



General Faculties Council
 Academic Standards Committee
 Approved Open Session Minutes

Thursday, October 18, 2018
 2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Tammy Hopper, Chair
 Karsten Mundel
 Radim Barta
 Angela Bayduza
 Akanksha Bhatnagar
 Dion Brocks
 Jason Carey
 Janice Causgrove Dunn
 Amy Dambrowitz
 Gerda de Vries
 Bill Dunn

Rebecca Gokiert
 Scott Jeffrey
 Marc Johnson (delegate)
 Nathalie Kermoal
 Andras Marosi
 Bernadette Martin
 Paulin Mulatris
 Rebecca Nagel
 Melissa Padfield
 Tanya Park
 Victoria Ruetalo
 Shirley Schipper (teleconference)

Regrets:

Jeff Johnson
 Shannon O'Byrne
 Natalie Sharpe

Staff:

Heather Richholt, Coordinator
 Marion Haggarty-France,
 University Secretary
 Meg Brolley, GFC Secretary

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Jeffrey/Padfield

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Agenda as amended.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of September 20, 2018

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Causgrove Dunn/Mundel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve the Open Session Minutes of September 20, 2018 as amended.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

Discussion:

The Chair noted that the previous year's Quality Assurance reports were posted on the Provost's website as was the Program Changes and Approval Tool Kit which included an Academic Program Proposal Checklist.

She noted that the Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC) routinely audits Comprehensive Academic and Research Institutions (CARIs) to ensure appropriate criteria and processes are in place for program quality; the University of Alberta's audit would be in December.

The Chair also informed members that templates for new guidelines on collaborative programs and trans-national education were available from the Provost's office.

Ms Haggarty-France informed members about two upcoming fundraising events for the United Way: the Plasma Car Race at noon on October 26th, and Chillin' for Charity on November 8th.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Items Deemed Minor/Editorial

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Omnibus Mover and Seconder: Bhatnagar/Mundel

4A. Transfer Credit Approvals and Denials for October 2018, Office of the Registrar

That the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the transfer credit approvals and denials for October 2018.

CARRIED

4B. Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) Entrance Requirements and Academic Standing Regulations, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

That the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to the PharmD Entrance Requirements and Academic Standing Regulations.

CARRIED

4C. Transition Year Program Entrance Requirements for Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Faculty of Nursing

That the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to the Transition Year Program Requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

CARRIED

4D. Changes to Standard Calendar Language for Entrance Requirements, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)

That the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to the calendar language for Entrance Requirements for FGSR.

CARRIED

5. Proposed Changes to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program Admissions for Aboriginal Applicants, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Shirley Schipper, Vice Dean, Education, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry (FoMD); Tracey Hillier, Associate Dean, MD Program, FoMD; Sita Gourishankar, Assistant Dean, Admissions, MD Program, FoMD; Tibetha Kemble, Director, Indigenous Health Initiatives Program, FoMD

Purpose of the Proposal: The purpose of this proposal is to increase the number of Indigenous students admitted to the MD program and, by so doing, work towards increasing the number of Aboriginal professionals working in the healthcare field (Call to Action #23 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, 2015).

Discussion:

Dr Schipper explained that all of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry programs were working on their admissions processes to increase the number of Indigenous students and thus Indigenous health professionals as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action.

Ms Kemble spoke about the importance of the TRC's Calls to Action regarding health care and the current health crisis in the Indigenous community. She also noted that a change in the admissions process would not hurt the reputation of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. She explained that the Indigenous application process required that students meet the admission requirements but that fit for the program was assessed in a more culturally appropriate manner.

During the discussion members expressed several comments and questions, including but not limited to: the Admissions Committee having the final word on admissions because of accreditation requirements; the membership of the Indigenous Admissions Committee and the Admissions Committee and the collaboration between the two as well as member intent; and the removal of the reference to a prescribed number of seats for Indigenous applicants.

Motion: Bhatnagar/Jeffrey

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee recommend that General Faculties Council approve the proposed changes to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program Admissions for Aboriginal Applicants, as proposed by the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, and as set forth in Attachments 1-4, to take effect for Fall 2019.

CARRIED

6. Proposed Changes to the Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) Academic Standing Regulations, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Steven Patterson, Associate Chair, Academic, School of Dentistry, FoMD

Purpose of the Proposal: To approve the proposed changes to the DDS program admission/transfer and academic standing regulations.

Discussion:

Dr Patterson gave an overview of the academic standing changes and the context of the overall program changes that would be proposed to the Academic Planning Committee.

Members asked about student re-examinations and academic standing. Dr Patterson emphasized the small student numbers in the program and noted that there was close communication with students on an individual basis.

Motion: Barta/Mundel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to the DDS program academic standing regulations, as proposed by the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, as set forth in Attachments 1-2, to take effect in Fall 2019.

CARRIED

7. Proposed Changes to the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene Program Entrance Requirements and Academic Standing Regulations, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Sharon Compton, Associate Chair/Director, Dental Hygiene, FoMD

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee because after suspending the Dental Hygiene Diploma Program in 2016, a modification to the post-diploma degree completion program was required going forward, to continue only admitting U of A diploma graduates. The modifications in the academic regulations section were necessary for the new BSc program but the essence of the meaning of each regulation remains the same as for the previous diploma program.

