelor of Science (BSc) with Specialization in Planning degree program, as submitted by the Faculty of Science and set forth in Attachment 4E of the documentation, to be effective immediately.

CARRIED

4F. Faculty of Science Proposed Changes to Existing Admission/Transfer and Academic Standing Requirements

Motion:

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, proposed changes to existing admission/transfer and academic standing/graduation requirements, as submitted by the Faculty of Science and as set forth in Attachment 4F of the documentation, to take effect in 2012-2013.

CARRIED

4G. Faculty of Native Studies Proposed Changes to Existing Admission/Transfer Requirements for the University Credit and Embedded Certificates in Aboriginal Governance and Partnership

Motion:

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, proposed changes to existing admission/transfer and academic standing requirements for the University Credit and Embedded Certificates in Aboriginal Governance and Partnership (with degree), as submitted by the Faculty of Native Studies and as set forth in Attachment 4G of the documentation, for implementation in 2012-2013.

CARRIED

Omnibus Motion: Leskiw/Prest

THAT the Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from GFC, the above-noted course approvals and the editorial changes to academic standing/graduation/promotion and admission/transfer requirements and changes to the *University Calendar* as set out (and amended) in Items 4A – 4G.

CARRIED

5. Augustana Faculty's Proposed Embedded Certificate in Community Mental Health: Theory and Practice

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenters: Allen Berger, Dean, Augustana Faculty; Harry Prest, Associate Dean, Augustana Faculty; Tim Parker, Professor of Psychology, Augustana Faculty

Purpose of the Proposal: To establish an embedded certificate entitled Community Mental Health: Theory and Practice open to those who have completed a psychology major at Augustana Faculty. Completion of this subset of courses within the psychology major will prepare students for a range of placements within communities. Certificate holders' familiarity with psychological and neuropsychological disorders will make them attractive candidates for a variety of mental health and other health-related positions in the community, including being able to contribute to crisis response teams. They will also have knowledge of community structures and community health programs designed to promote mental and physical health. This provides a valuable qualification for students as well as a valuable commodity for the community.

Discussion:
Dean Berger introduced the item to members. He spoke to the extensive consultative process through which this proposal had moved to date and to the rationale underlying and value added by this embedded certificate program. Professor Parker provided additional commentary on the proposal and spoke, specifically, to the community consultation that had occurred around this initiative. Professor Prest concluded the presentation by outlining some amendments made to pages 9 and 12 of the proposal before members and provided a brief explanation as to why these late revisions were important for clarity's sake.

During the ensuing discussion, the presenters addressed questions and comments from members including, but not limited to, the following: clarification on how much of this certificate program touches upon public health issues; what Augustana Faculty anticipated the enrolment in this program to be; clarification on exactly when the program is meant to be implemented; and whether or not graduands who receive this certificate will be able to employ any specific job-related title.

Motion: Prest/Leskiw

That the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed embedded Certificate in Community Mental Health: Theory and Practice, as submitted by the Augustana Faculty and as set forth in Attachment 1 (as amended), for implementation in 2011-2012.

CARRIED

6.   Faculty of Arts' Proposed Embedded Credit Certificate in World Sound Arts

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenters: William Street, Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts; Michael Frishkopf, Associate Professor, Department of Music (and Associate Director, Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology)

Purpose of the Proposal: To establish an embedded credit Certificate in World Sound Arts. This certificate is offered by the Department of Music to the entire University community, including students enrolled in any bachelor's degree program in any University of Alberta Faculty. Students can add the certificate to any program by taking the requisite courses, though this may necessitate exceeding 120 credits in some cases. The number of incoming students may be limited by qualifications, or by maximum yearly intake, or both.

This certificate is designed to give students a professional advantage in pursuing the many non-traditional fields of music and the sonic arts, due to its focus on the larger constellation of musical and artistic activity around the world today. Some of these professions include the commercial film music industry, the video game industry, sound arts curation, world music archiving, digital music distribution, sound design, music journalism, media arts production, arts and cultural administration, and music technology industries. In addition, students in this program who want to pursue graduate work will find themselves well-positioned for many of the newer graduate degrees in the sound art, technology, and integrated media arts, including McGill's Master of Arts (MA) in Music Technology, Dartmouth's MA in Digital Music, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Integrated Electronic Arts, and the MFA in Interdisciplinary Studies at the Simon Frasier University's School for Contemporary Arts.

Discussion:
Professor Street provided a brief introduction to the proposal before members; he noted one minor editorial change to the template included therein. Professor Frishkopf spoke to the rationale underlying this certificate program.

Professor Geddes noted that it was very likely students in the Faculty of Business would be interested in pursuing this embedded certificate.

