



General Faculties Council
Programs Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Thursday, January 14, 2021
Zoom Virtual Meeting
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Tammy Hopper, Chair
J Nelson Amaral
David Draper
Joel Gehman
Florence Glanfield
Nathalie Kermaal
Brooke Milne
Heather Seyl Miyashita

Donia Mounsef
Karsten Mündel
Melissa Padfield
Hanne Pearce
Sachiketha Reddy
Victoria Ruetalo
Christopher Sturdy
Minn-Nyoung Yoon

non-voting:
Kate Peters
Natalie Sharpe
Helen Vallianatos

Staff:
Heather Richholt, Coordinator

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs), and Chair of GFC Programs Committee (PC)

Motion: Ruetalo/Gehman

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve the agenda.

CARRIED

2. Comments from the Chair

- Revised Practicum Language for Education Programs in Faculté Saint-Jean

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs), and Chair of PC

Discussion:

In her comments, the Chair spoke about the following topics:

- updates on public health measures and the university's response to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) review of the Faculty Excellence and Teaching Award procedures to be led by John Nychka, Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives);
- the 2020 University of Alberta COVID-19 Remote Teaching Award;
- Remote Quality Assurance (QA) Activities;
- the approval of the plans for academic restructuring at the December 11 Board of Governors meeting;
- the conversation at the GFC Executive Committee meeting of January 11 related to the proposed rescission of GFC policy 37 and the terms of reference for PC; and
- the revised practicum wording for Education programs in Faculté Saint-Jean, included in the meeting materials.

CONSENT AGENDA

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Consent Agenda Mover and Seconder: Sturdy/Pearce

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of December 10, 2020

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve the open session minutes of December 10, 2020.

CARRIED

4. Course and Minor Program Changes

- Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences
- Arts
- Augustana
- Business
- Education
- Engineering
- Kinesiology, Sport and Recreation
- Law
- Medicine and Dentistry
- Pharmacy
- Public Health
- Saint-Jean
- Science

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the attached course and minor program change submissions from the Faculties of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, Arts, Augustana, Business, Education, Engineering, Kinesiology, Sport and Recreation, Law, Medicine and Dentistry, Pharmacy, Public Health, Saint-Jean, Science.

CARRIED

5. Items Deemed Minor or Editorial

- A. Ancient and Medieval History Program Name Change
- B. BFA (Acting) Entrance Requirements
- C. Faculté Saint-Jean Admissions Deadlines and Entrance Requirements
- D. Faculty of Science Undergraduate Admissions Deadlines
- E. Oncology Graduate Entrance Requirements
- F. Oral Biology Graduate Entrance and Program Requirements
- G. Dentistry Graduate Entrance and Program Requirements
- H. Communication Sciences & Disorders Graduate Entrance Requirements
- I. Physical Therapy Graduate Entrance Requirements

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council:

- A. the proposed name change for the Bachelor of Arts Major in Ancient and Medieval History as set forth in attachment A;
- B. the proposed changes to entrance requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting) Program as set forth in attachment B;
- C. the proposed changes to entrance requirements and application deadlines for undergraduate programs in Faculté Saint-Jean, as set forth in attachment C;
- D. the proposed changes to application deadlines for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Science, as set forth in attachment D;
- E. the proposed changes to entrance requirements for graduate programs in Oncology, as set forth in attachment E;

- F. the proposed changes to entrance and program requirements for graduate programs in Oral Biology, as set forth in attachment F;
- G. the proposed changes to entrance and program requirements for graduate programs in Dentistry, as set forth in attachment G;
- H. the proposed changes to entrance requirements for graduate programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders, as set forth in attachment H; and
- I. the proposed changes to entrance requirements for graduate programs in Physical Therapy, as set forth in attachment I.

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

6. Proposed Name Change for the Bachelor of Commerce Major in Management Information Systems (MIS) to Business Technology Management (BTS), Faculty of Business

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Leo Wong, Associate Dean, Undergraduate, Faculty of Business

Purpose of the Proposal: To change the major name of MIS to BTM in the Department of Accounting and Business Analytics

Discussion:

Dr Wong noted that this change was meant to modernize the name to align with evolving industry standards.

Motion: Sturdy/Mündel

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the name change for the Bachelor of Commerce major in Management Information Systems to Business Technology Management, as submitted by the Faculty of Business to take effect July 1, 2021.

