



# UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council  
Academic Standards Committee  
Approved Open Session Minutes

Thursday, May 17, 2018  
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

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**ATTENDEES:**

Tammy Hopper, Chair  
Janice Causgrove Dunn  
Radim Barta  
Akanksha Bhatnagar  
Dion Brocks  
Deborah Burshtyn  
Clive Hickson  
Scott Jeffrey  
Marc Johnson (delegate)  
Bernadette Martin  
Karsten Mundel

Rebecca Nagel  
Melissa Padfield  
Tanya Park (delegate)  
*Non-voting*  
Norma Rodenburg

**REGRETS:**

Jason Carey  
Gerda de Vries  
Fay Fletcher  
Nathalie Kermaal  
Andras Marosi

Paulin Mulatris  
Carla Peck  
Kim Raine  
Shirley Schipper

**STAFF:**

Meg Brolley, Coordinator  
Heather Richholt  
Cheryl Trepanier, Scribe

**OPENING SESSION****1. Approval of the Agenda**

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Mundel/Padfield

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Agenda.

**CARRIED**

**2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of April 19, 2018**

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Causgrove Dunn/Barta

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Minutes of April 19, 2018.

**CARRIED**

**3. Comments from the Chair (no documents)**

The Chair reported that the new Alberta Credentials Framework had been released by the provincial government. She noted that the framework was available on the Provost's website and would be discussed at the June ASC Committee meeting.

The Chair indicated that the Ministry issued a call for proposals for an early expansion of 200 seats for fall 2018; this was part of the announcement of the addition of 3000 new technology related post-secondary seats over the next 3 to 5 years. She noted that the new seats had been expanded from the initial focus on undergraduate programs, to now include graduate and certificate programs.

The Chair reported on quality assurance procedures and highlighted the creation of a college of internal reviewers by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research as part of the process of graduate program reviews. The Chair encouraged members' participation on both graduate and undergraduate reviews.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### 4. Items Deemed Minor/Editorial

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Omnibus Mover and Seconder: Causgrove Dunn/Mundel

#### 4A. Approval of Transfer Credit for April 2018, Office of the Registrar

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the Transfer Credit for May 2018.

**CARRIED**

#### 4B. Proposed Changes to Admissions Chart 4 (IB Courses for Advanced Standing), Office of the Registrar

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to the University Calendar Admissions Chart 4 regarding approved International Baccalaureate courses for advanced standing.

**CARRIED**

#### 4C. Proposed changed to Existing Admission Requirements for French language placement test, Faculté Saint-Jean

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to admissions requirements for Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Bilingual) program, Faculté Saint-Jean.

**CARRIED**

#### 5. Proposal for Direct Entry into Bachelor of Arts Honors, Faculty of Arts

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Aidan Rowe, Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning); Kristy Wuetherick, Senior Officer, Student Programs and Services; Rebecca Nagel, Associate Dean (Student Programs), Faculty of Arts

#### *Discussion:*

Dr Nagel noted that the proposed change would allow direct entry from high school into the BA Honors program. This would allow the Faculty to highlight the opportunity for undergraduate level research in their recruitment efforts and provide better program advising to interested students to help ensure they obtain the required pre-requisites early in their program. She noted that students would still be able to apply for admission to honors programs after their first or second year if they met the admission standards.

Members were supportive of the intention to cultivate a research focus early in undergraduate programs. Other questions were posed regarding the exclusion of Psychology from the proposal and academic warning.

Motion: Brocks/Hickson

THAT the Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed admission changes including direct entry from high school, for the BA Honors, as set forth in Attachment 2, to take effect in September 2019.

**CARRIED**

6. Proposal for the suspension of Admission/Transfer to the Computing Science and the Printmaking routes in the Bachelor of Design, the BA Honors in Classical Languages, the BA Honors in Creative Writing & another major, and BA Honors in History and Classics Combined

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s)*: Rebecca Nagel, Associate Dean (Student Programs), Faculty of Arts

*Discussion:*

Dr Nagel noted the importance of maintaining an active and rich learning environment and that the listed programs had very low enrolments. She indicated that current students would have until Winter 2024 to complete their program. She further noted that courses in these areas would continue to be offered. In response to a question, Dr Nagel indicated that the Faculty would work with any student who may be at risk of missing this deadline.

Motion: Jeffrey/Hickson

THAT the Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, suspension of admission/transfer to the Computing Science and the Printmaking routes in the Bachelor of Design, the BA Honors in Classical Languages, the BA Honors in Creative Writing & another major, and BA Honors in History and Classics Combined, Faculty of Arts, to take effect September 2019.

**CARRIED**

7. Proposal for an Embedded Certificate in Ethics, Faculty of Arts

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s)*: Glenn Griener, Associate Chair, Department of Philosophy

*Discussion:*

Dr Griener noted that this proposal was driven by fields where a background in ethics was important and indicated that ethics was a developing area of specialization within philosophy. He indicated that the certificate would allow students to have significant work in ethics recognized. Dr Griener noted that there would be no additional burden on resources as the certificate incorporates courses that are currently being taught. Regarding the integration of Indigenous content, Dr Griener noted that the department was working to increase expertise in this area, and that the Faculty of Arts was working to hire more Indigenous scholars.

