

GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL  
Approved Minutes  
Academic Planning and Priorities Committee

December 12, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

via Zoom

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***Voting Members***

Penny Werthner, Co-Chair  
Tara Beattie, Academic Co-Chair  
Kristin Baetz – arrived during Item 4  
Mark Bauer – left during Item 4  
Barbara Brown  
Dawn Johnston  
Nicole Schmidt  
Malinda Smith  
Dora Tam

***Non-Voting Members***

Hannah Ashton  
David Stewart – left during Item 7  
Melanie Zimmer

***Secretary***

Courtney McVie

***Scribe***

Cherie Tutt

***Regrets***

Marjan Eggermont  
Michael Hart  
Saaka Sulemana Saaka

***Guests***

Melissa Boyce, Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs), Faculty of Arts – present for Item 6  
Gretchen Greer, Manager, Office of Health & Medical Education Scholarship) – Cumming School of Medicine – present for Item 5  
Cari Gulbrandsen, Undergraduate Program Director – Faculty of Social Work – present for Item 7  
Christian Jacob, Head, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Science – present for Item 8  
Rabiya Jalil, Primary Care Specialist and Associate Director of Admissions, Cumming School of Medicine – present for Item 4  
Christopher Naugler, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education) – Cumming School of Medicine – present for Item 5  
Ellen Perrault, Dean – Faculty of Social Work – present for Item 7  
Leslie Reid, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning) and Chair of the Decision Support Team – present for Items 4-8  
Jim Stallard, Professor (Teaching) Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Faculty of Science – present for Item 8  
Tony Ware, Head, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Faculty of Science – present for Item 8  
Leanne Wu, Assistant Professor (Teaching), Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Science – present for Item 8  
Gail Zuk, Associate Dean (Undergraduate) – Faculty of Social Work – present for Item 7

**Observers**

Jaclyn Carter, Institute of Teaching and Learning Consultant – present for Item 8

Kelly Hoglund, Partner, Program Innovation – present for Items 4-8

Karen Quinn, Analyst, Planning and Reviews – present for Items 4-8

Jessica Revington, Program Proposal Assistant, Program Innovation – present for Items 4-8

Kelly Kay Spurlock, Analyst, Planning and Reviews – present for Items 4-8

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The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

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

That the Agenda for the December 12, 2022 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

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

The Co-Chair remarked that:

- The annual report event for Revisiting the Spirit of *ii' taa'poh'to'p* was held on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and was well received, it was noted that a full-circle community dialogue/gathering stories will begin in the next year
- The Strategic Oversight Committee for the University's next strategic plan continues to meet and there will be a strategy session with the General Faculties Council (GFC) in January. Members of the Committee were encouraged to participate in the upcoming workshops

The Academic Co-Chair remarked that:

- At its meeting last week, the GFC approved the revised Academic Schedules for 2023-2027 and the Academic Schedule for the 2027-2028 academic year, an overview of the changes was provided
- The United Way Campaign wrapped up on December 9<sup>th</sup>, but noted there are still ways to participate to help the University reach its goal
- Advanced Education has reviewed and approved the Graduate Certificate and Diploma in Quantum Computing, which was approved by the Committee in the Spring

### 3. Approval of the November 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda.

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Minutes of the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting held on November 21, 2022 be approved.

**Carried**

### 4. Approval of a New Admissions Requirement for the Undergraduate Medical Education Program – Indigenous Canada Course

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Rabiya Jalil presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter reported that in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action, the *ii 'taa'poh'to'p* strategy, and to ensure incoming students have a baseline knowledge of Indigenous peoples, the Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) program is proposing that applicants to the Medical Doctor (MD) program be required to complete the Indigenous Canada Course. This change is being proposed to take effect immediately, including for matriculants beginning July 1, 2023.
- In response to questions, the presenter explained that:
  - Based on feedback from the Indigenous Local and Global Health Office, Cumming School of Medicine (CSM) the program does not intend to accept alternative course equivalents for admission. It is believed that by requiring one course the program can be certain of the baseline knowledge and use it as a starting point for building its curriculum. It was also noted that many other courses/programs have associated costs and are not self-paced, which were seen as potential barriers. The UME has committed to reassess if other courses may be more suitable every two years.
  - The Indigenous Canada Course is offered via Coursera and can be accessed for free by anyone, it is not anticipated that the University of Alberta will stop offering it and this is not considered a risk at this time.
  - Applicants will be able to prove they have completed the course in a few different ways, including by submitting a course completion email or screenshot or a Certificate with their name on it, it was noted the Certificate has an associated cost and is optional
  - Other medical schools in Canada are also requiring the Indigenous Canada Course
  - It is not being proposed that applicants must have completed the course within a certain timeframe before applying to the MD program
- The Committee discussed the format of the Indigenous Canada Course and how it is assessed; whether it might be better to integrate Indigenous Education content into an orientation; and that the lack of a UCalgary equivalent could prevent current students from taking an option course at UCalgary

- The Committee then discussed concerns regarding the lack of equivalencies and how this could be viewed and agreed that at a minimum there should be other course equivalencies which could be accepted for admissions, in addition to the Indigenous Canada Course, in particular UCalgary courses or programs
- The Committee proposed that to allow the program time to survey/assess other courses for equivalency that the Indigenous Canada Course be required for admission for 2023 only and that the UME return to the Committee with a new proposal in Fall of 2023 for the following admissions cycle

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approve the revisions to the admission requirements for the Medical Doctor (Undergraduate Medical Education) Program, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, effective immediately, and as recommended by the Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee, with the requested amendment, to be effective for the 2023 admission cycle.

