



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

General Faculties Council
ACADEMIC PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting #147
March 28, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

By Zoom platform

Voting Members

Tara Beattie, Academic Co-Chair
Elena Braverman
Barbara Brown
Nicole Culos-Reed
Michael Hart
Tanille Shandro
Dora Tam
Barry Wylant

Regrets

Teri Balser, Co-Chair
Nicole Schmidt
Malinda Smith
Penny Werthner

Guests

Martin Halek, Associate Dean, Graduate Programs, Haskayne School of Business
Janelle Morris, Manager, Graduate Programs, Haskayne School of Business
Mary O'Brien, Associate Dean (Policy and Program Development), Faculty of Graduate Studies
Robin Yates, Co-Chair of the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee

Observers

Christine Johns, Senior Director (Academic & International Strategies) – left during Item 5
Jessica Revington, Program Proposal Assistant – present for Item 4
Kelly Kay Spurlock, Analyst, Planning and Reviews – present for Item 4

Non-Voting Members

Violet Baron
David Stewart
Melanie Zimmer

Meeting Secretary

Cherie Tutt

Scribe

Tasha Hodzic

Staff

Elizabeth Sjogren

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the March 28, 2022 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Remarks of the Academic Co-Chair

The Academic Co-Chair welcomed Barbara Brown, interim Academic Co-Chair, Teaching and Learning Committee, on this occasion of her first meeting.

3. Approval of the March 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting held on March 14, 2022 be approved.

Carried

4. Approval of the Termination of the Master of Business Administration (Thesis-Based Route)

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Martin Halek, Janelle Morris and Robin Yates presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposal for the termination of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) (Thesis-Based Route), reporting that the MBA (Thesis-Based Route) was the only research-based graduate program within the Haskayne School of Business until the PhD and Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) programs were created more recently. It was explained that MBAs are primarily viewed by students as professional, course-based programs and historically there has been little demand for/enrollment in the MBA (Thesis-Based Route), there are currently no students enrolled in the Thesis-Based Route, and the termination will free up valuable resources.
- In response to questions, the proponents explained that the:
 - MBA (Thesis-Based Route) did not serve as a feeder program for the PhD program, and students typically entering the PhD program come from other universities in Canada or abroad
 - MBA (Thesis-Based Route) was not suitable to use as an off-ramp for PhD students unable to complete their PhD, due to the broadness of research at the PhD level and the lack of alignment between the two programs
 - Parchment does not list Thesis-Based or Course-Based and includes MBA only
- The Committee discussed how the proposed termination was communicated to students

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the termination of the Master of Business Administration (Thesis-Based Route), Haskayne School of Business, effective immediately, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried

5. Approval of Revisions to Admission and Academic Regulations in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar: A.2 Application for Admission, A.3 Admissions Categories, D.1 Registration, D.3 Student Status, D.6 Time Limits, and D.7 Leave of Absence

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Mary O'Brien and Robin Yates presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the changes to the graduate Admission and Academic Regulations, including changes to transcript requirements, updates to titles and definitions of admission categories, creation of a new Academic Regulation for concurrent program enrolment, changes to the maximum number of courses a student can register in, updates to the definitions of part-time and full-time, additional information on time-limits for Graduate Certificate and Diploma programs, auditing a course and program extensions and updates to the Leave of Absence section to add clarity and align with current practices
- The proponents highlighted that the new entry for concurrent program enrolment will not be included in the Calendar until system requirements can be finalized with the Registrar's Office, which is anticipated during the summer months with students being able to apply for concurrent program enrolment in Fall Term 2022 and start in Winter Term 2023. The proponents will report back to the Committee if concurrent program enrolment is not achievable with current University registration systems.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - There is an effort to remove information relating to fees from the Calendar or to relocate fee information to the Graduate Tuition and General Fees section
 - Embedded Certificates are not offered at the graduate level
 - When a student is on a leave of absence the source of their funding may change, but the guaranteed minimum funding amount will remain the same
- The Committee discussed:
 - The Interdisciplinary Student and Qualifying Student definitions and the oversight of Interdisciplinary students between the home and conjoint program
 - The part-time and full-time student definitions, and the rationale for the changes and different program structures
 - The concept of time limits and that there are processes for requesting extensions. It was explained that Indigenous work is considered complete when expectations are met, and greater flexibility is normally given around timelines.
 - The rationale for adding specific language in the regulations to clarify that a program extension is for the benefit of a student and not for the benefit of the supervisor
- The Committee requested that section D.3.2 be re-organized to improve clarity

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the revisions to the Admissions Section A.2 Application for Admission in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee, effective for the 2022-2023 calendar, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the revisions to the Admissions Section A.3 *Admissions Categories* in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee, effective for the 2022-2023 calendar, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the addition and revisions to the Academic Regulations Section D.1 Registration in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee, effective for the 2022-2023 calendar, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the revisions to the Academic Regulations Section D.3 Student Status in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee, effective for the 2022-2023 calendar, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee with the requested amendment.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the revisions to the Academic Regulations Section D.6 Time Limits in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee, effective for the 2022-2023 calendar, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the revisions to the Academic Regulations Section D.7 Leave of Absence in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee, effective in the 2022-2023 calendar, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried

6. Committee Survey Results

The Academic Co-Chair reported that she has not had the opportunity to discuss the action items from the recent member survey with the Co-Chair and that this item will be further discussed with the Committee once this has occurred.

The Academic Co-Chair presented a summary of the member survey results noting that in general there were a variety of opinions, which were at times conflicting in nature. She then provided examples of the feedback, including comments about discussion times, presentations, the mandate of the Committee, expectations around suggestions from the Committee, and proponent experiences.

In response to a question, the Academic Co-Chair reported that the Co-Chairs of the Committee's subcommittees were also asked to complete the survey.

In response to the feedback, one idea that the Academic Co-Chair has discussed with the Secretariat is bringing back a Committee-specific orientation session, in addition to the general GFC Standing Committee Orientation offered by the Secretariat at the start of each year. The Vice-Provost (Indigenous Engagement) volunteered to contribute to this orientation session, regarding Indigenous engagement and perspectives and noted that he has been working with the Committee's subcommittees to share this information as well.

The Academic Co-Chair noted that the Committee is in a transition phase, that some of the meetings have been more contentious this year, that there is progress being made on suggestions provided by the Committee on guidelines and templates for program development, but that these processes do take time. The Co-Chairs value the contributions of all members and are committed to an environment where everyone is comfortable their voices are being heard.

7. Future Outlook

The Academic Co-Chair provided the Committee members an opportunity to raise questions or topics for discussion.

The Committee discussed how, with decreasing resources, different programs are prioritizing and attracting students from diverse backgrounds and the importance for the University to reduce barriers, including finding alternative ways of assessing students apart from GPA, such as utilizing the diverse qualifications admissions process, or using entrance essays or portfolios to assess students alongside GPA and creating pathway programs or admissions principles which promote diversity.

8. Subcommittee Reports: Academic Program Subcommittee March 7, 2022 and Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee March 16, 2022

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda for information only.

9. Status of Program Approvals Report

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda for information only.

10. Other Business

There was no other business.

11. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee adjourn the March 28, 2022 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Cherie Tutt
Meeting Secretary