Discussion:

Dr Compton indicated that the diploma program was terminated in July 2017 and the last student graduated in 2018 and the program was removing reference to it in the University Calendar.

Members enquired about the diploma completion program that was available only to University of Alberta graduates and the phasing out of that program.

Motion: Causgrove Dunn/Padfield

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to the Admission and Academic Regulations for the Bachelor of Science Dental Hygiene Program, as proposed by the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect for Fall 2019.

CARRIED

8. Proposed Changes to Existing Entrance Requirements for the Bachelor of Education Program, Faculty of Education

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Bill Dunn, Associate Dean Teacher Education, Faculty of Education

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee to amend the existing entrance requirements for the Bachelor of Education (BEd) program in the Faculty of Education so that all areas of study in the Bachelor of Education program will be represented in the entrance requirements.

Discussion:

Members discussed the differences between the Advanced CTS courses and the reasons all were not included in the university's admissions chart.

Motion: Jeffrey/Nagel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to the existing entrance requirements for the Bachelor of Education Program, as proposed by the Faculty of Education, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect for Fall 2019.

CARRIED

9. Proposed Changes to Existing Entrance/Transfer Requirements for the Master's and Doctoral Programs in Educational Policy Studies, Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Janice Causgrove Dunn, Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR); Jorge Sousa, Associate Chair, Educational Policy Studies, Faculty of Education

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee to ensure that all Academic Regulations (entrance/admission requirements, academic standing requirements, and program requirements) for this program are listed in the Calendar.

Discussion:

Dr Causgrove Dunn noted that Items 9, 10 and 11 were part of FGSR's calendar compliance project.

Dr Sousa thanked the ASC Subcommittee on Standards (SOS) members for their input.

Motion: Ruetalo/Mundel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to existing Entrance/Transfer Requirements for the Master's and Doctoral programs in Educational Policy Studies, as submitted by the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Graduate Studies & Research, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval and to be published in the 2019-2020 Calendar.

CARRIED

10. Proposed Changes to Existing Entrance Requirements and Academic Standing Regulations for Graduate Programs in Secondary Education, Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Janice Causgrove Dunn, Associate Dean, FGSR; Bonita Watt, Associate Chair, Graduate Studies, Faculty of Education

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee to ensure that all Academic Regulations (entrance/admission requirements, academic standing requirements, and program requirements) for this program are listed in the Calendar.

Discussion:

Members asked how applicants were to identify and contact potential supervisors.

Motion: Jeffrey/Carey

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to existing Entrance Requirements and Academic Standing Regulations for Graduate Programs in Secondary Education, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Education, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval and to be published in the 2019-2020 Calendar.

CARRIED

11. Proposed Changes to Existing Entrance Requirements and Academic Standing Regulations for Graduate Programs in Computing Science, Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Janice Causgrove Dunn, Associate Dean, FGSR; Janelle Harms, Associate Chair, Computing Science, Faculty of Science

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee to ensure that all Academic Regulations (entrance/admission requirements, academic standing requirements, and program requirements) for this program are listed in the Calendar.

Discussion:

Dr Harms noted that changes had been made to the IELTS scores and that the GRE requirement had been removed.

There was no discussion.

Motion: Ruetalo/Marosi

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to existing Entrance Requirements and Academic Standing Regulations for Graduate Programs in Computing Science, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Science, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval and to be published in the 2019-2020 Calendar.

CARRIED

12. Increase to Required English Language Proficiency (ELP) Scores for Undergraduate Admissions - Alignment Across Tests

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Melissa Padfield, Interim Vice-Provost and University Registrar

Purpose of the Proposal: To make changes to the secondary ELP tests (less commonly used) to align with the 2017 approved proposal for IELTS and TOEFL scores. This alignment will better support undergraduate student success and increase the likelihood of improved academic outcomes. The proposed changes are supported by research undertaken by the Office of the Registrar.

Discussion:

Ms Padfield noted that the changes to the IELTS and TOEFL had already been approved and that they were the most commonly used tests. The proposal was to adjust the calibration of the other ELP tests to align properly.

Members asked about the ELP standards for all undergraduate programs; the discontinuation of the paper-based TOEFL exam; consultation with students; and the expectation that minimum scores would be higher in the future.

Motion: Nagel/Mundel

THAT the GFC Academic Standards Committee recommend that GFC Academic Planning Committee approve changes to Undergraduate Admissions, Language Proficiency Requirements, as proposed by the Office of the Registrar, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval.

1 opposed
CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

Presenter(s): Andrea Patrick, Portfolio Initiatives Manager, Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Recently approved:

- Proposal from the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research for a Program Expansion of the Master of Arts Digital Humanities to include a course-based route
- Proposal from the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research for a Program Expansion of the Master of Arts Philosophy to include a course-based route

Currently with AE undergoing System Coordination Review:

- New major in Media Studies - approved at APC June 20, 2018

Currently with CAQC undergoing Quality Review:

- Substantive changes to the Modern Languages and Cultural Studies (MLCS) program , approved by APC January 17, 2018
- New course-based Master of Arts in Policy Studies in the Department of Political Science, approved by APC on March 14, 2018

14. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

15. Items Approved by the GFC Academic Standards Committee by email ballots (non-debatable)

There were no items.

16. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

17. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.