**Carried****5. Approval of a Load Change for the Load Change for the Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) Program**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Christopher Naugler and Gretchen Greer presented this item.

**Highlights:**

- The presenters provided an overview of the current and proposed format for the DM program and explained that the curriculum changes, resulting in a load change, are the result of extensive review and consultation and will allow a greater focus on student wellness, create more community-engaged learning opportunities, and increase the focus on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion issues
- In response to a question, it was explained that both a program redesign and a program load change fall under an “alteration” of a degree program as outlined in the Committee’s Terms of Reference, and that the term load change is government terminology. This proposal is considered a load change and must be submitted to the Ministry of Advanced Education as the total number of units in the program is being adjusted.
- The Committee suggested that:
  - On page 20 of the proposal an explanatory footnote be added to describe what design thinking process and spiral model were used
  - The reference to the Taskforce Committee’s “broad representation of various racialized groups, age, and gender identities” be amended if it cannot be confirmed how this information was gathered and verified

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the proposed load change for the Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) program in the Cumming School of Medicine, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee and as recommended by the Academic Program Subcommittee.

**Carried****6. Approval of a Bachelor of Arts in Art History Creation of a (Co-op Option)**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Melissa Boyce presented this item.

**Highlights:**

- The presenter reported that creating a Co-op option for students enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Art History will bring this program in line with other majors within the Faculty and will provide students an opportunity to integrate a work-integrated learning experience into their studies
- In response to questions, the presenter reported that students can use the Elevate portal to view opportunities and the Faculty also has a dedicated Co-op Team to assist students with putting together their application, finding employers, and recruiting new employers to participate in the program. The Faculty does not anticipate any issues with students finding placements, as it is not predicting large numbers and there are varying professional opportunities, the program will also monitor this to ensure students who wish to participate in a Co-op opportunity are well supported.

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the addition of the Co-operative Education (Co-op) option in Art History as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the Academic Program Subcommittee.

**Carried****7. Approval of a Program Redesign for the Bachelor of Social Work**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Ellen Perrault, Cari Gulbrandsen, and Gail Zuk presented this item.

**Highlights:**

- The Academic Co-Chair reported that the Office of the Registrar has some outstanding questions relating to the applications/admissions process for the redesigned Bachelor of Social Work (BSW), and to allow these to be addressed the motion before the Committee will be amended to exclude the application/admissions pieces, and these will be brought back for approval at a future meeting

- The presenters provided an overview of the redesign process and changes to course sequencing and elective options. The presenters noted that the proposed redesign aligns with the values set out in the Faculty's Strategic Plan and maintains the core learning objectives required for accreditation.
- A member of the Committee commented on the thoughtful inclusion of support staff in this proposal and allowing them to participate in program redesign process
- In response to a question, it was explained that the program wants to allow time for current students to complete their program and therefore is proposing the new 4-year BSW start in 2025. The intent is to have a small first cohort to and increase enrollment after gaining experience from the first year of the new curriculum.
- The Committee had an extensive discussion on the proposed curriculum, focusing on the required core course centring on Africentric social work practice, anti-colonial, decolonizing, and anti-racist practices and how this course relates to the Faculties Strategic Plan Objective A and accreditation
- The Committee further discussed how EDI will be addressed in core versus elective courses in the new BSW that focusing a course on one equity-deserving group does not mean others are being devalued, while acknowledging that possible negative perceptions could arise and the importance of hearing all members of the community
- A member of the Committee suggested that the proposal would benefit from focusing on inclusion of all equity deserving groups to emphasize inclusion and not exclusion and better reflect EDI guiding principles
- The Committee requested that:
  - The title of Theme 4 and any language in the proposal be adjusted to remove the use of "shifting from" to indicate the program is not shifting away from EDI but expanding to include a Social Justice and Equity lens to align with terminology and requirements of the accrediting body
  - For SOWK 315 (Africentric Social Work Practice) the distinction between Africentric social work practice and addressing anti-black racism in social work practice be made clear
- Due to the time and the need for further discussion prior to a vote the Committee agreed to postpone a decision on this item and invite the Faculty back to a future meeting for further discussion

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the proposed program redesign for the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program in the Faculty of Social Work, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee, excluding the new application/admission requirements and as recommended by the Academic Programs Subcommittee.

**POSTPONED**

## **8. Approval of the Creation of a Bachelor of Science in Data Science**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Tony Ware, Jim Stallard, Leanne Wu and Christian Jacobsen, Nancy Chibry presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters provided an overview of the new Bachelor of Science in Data Science highlighting the rationale for creating the new program, includes increasing labour market demand and government expansion funding. It was explained that the program is focused on providing students with skills from the fields of mathematics, statistics, and computer science to prepare them for working in industry or going on to graduate school, is transdisciplinary in nature, and complements the other majors in the Faculty
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - The program does not anticipate any issues with meeting the enrolment targets even with the short advertising timeframe and expects a number of students will transfer to this program
  - Once the program is at steady state the total of new faculty hires should be around 23 or 24. The program also intends to hire a specialist advisor and technical positions in addition to the faculty positions.
- The Committee commented on the extensive consultation completed to prepare this proposal and noted its excitement to see this level of cross pollination in a new program

### **Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of the Bachelor of Science in Data Science as set out in the proposals provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the Academic Program Subcommittee.

**Carried**

## **9. Subcommittee Reports: Academic Program Subcommittee, November 14; Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee, November 16; Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee, November 17**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda for information only.

## **10. Status of Program Approvals Report**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda for information only. Questions can be directed to the Program Innovation and Planning office.

## **11. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**12. Motion to Adjourn**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee adjourn the December 12, 2022 meeting.

**Carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

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Courtney McVie  
University Secretary