CARRIED

1 abstention (Gehman)

7. Proposed Changes to Entrance and Program Requirements for Graduate Programs in Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Brooke Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR); Mark Wolansky, Graduate Program Coordinator, Faculty of Science - Biological Sciences

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:

The Chair gave some background on the FGSR Calendar compliance project and the number of items that had come through the GFC Academic Planning Committee and the now disbanded Academic Standards Committee.

Dr Milne and Mr Wolansky pointed out that the changes reflected current practice in the Department.

Motion: Mündel/Seyl Miyashita

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to entrance and program requirements for Graduate programs in Biological Science, as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval.

CARRIED

8. Proposed Changes to Entrance and Program Requirements for Graduate Programs in Nursing, Faculty of Nursing, and the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Brooke Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean, FGSR; Dianne Tapp, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies, Faculty of Nursing

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee because the changes will support timely program progression and completion, clarity of structure, and flexibility. More specifically:

- Master of Nursing Curriculum Changes:
The program structure allows flexibility for continuing enrollment growth in the Master of Nursing Program. See Attachment 1 pages 3 - 4 for discussion related to enrolment planning, resource implications, and implementation costs.
- Master of Nursing Calendar Change Request - Nurse Practitioner courses:
Minor edits to the calendar will provide clarity to students regarding course hours and prerequisites.
- PhD Nursing Calendar Change Request:
The changes will support timely program progression and completion for doctoral studies.

Discussion:

Dr Tapp presented an overview of the proposed changes.

A member asked about how learning outcomes related to Reconciliation and EDI were reflected in course descriptions. Dr Tapp explained the measures taken so far and acknowledged that there was more work to be done in these areas.

Motion: Ruetalo/Gehman

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to Entrance Requirements for graduate programs in Nursing as set forth in Attachment 1: Appendix A.

CARRIED

Motion: Ruetalo/Gehman

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to program requirements and courses for the Master of Nursing programs as set forth in Attachment 1: Appendix A, Appendix B, and Appendix C, and Attachment 2.

CARRIED

Motion: Ruetalo/Gehman

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed change to courses for the PhD program in Nursing as set forth in Attachment 3.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. 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)

Discussion:

Ms Patrick provided the following update:

We have not received any System-wide coordination requests from the Ministry of Advanced Education since our last meeting. Things seem to be very quiet at the moment across the sector. In my experience, this is common during times of budgetary restraint.

We have several proposals awaiting approval from the Ministry, including:

- Suspension of the BKin Sport Coaching major
- Termination of the BEd Adult Education program
- Augustana BA majors in: Biology, Chemistry, Computing Science, Mathematics & Physics, Sociology
- Augustana BSc majors in: Mathematics & Physics, Psychology

The reason these proposals may not sound familiar to some members of the GFC Programs Committee is that they were approved before the establishment of the GFC Programs Committee, at the May and June meetings of the GFC Academic Standards Committee. They then made their way through GFC APC and the Board, getting final approval by the Board at their meeting of December 11.

Ms Patrick chatted the link to the Board-approved documents: <https://www.ualberta.ca/governance/member-zone/board-of-governors/board-motion-summary-12-11-20.pdf>

The Chair noted that she was serving on a committee to reduce red tape in the program approval process at the Ministry and the hope was that the number of forms would be reduced and appropriate oversight retained. She observed that the university's internal process was quite rigorous.

10. Question Period

Presenter(s): Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs), and Chair of PC

Discussion:

The Chair noted that she had received an email from a member with some questions related to committee procedures and she encouraged the discussion to happen in the meeting today so that all members could better understand how the committee functioned.

During the discussion, members asked questions and expressed comments including but not limited to:

- contentious items that may come before the committee from time to time and what options the committee had to address them such as:
 - voting to table a motion with a request for more information; and
 - putting the motion to a vote, calling the question;
- whether it was ever appropriate for PC to deliberate *in camera*;
- the importance of collegial discussion and transparency at GFC committees even when items are controversial;
- that meetings of the Graduate and Undergraduate Program Support Teams were not public meetings so that was a good opportunity for proponents to receive early and candid feedback;
- that it was important for members to understand the scope of the committee's mandate and authority so that they could address these matters when they were asked to make decisions;
- that proponents were ready for the difficult questions and answering them helped to make proposals stronger; and

- that the hard questions could help to drive real, institutional change.

The Chair thanked members for their compassion and collegiality and encouraged them to continue to ask these types of questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

11. Items Approved by GFC Programs Committee by email ballots

There were no items.

12. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

13. Adjournment

- Next Meeting of PC: February 11, 2021
- Next Meeting of GFC: January 25, 2021

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.