Motion: Nagel/Mundel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed embedded Certificate in Ethics, as submitted by the Faculty of Arts, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect Fall 2018.

**CARRIED**

8. Proposed Admission/Transfer and Academic Standing requirements for a new interdisciplinary Bachelor of Arts major in Media Studies, Faculty of Arts

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s)*: Astrid Ensslin, Professor, Faculty of Arts

*Discussion:*

Dr Ensslin outlined the proposal to establish a BA Major in Media Studies which would take advantage of the expertise currently dispersed throughout the Faculty. She indicated that this degree would align with students' interests and address labour market opportunities.

The committee discussed that the admission/transfer and academic standing would align with current regulations, and supported the proportion of funding slated for graduate teaching assistants.

Motion: Bhatnagar/Jeffrey

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the admission/transfer and academic standing requirements for a new interdisciplinary Bachelor of Arts major in Media Studies, as proposed by the Faculty of Arts, and as set forth in the attached documents, to take effect September 2020.

**CARRIED**

9. Proposed Changes to existing Entrance Requirements and Academic Standing requirements for the Master of Science program in Communication Sciences and Disorders, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine.

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Deborah Burshtyn, Vice Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, LuAnne McFarlane, Associate Chair, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

*Discussion:*

Dr Burshtyn provided an overview of the proposal noting that this was the first of a series of proposals that would come through governance to ensure that all academic and program regulations were reflected in the calendar. She reminded members that the Faculty had developed calendar guidelines to assist in this process and that the *Checklist for Calendar Entries for Graduate Programs* had come before ASC for discussion in April 2018.

Dr McFarlane outlined the two new entrance requirements. She noted that the online situational judgment test was already successfully being used by other health science programs. The committee discussed the inclusion of a pre-requisite course in Indigenous history and the importance of this context in health related programs.

Motion: Jeffrey/Mundel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed revisions to existing Entrance Requirements and Academic Standing for the Master of Science program in Communication Sciences and Disorders, as proposed by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, as set forth in Attachment 1, to be published in the 2019-2020 Calendar.

**CARRIED**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

10. Vice Chair and cross appointment to UASC (no documents)

*Presenter(s):* Meg Brolley, Secretary to GFC and Manager of GFC Services, University Governance

*Discussion:*

Ms Brolley noted that there were two upcoming opportunities on the committee and welcomed any interested members to put their name forward. The first vacancy was the Vice Chair position which was to be elected by the committee and open to any member under the current terms of reference. The second was a cross

appointment with the Undergraduate Awards and Scholarship Committee. Members were invited to contact the Chair or the GFC Secretary for further information or to express interest. Dr Jeffrey expressed interest in serving on UASC.

11. GFC Academic Standards Committee - Terms of Reference (no documents)

*Discussion:*

The Chair indicated that the committee would hold off on this item as the transition committee was poised to come forward with some interesting findings that would be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

12. External Programs for Review and Programs in Progress on Campus: Standing Item (no documents)

*Presenter(s):* Tammy Hopper, Professor and Vice-Provost (Programs)

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To provide an update to the Committee in regard to current proposals being considered by the provincial government.

*Discussion:*

The Chair noted that the PBC in Sport and Recreation came to government for approval at the same time as the credential framework. She indicated that the government had agreed to approve that program as a PBC but, she noted, there would be changes to this type of program in future to reflect the new credential framework.

The Chair then provided updates on the following programs:

Recently approved:

- (New) course-based MA in History of Art, Design and Visual Cultural (HADVC), Department of Art and Design
- Proposed Name Change of the Master of Arts program in Humanities Computing to Digital Humanities

Currently with AE undergoing System Coordination Review:

- (New) PBC in Sport and Recreation Management
- (New) Éducation à la petite enfance - Niveau II Certificate Program, Centre collegial de l'Alberta, Campus Saint-Jean
- (New) Éducation à la petite enfance-Superviseur Diploma Program, Centre collegial de l'Alberta, Campus Saint-Jean
- Proposal from the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research for a new course-based Master of Arts in Policy Studies in the Department of Political Science
- Suspension of Admission/Transfer to the Atmospheric Sciences honors/specialization program (New) Health Care Aide (Préposé aux soins de santé (PSS) Certificate Program

Currently with CAQC undergoing Quality Review:

- Substantive changes to the Modern Languages and Cultural Studies (MLCS)

13. Question Period

*Discussion:*

A question was raised on the need for a Library Impact Statement when they usually indicated proposals could be accommodated. Committee members noted that this was a resource requirement and indicated that often issues were identified early and resolved prior to proposals reaching governance committees. The committee also discussed the shift from purchasing journal packages versus individual journals, and open access materials.

**INFORMATION REPORTS**

14. Items Approved by the GFC Academic Standards Committee by email ballots (non-debatable) (no items to date)

There were no items.

15. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings (no items do date)

There were no items.

**CLOSING SESSION**

16. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.