



GFC Academic Standards Committee
Academic Standards Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Thursday, October 17, 2013
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Ada Ness	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Vice-Provost and University Registrar
Bill Connor	Ex-Officio Chair (Delegate), Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Clive Hickson	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Education
Dion Brocks	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Dustin Chelen	Ex-Officio Member, Students' Union Vice-President (Academic)
Gary Barron	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Graduate Students' Association Vice-President (Academic)
Glen Loppnow	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Science
Heather McRae	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Extension
Janice Causgrove Dunn	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation
Joanna Harrington	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research
Kaysi Kushner	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Nursing
Marc Moreau	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Nat Kav	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences
Natalie Sharpe	Ex-Officio Member, Director of the Student Ombudservice
Nathalie Kermoal	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Native Studies
Paul Newton	Elected Member, Academic Staff, Elected by GFC
Stuart Landon	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Arts
Tim Joseph	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculty of Engineering
Yvette d'Entremont	Ex-Officio Member (Delegate), Dean, Faculté Saint-Jean

Non-Voting Members:

Pat Schultz	Member, Associate Registrar (Enrolment Management)
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Presenter(s):

Bill Connor	Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) and Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee
Kathleen Brough	Portfolio Initiatives Manager, Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Nat Kav Associate Dean, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES)
Wade King Advisor, Safe Disclosure and Human Rights
Ada Ness Associate Registrar (Enrollment Services), Office of the Registrar
Pat Schultz Associate Registrar (Enrollment Management), Office of the Registrar

Staff:

Garry Bodnar, Coordinator, GFC Academic Standards Committee
Andrea Patrick, Scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Chelen/McRae

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of September 19, 2013

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Mr Bodnar made note of an error within the 'Attendees' section of the Minutes.

Motion: Brocks/Sharpe

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Minutes of September 19, 2013, as amended.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

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

Mr Chelen reminded members about the advanced civic election voting poll being offered within the Students' Union Building (SUB) today.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Items Deemed Minor/Editorial

The Following Proposal(s) are Deemed Minor/Editorial (GFC ASC's Terms of Reference (Mandate) (3.A.i and iii)) by the Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) 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, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) and Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee

Omnibus Motion: Moreau/Landon

4A. Faculty of Education: Proposed Changes to Existing/Approved Admission/Transfer and Academic Standing/Graduation Requirements

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 Education and as set forth in Attachment A, to be effective in 2014-2015.

CARRIED

4B. Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry: Proposed Changes to Existing Re-examination Requirements

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, proposed changes to existing re-examination requirements, as submitted by the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and as set forth in Attachment B, to be effective in 2014-2015.

CARRIED

4C. Office of the Registrar: Course Approvals for October, 2013

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

CARRIED

4D. Faculté Saint-Jean: Proposed Changes to Existing Admission/Transfer Requirements

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, proposed changes to existing admission/transfer requirements, as submitted by Faculté Saint-Jean and as set forth in Attachment D, to be effective in 2014-2015.

CARRIED

5. Proposed Revisions from the Office of the Registrar to Section 13 of the University Calendar (Language Proficiency Requirements – English Language Proficiency (ELP) and Spoken English Requirements)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Pat Schultz, Associate Registrar (Enrollment Management), Office of the Registrar

Purpose of the Proposal:

To update in the University Calendar the English Language Proficiency (ELP) and Spoken Language Requirements content and organization so that they reflect current business practices and make it easier to understand. In most instances, these revisions do not reflect changes to existing process and procedures but, rather, add clarity within the Calendar for existing processes.

Discussion:

Ms Schultz provided a brief description of the proposal to members, adding that most of the proposed changes are intended to clarify existing practice and not alter current process and to make the affected section of the Calendar easier to understand. She explained that the additional two revisions relate to the International Baccalaureate (IB) organization curriculum changes and the addition of the SPEAK test.

Ms Schultz spoke to a minor revision on page 4 of the proposal regarding the SPEAK test, noting that it was, indeed, available to anyone interested in taking the test to demonstrate proficiency in spoken English. On this point, a member sought clarity regarding the use of the SPEAK test.

Motion: Ness/McRae

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee recommend to the GFC Academic Planning Committee proposed revisions to Section 13 of the University Calendar (Language Proficiency Requirements – English Language Proficiency (ELP) and Spoken English Requirements), as submitted by the Office of the Registrar and as set forth in Attachment 1, as amended, to take effect upon final approval and for publication in the 2014-2015 Calendar.

CARRIED

6. Proposed Changes to University Calendar Section 23.3 (Attendance)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenters: Nat Kav, Associate Dean (Academic), Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences; Ada Ness, Associate Registrar (Enrollment Services), Office of the Registrar; Wade King, Advisor, Safe Disclosure and Human Rights

Purpose of the Proposal:

To seek approval of the relevant governance bodies regarding revisions to Section 23.3 (Attendance) of the University Calendar which will provide guidance in cases where students are unable to meet their academic requirements due to protected grounds including religious conviction.

Discussion:

Dr Kav noted that the proposal had been before members of both the GFC ASC as well as the GFC ASC Subcommittee on Standards (SOS) for commentary and feedback and that it is now ready to be formally recommended to the GFC Executive Committee for approval.

A member stated that the proposal appropriately addresses the concerns raised by GFC ASC at its previous meeting and does not recreate the University discrimination policy and procedures. She thanked Dr Kav for his efforts.

Motion: Kav/Chelen

THAT GFC Academic Standards Committee recommend to the GFC Executive Committee the proposed changes to Section 23.3 (Attendance) of the University Calendar, as provided by the Office of the Registrar and as set forth in Attachment 1, to be effective upon approval and for publication in the 2014-2015 University Calendar.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

There were no documents.

Presenters: Bill Connor, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) and Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee; Kathleen Brough, Portfolio Initiatives Manager, Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Purpose of the Proposal:

For discussion/information.

Discussion:

Ms Brough provided an update of current programs being considered by the Provincial Government:

Currently with the Ministry Enterprise and Advanced Education (EAE) undergoing System Coordination Review:

- Faculty of Arts: Name Change for the Women's Studies Undergraduate Program to Women's and Gender Studies
- Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES): Proposal for the Sustainable Agriculture Major
- Faculty of Extension: Proposal for Master of Arts (MA) in Community Engagement

Currently with Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC) Undergoing Quality Review:

- Faculty of ALES: Proposal for New Plant Biotechnology and Agronomy Majors
- Faculty of ALES: Proposal for Changes to the Nutritional and Food Science (NUFS) Programs

Not Passed on to the CAQC:

- Faculty of Arts: MA in Women's and Gender Studies

External Reviews of Proposals from Other Institutions

Recently Completed:

- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Population Studies and Health from the University of Lethbridge, Public Health
- Bachelor of Health and Physical Education from Mount Royal University, PER

During the ensuing discussion surrounding these updates, members expressed a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: clarification surrounding the Ministry's denial of approval of the MA in Women's and Gender Studies and concern about this decision; and whether the Ministry is concerned about duplication of programming outside of Campus Alberta.

INFORMATION REPORTS

8. Items Approved by the GFC Academic Standards Committee by E-Mail Ballots

There were no items.

9. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

10. Question Period

There were no questions.

CLOSING SESSION

11. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:40 am.