



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

General Faculties Council
ACADEMIC PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting #143
January 10, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

By Zoom platform

Voting Members

Teri Balsler, Co-Chair
Tara Beattie, Academic Co-Chair
Elena Braverman
Nicole Culos-Reed
Michael Hart
Tanille Shandro
Malinda Smith
Dora Tam
Penny Werthner
Barry Wylant

Non-Voting Members

Violet Baron
David Stewart
Melanie Zimmer

Meeting Secretary

Cherie Tutt

Scribe

Tasha Hodzic

Staff

Elizabeth Sjogren

Regrets

Nicole Schmidt
Amy Warren

Guests

George Colpitts, Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Arts – present for Items 5-8
Ariel Ducey, Associate Professor (Department of Sociology), Faculty of Arts – present for Item 8
Scott McLean, Professor (Department of Sociology), Faculty of Arts – present for Item 8
Mary O'Brien, Associate Dean (Policy and Program Development), Faculty of Graduate Studies – present for Items 5-12
Joelle Welling, Associate Director, School of Creative Arts and Performing Arts – present for Items 5-7

Observers

Christine Johns, Senior Director (Academic & International Strategies)
Elizabeth Pando, Program Proposal Specialist, Office of the Provost – present for Items 5-8
Jessica Revington, Program Proposal Specialist – present for Items 5-7
Kelly Kay Spurlock, Analyst, Planning & Reviews, Office of the Provost – present for Items 5-7

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda**Moved/Seconded**

That the Agenda for the January 10, 2022 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Remarks of the Co-Chair and Academic Co-Chair

The Co-Chair and the Academic Co-Chair expressed their appreciation for the efforts, knowledge, and perspectives each of the members bring to the Committee.

3. Program Proposal Planning Session

The Academic Co-Chair reported on the addition of a program proposal planning session to the meeting agendas, highlighting that the planning session may be used to discuss, among the Committee members without the guests present, questions about or any substantive concerns regarding the proposals being reviewed at the meeting.

In response to a question, the Co-Chair clarified that the planning session will be used in addition to the proposal guidelines being developed.

4. Approval of the December 13, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting held on December 13, 2021 be approved.

Carried

5. Approval of the Suspension of the PhD in Music Specializations in Composition, Musicology and Sonic Arts

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Joelle Welling and George Colpitts presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposal to suspend three specializations in the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Music: the Specialization in Composition, the Specialization in Musicology, and the Specialization in Sonic Arts. The proponents noted that the suspensions were based on reduced supervisory capacity and that the three-year suspension period will allow time to review the sustainability of the specializations.

- In response to questions, the proponents explained that:
 - Any staff members impacted by the suspensions will be reassigned to other areas
 - The Department will be evaluating if the specializations are sustainable, in part through the ability to recruit new faculty
 - Students were part of the consultations for the suspensions and the proposal is supported by the Graduate Student Society
 - The suspensions will result in fewer PhD level options for students, however there is a Master of Music (MMus) specialization in Sonic Arts and a Master of Arts (MA) specialization in Musicology

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approve a three-year suspension of the specializations within the PhD in Music:

- Specialization in Composition
- Specialization in Musicology, and
- Specialization in Sonic Arts,

effective immediately, as set out in the proposal provided to the APPC and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried

6. Approval of the Suspension of the Master of Music - Specialization in Conducting

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Joelle Welling and George Colpitts presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposal to suspend the MMus Specialization in Conducting, reporting that the decision to suspend the specialization is based on limited supervisory capacity and that the School of Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA) will review the specialization during the three-year suspension period to determine if it can be sustainable
- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - There is an institutional system for programs to be flagged for review if a low enrollment threshold is met; programs flagged for low enrollment are reviewed by the Faculty and the findings reported to the Provost's Office
 - The SCPA Graduate Committee has limited admission to the Specialization in Conducting over the past few years due to the lack of supervisory capacity

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approve a three-year suspension of the Specialization in Conducting within the Master of Music, effective immediately, as set out in the proposal provided to the APPC and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried

7. Approval of the Change in Course Requirements for the Master of Arts - Specialization in Musicology

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Joelle Welling and George Colpitts presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposal to change the current course requirements for the thesis-based MA in Musicology, which reduces the required course work from 24 to 18 units. The proponents reported that the reduction in units of course work will streamline the program, allow students to begin their thesis research earlier and align the program with other master's degree programs within the Music Division.
- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - Being a thesis-based program, the reduction in units of coursework only impacts program requirements and not the overall program load as recorded in the Ministry's registry system
 - The comparison table includes different units for the degree requirements based on what is posted on comparator institutions websites; the units are typically not converted to be the same e.g. unit versus half-course equivalent, as other institutions may have different criteria for course equivalents. In future, the Provost team will endeavor to add an explanatory note in this section, so that the data is more meaningful for the Committee members.
- The Committee discussed the rationale for the reduction in required course work and the broader impacts on program offerings in the SCPA from reduced faculty capacity

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approve the change in course requirements for the Master of Arts (Specialization in Musicology), effective Fall Term 2022, as set out in the documents provided to the APPC and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried

8. Approval of the Creation of a Course-Based Master of Arts (MA) in Sociology

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Ariel Ducey, Scott McLean, George Colpitts and Mary O'Brien presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposal for the creation of a course-based MA in Sociology, highlighting that the course-based option will provide students with an alternate program route from the thesis-based program
- In response to questions, the proponents explained that:
 - Some students will likely transfer from the thesis-based MA in Sociology to the course-based program; however, it is anticipated that the course-based option will also attract additional students under new enrollments

- The addition of the course-based MA in Sociology will provide increased funding to the program, which will allow for expanding Department initiatives, such as the creation of scholarships to improve equitable access, the development of new/revised curriculum including aspects of or focused on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and Indigenous ways of being and knowing, and the establishment of community partnerships for research projects and internships
- The targeted enrollment is a conservative projection, and it is intended that international students will be part of the recruitment plan
- While the course-based MA in Sociology is shorter in duration compared to the thesis-based program, the course-based program is also eligible for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) funding and the research component is sufficient for students to progress to a PhD
- The Committee discussed:
 - The importance of recognizing the distinctions between Indigenous engagement and EDI and the need to address each of these principles and values separately and intentionally include information on these principles within program proposals to formally recognize the University's commitments
 - The status of developing guidelines for proposal development, the consultations undertaken to advise proponents on Indigenous and EDI content, and resources for proponents to connect with Faculty EDI leads and developing a list of Faculty leads for facilitating Indigenous engagement
- The Committee recommended the following amendments to the proposal:
 - Include how Indigenous engagement and EDI (addressed separately) will translate into pedagogical practices, faculty, admissions, mentorship, curriculum, funding, and student experience
 - Explain how the Faculty of Arts EDI and Academic Review Committees will enhance EDI and Indigenous engagement e.g. through curriculum development
 - Include additional information to more clearly reflect the efforts being undertaken in the Department/program and Faculty to advance institutional initiatives
 - Include how the proposed program aligns with national trends in the discipline of Sociology on matters of decolonization, globalization, equity, etc.
- The Committee agreed that, due to the significant nature of the requested amendments, the proposal be provisionally approved to allow for the proponents to revise the proposal documents followed by review and final sign-off by the Co-Chairs, who agreed to report back to the Committee on the amendments when this has been completed

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approve the creation of a course-based Master of Arts in Sociology, as set out in the proposal provided to the APPC and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee, with the requested amendments to the proposal documents and with the final sign-off by the Co-Chairs.

Carried

9. Approval of the Revisions to the Academic Regulations Section M. *Thesis Examinations* of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Mary O'Brien presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the changes to Section M. *Thesis Examinations*, which include the addition of an Advisory Member to the thesis examination committee to serve as a knowledge expert
- In response to a question, the proponent reported that the Guidelines for Examiners is being revised by the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) to include specific instructions on when examiners and advisory member(s) will be present during thesis examinations, including in the in-camera discussion and deliberations process

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approve the revisions to the Academic Regulations Section M. *Thesis Examinations* in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, effective immediately, as set out in the documents provided to the APPC, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried

10. Approval of the Addition of Section A.7 *Laddered Pathway* to the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Mary O'Brien presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the changes, which include the addition of a new section titled *A.7 Laddered Pathway* in the Admissions section of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar. The proponent highlighted that the changes provide consistent terminology and structure for stackable credentials across graduate and undergraduate programs.
- The Committee had no questions

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approve the addition of Section A.7 *Laddered Pathway* to be included in the Admissions Section of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the APPC, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Programs Subcommittee.

Carried

11. Approval of the Revisions to Section A.6 *Advanced Credit* of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Mary O'Brien presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the revisions to Section A.6 *Advanced Credit* in the Admissions section of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, which includes clarifying information for course exemptions and distinguishes between advanced credit and course exemptions
- In response to a question, the proponent explained that, in the event of a course exemption, programs can waive requirements if appropriate number and course topic requirements are met
- The Committee recommended that the Calendar language for Course Exemption be amended to specify that 'no University of Calgary graduate credit is awarded'

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approve the revisions to Section A.6 *Advanced Credit* in the Admissions section of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the APPC and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee, with the requested amendment.

Carried**12. Approval of the Revisions to Academic Regulations Section F.1.3 *Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade)* in the University Calendar**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Mary O'Brien presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the revisions to the Academic Regulations Section F.1.3 *Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade)*, which includes adding the option to use the Credit Granted (CG) grade in certain graduate programs. The proponent highlighted that the changes would permit graduate students to elect a CG grade up to a maximum of 3 units per credential; the FGS is consulting with programs to identify courses that will be eligible for a CG grade and will provide students with a list of eligible courses.
- In response to a question, the proponent explained that each program will determine if a CG grade is appropriate and will not be required to implement a CG grade option

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approve the revisions to the Academic Regulations Section F.1.3 *Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade)* in the University Calendar, as set out in the documents provided to the APPC and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried**13. Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee Report for the December 15, 2021 meeting**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda for information only.

14. Status of Program Approvals Report

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda for information only.

15. Other Business

There was no other business.

16. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee adjourn the January 10, 2022 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Cherie Tutt
Meeting Secretary