

General Faculties Council
Programs Committee (PC)
Approved Open Session Minutes

Thursday, December 08, 2022
South Academic Building (SAB) 2-31
10:00 AM - 11:05 AM

ATTENDEES:

Janice Causgrove Dunn, Chair
Aman Ullah
Jennifer Branch-Mueller
Roger Epp
Anna Hughes
Gurleen Kaur
Stacy Lorenz
Adekunle Mofolasayo

Hanne Pearce
Sujata Persad
Sean Robertson
Monisha Vinod (delegate)
non-voting:
Brian Pardell
Remonia Stoddart-Morrison

REGRETS:

Bishoi Aziz
Florence Glanfield
Tahmid Al Hafiz
Brad Hamdon
Heather Seyl Miyashita
Kate Peters
Maite Snauwaert
Helen Vallianatos

Staff:

Heather Richholt, Coordinator

OPENING SESSION

Before calling the meeting to order, the Chair made the following territorial acknowledgement:

The University of Alberta is located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Janice Causgrove Dunn, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair of PC

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve the agenda.

CARRIED

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

Presenter(s): Janice Causgrove Dunn, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair of PC

Discussion:

The Chair welcomed Roger Epp, interim Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR).

CONSENT AGENDA

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

The motion to approve the items in the consent agenda was moved and seconded.

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of November 17, 2022

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve the open session minutes of November 17, 2022

CARRIED

4. Course, Minor Program, and Minor Regulation Changes

- Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences
- Arts
- Business
- Education
- Engineering
- Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation
- Medicine and Dentistry
- Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Rehabilitation Medicine
- Science

THAT the GFC Programs Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the attached course, minor program, and minor regulation change submissions from the Faculties of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, Arts, Business, Education, Engineering, Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation, Medicine and Dentistry, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Rehabilitation Medicine, and Science.

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

5. Proposed Suspension of the Graduate Certificate in Stroke Rehabilitation, Rehabilitation Medicine and FGSR

Presenter(s): Bernadette Martin, Associate Dean, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine; Roger Epp, Interim Vice-Provost and Dean of FGSR

Discussion:

R Epp noted that FGSR Council was supportive of the proposal. B Martin presented the rationale for the proposed suspension noting plans to continue to offer similar course material in a non-credit format that was more economical and affordable for students to access to support their professional development.

Members asked about the impact on staffing and enrollment numbers over the years that the program had been offered.

The motion was moved and seconded

THAT the GFC Programs Committee recommend that the General Faculties Council approve the Suspension of the Rehabilitation Medicine Graduate Certificate in Stroke Rehabilitation, to take effect July 1, 2023.

CARRIED

6. Proposed Suspension of the Graduate Certificate in Bridging to Canadian Physical Therapy Practice, Rehabilitation Medicine and FGSR

Presenter(s): Bernadette Martin, Associate Dean, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine; Roger Epp, Interim Vice-Provost and Dean of FGSR

Discussion:

B Martin explained that the certificate in question was developed under funding from a Health Canada grant and was initially popular because of the low cost of the program. She noted that when the government funding ceased the certificate moved into a cost recovery model and despite efforts to decrease the costs over the years, there is just not enough interest to sustain the program. B Martin further explained that the regulatory body did not require the certificate and that International Physiotherapists who wanted to bridge into Canadian practice were required to pass an exam. She noted that the department was working to develop a series of non-credit courses that would be less expensive and more flexible, allowing students to direct their learning in specific areas as required.

There was no discussion.

The motion was moved and seconded

THAT the GFC Programs Committee recommend that the General Faculties Council approve the suspension of the Rehabilitation Medicine Graduate Certificate in Bridging to Canadian Physical Therapy Practice, to take effect July 21, 2023.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. Advancing an Undergraduate Embedded Certificate Framework

Presenter(s): Janice Causgrove Dunn, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair of PC

Discussion:

The Chair presented the draft Embedded Certificate Framework and spoke about the issues with the current system, the working group's findings, and survey of students. She asked members whether they supported the draft framework and asked for their general feedback.

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

- whether cross-over with required courses should be allowed at all;
- whether there would still be an option for students to apply for the certificates at the time of graduation or if they would have to apply before they took any of the required courses;
- what would happen with current programs that have significant overlap and whether they would be grandfathered;
- definitions and limitations of electives and open electives within different programs;
- how the requirement of a "meaningful experience" would be determined and whether a rubric could be developed for that;
- whether there would be additional fees for these certificates;
- the potential to partner with industry to support experiential components; and
- a suggestion to include the learning outcomes in the framework.

During the discussion, the Chair also explained that while majors and minors tended to focus in on a specific area of study, the vision of the draft embedded certificate framework suggests that these credentials should show a broadening of student learning to incorporate soft skills and interdisciplinary perspectives.

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

Presenter(s): Carley Roth, Portfolio Initiatives Manager, Office of the Provost

Discussion:

C Roth provided the following update:

- There are currently no new external program proposals under review.
- There have been no new program approvals since the November PC meeting.
- The following are currently with the Ministry for review:
 - The Diploma in Dental Hygiene termination
 - The proposal for a new Bachelor of Biomedicine
 - As part of the Bachelor of Science degree program framework project, three new first-level specializations under the BSc (administrative updates):
 - Astrophysics
 - Environmental Earth Sciences
 - Paleontology

9. Question Period

Presenter(s): Janice Causgrove Dunn, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair of PC

Discussion:

A member asked whether the committee could have a conversation about regulations regarding leaves of absence for undergraduate students. The Chair replied that the Program Support Team would be the best place to start the conversation.

CLOSING SESSION

10. Adjournment

- Next Meeting of PC: January 12, 2023
- Next Meeting of GFC: January 30, 2023