Motion: Street/Geddes

That the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed embedded credit Certificate in World Sound Arts, as submitted by the Faculty of Arts and as set forth in Attachments 1 and 2 (as amended), for implementation in Winter Term, 2012.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.   External Programs for Review and Programs in Progress on Campus: Standing Item

There were no documents.

Presenter: Bill Connor, Interim Vice-Provost (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee

Purpose of the Proposal: For discussion/information.

Discussion:
The Chair reported to members on the following:

External Reviews –
- Review of a proposal from DeVry University for a Bachelor of Business and General Studies has been completed by the Faculty of Business.
- Review of a proposal from Athabasca University for a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Philosophy has been completed by the Faculty of Arts.
- Review of a proposal from St Mary's College for a BA in Psychology has been completed by the Faculty of Arts.

Program Proposals from the University of Alberta –
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in History of Art, Design and Visual Culture has been approved by the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology (AET).
- Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) has been approved by the Minister of AET.
- PhD in Performance Studies is still with the Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC) for quality review.
- Collège Saint-Jean Diploma Program in *techniques d'administration des affaires* (Business Administration) is still with AET for system coordination review.

8.   Academic Integrity Task Force Report

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenters: Deborah Eerkes, Director, Office of Student Judicial Affairs; Yves Sauvé, Assistant Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Purpose of the Proposal: To provide the report and recommendations made by the Academic Integrity (AI) Task Force, based on responses to the academic integrity survey of October/November, 2010. The hope is to begin a discussion on the various recommendations made by the Task Force, as contained in their report.

Discussion:
Ms Eerkes noted Mr Chris Hackett, Discipline Officer, had been the primary force behind both the AI Task Force and the generation of the report before members; unfortunately, he was unable to attend today's meeting, and she would be presenting this item on his behalf. She spoke, in turn, to the background that had led to the work undertaken by the AI Task Force; the logistics and timelines associated with conducting the AI Survey over the past year; the process of gathering data to support both the Survey and the resulting report; the final results attained, based on the Survey; and the recommendations, as set out in the Report, that grew out of the Survey results. She noted that three major institutional risks had been identified by the Task Force, based on the Survey findings: the alienation students and staff felt from the

University's discipline system and the fundamental lack of understanding they had of what was involved in this system; the need for better educative processes on discipline-related matters for both students and staff; and the considerable impact of technology on academic integrity issues.

Professor Sauvé clarified for members the Task Force's intention behind Recommendation #9. He indicated that a fairly-recent article in *The Gateway* had suggested the Task Force was recommending the University adopt the electronic detection resource 'turnitin.com'—this was not the case, he said, but instead members felt that careful, systematic review of these types of resources should be carried out before any decisions were made to either employ or not employ them. He noted, as well, that Survey results indicated that very few people were aware of the annual publication of institutional discipline statistics that appeared in *The Gateway*, thereby undermining their usefulness; and he spoke strongly in favour of Recommendation #3 which calls for the establishment by the University of an Academic Integrity Council.

During the ensuing discussion, the presenters addressed questions and comments from members including, but not limited to, the following: clarification was sought on the rationale underpinning Recommendation #10, how this recommendation would be implemented, whether or not its deployment would vary from Faculty to Faculty, whether or not instructors, if afforded the discretion noted in this recommendation, would be more inclined to deal with disciplinary matters, and the possible resulting wide range of responses from instructors; a member strongly advocated for the involvement of students in any decision-making that potentially could lead to the use of on-line resources such as 'turnitin.com'; there was a need for greater detail on the programs that could be used to better educate the University community on institutional discipline matters and how both students and staff could be engaged in meaningful discussion on the range of academic integrity issues confronting the University; the need to address with students the root causes of academic dishonesty before it actually occurs; the considerable time already spent by Faculty administrators on disciplinary matters; clarification on the involvement of teaching assistants (TAs) and other graduate students in disciplinary processes and the expressed fear that, if TAs report incidents of academic dishonesty, supervising faculty will do little or nothing to move these complaints forward; the adverse effects disciplinary processes have on and for international students who are required to update their student visas according to certain externally-imposed timelines; the need to focus on academic dishonesty incurred not only in the classroom but in the pursuit of research, as well; and the Chair stated that there was a need to ensure that something concrete came out of the recommendations contained within the Report and sought clarification on the Task Force's plans for implementation of said recommendations and who would oversee the progress made towards accomplishing these goals and ambitions.

Ms Eerkes thanked members for their comments and indicated she and her colleagues would welcome any additional feedback they may have on the Task Force's findings. She stated the report could be shared and discussed widely.

9. <u>Question Period</u>

There were no questions.

INFORMATION ITEMS

10. <u>Items Approved by the GFC Academic Standards Committee by E-Mail Ballots</u>

There were no items.

11. <u>Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings</u>

➢ Cyber-Bullying Survey (E-Mailed to Members on October 13, 2011)

CLOSING SESSION

12. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:50 am.