

GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL
Academic Planning and Priorities Committee

Approved Minutes

March 13, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Zoom

Voting Members

Penny Werthner, Co-Chair
Tara Beattie, Academic Co-Chair
Kristin Baetz
Mark Bauer
Barbara Brown – left during Item 7
Marjan Eggermont
Michael Hart – left during Item 7
Dawn Johnston
Saaka Sulemana Saaka
Malinda Smith – left during Item 7
Dora Tam

Non-Voting Members

Hannah Ashton
David Stewart
Melanie Zimmer

Secretary

Courtney McVie

Scribe

Cherie Tutt

Regrets

Nicole Schmidt

Resource Personnel

Jaclyn Carter, Institute for Teaching and Learning, Consultant – present for Items 4-7
Kelly Hoglund, Partner, Program Innovation Hub – present for Items 4-7
Christine Johns, Senior Director, Program Innovation and Planning
Elizabeth Pando, Partner, Program Innovation Hub – present for Items 4-7
Jessica Revington, Program Proposal Assistant, Program Innovation Hub – present for Items 4-7
Karen Quinn, Analyst, Planning and Reviews – present for Items 4-7

Guests

Tracey Clancy, Interim Associate Dean (Curriculum & Evaluation) – present for Item 5
Andrew Estefan, Associate Dean (Curriculum & Evaluation) – Faculty of Nursing – present for Item 5
Cari Gulbrandsen, Undergraduate Program Director, Faculty of Social Work – present for Item 4
Maureen Hiebert, Director, Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies – present for Items 6 & 7
Mary O'Brien, Senior Associate Dean (Policy and Program Development), Faculty of Graduate Studies – present for Item 8
Ellen Perrault, Dean, Faculty of Social Work – present for Item 4
Leslie Reid, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning) and Co-Chair of the Academic Program Subcommittee – present for Items 4 & 5
Erin Gibbs Van Brunschot, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Arts – present for Items 6 & 7
James Steele, Graduate Students' Association Vice-President (Academic) – present for Item 8
Robin Yates, Dean and Vice-Provost Graduate Studies and Co-Chair of the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee – present for Items 6-8
Gail Zuk, Associate Dean (Undergraduate), Faculty of Social Work – present for Item 4

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

1. Approval of the Agenda

The Faculty Association representative expressed concern about the Committee discussing the Program Redesign for the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) proposal, noting that the Faculty Association received a complaint the night before the meeting relating to the contents of the proposal, nature of consultation, and validity of the governance process, and requested that the discussion be postponed to allow for the concerns to be considered, noting the importance of the decision as the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee is the final approval authority for this proposal.

The Co-Chair remarked that this is the second time this proposal has been presented to the Committee and that, as detailed within the proposal, the correct governance pathway has been followed. The Co-Chair proposed that the Committee discuss the BSW program proposal as planned and pose questions relating to the governance process to the proponents, as well as any other questions from Committee members and then determine if it is appropriate to move forward with a vote.

Several other members of the Committee commented on this matter, and it was determined to proceed with the Agenda as presented.

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the March 13, 2023 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

Dora Tam opposed.

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

The Co-Chairs made no remarks.

3. Approval of the February 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meetings held on February 6, 2023 be approved.

Carried

4. Approval of the Program Redesign for the Bachelor of Social Work

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

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the consultation and process for the proposed redesign of the BSW program, noting that discussions regarding the redesign have been ongoing within the Faculty since 2020. The proponents commented on the updates made to the proposal since it was last presented to the Committee, in particular work done to the content relating to equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility (EDIA).
- In response to questions, the proponents reported that:
 - Quorum for the Faculty of Social Work (FSW) Council was confirmed as 24, and 29 members were present at the May 25, 2022 Faculty Council, with 25 individuals voting in favor and one (1) member abstaining. The membership for the FSW Council is set out in its Terms of Reference.
 - The admissions questions for applicants have not been finalized, but it is anticipated that questions will allow applicants to highlight their passion, background (diversity statement), and career aspirations and goals
 - They are confident the redesigned curriculum complies with accreditation standards, including integrating knowledge and skills to recognize and resist all forms of racism
- The Committee discussed:
 - The relationship between decolonization and anti-racism and equity and economization
 - That Afrocentric should not be conflated with anti-black racism nor should Indigenous Ways of Knowing be conflated with anti-Indigenous racism
 - The program approval process, Faculty Council governance, the varying positions put forward, and the role and jurisdiction of the Committee
- The Committee requested that:
 - On page nine (9) of the proposal that “Kimberly Crenshaw” be updated to Kimberlé Crenshaw and that the associated citation be added on page 41
 - To better distinguish between colonization in Canada and globally it was suggested that terminology be updated to reference First Nations, Inuit, Metis peoples within Canada and Indigenous peoples outside of Canada
 - A statement be added to clarify program entry routes for after degree students
 - On page 16 that “worldview” be changed to worldviews

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 and recommended by the Academic Program Subcommittee, with the requested amendments.

Carried

Saaka Sulemana Saaka abstained and Dora Tam opposed.

5. Approval of the Creation of a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Nursing

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Andrew Estefan, Tracy Clancy, and Leslie Reid presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposal, including that the proposed Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) will replace the current Bachelor of Nursing (BN) program and has been designed to address the challenges from the existing program, respond to student feedback, and align with international trends within the field of Nursing
- In response to questions, the proponents:
 - Clarified the admissions requirements and explained when advanced standing would be provided or equivalencies considered
 - Explained the rationale for changing the focus of the suggested junior arts options
 - Explained the rationale for proposing new courses to be offered by Nursing instead of through the Faculty of Kinesiology and the Faculty of Science, noting that discussions are still ongoing with the Faculty of Science and that the main goal is to increase the nursing focus within the course
 - Reported that although the time to completion of the program is condensed, the BScN is 120 units and is equivalent to a four-year program and there will be no impacts for students applying to graduate school
- The Committee discussed the importance of consultation with programs or Faculties impacted by program changes early on in proposal development and of Faculties working together to develop courses and reduce course duplication. It was suggested this may be a good topic for conversation at a Deans' Council meeting.
- The proponents were encouraged to continue to think about ways that Indigenous content will be embedded in the program's practicum components and collaborating with the Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Science to coordinate option courses, in particular, because of the cohort model
- The Committee requested that:
 - Prior to submitting to the Ministry of Advanced Education for approval, a final proofread of the proposal be done to catch any grammatical or typographical errors
 - The admission requirements chart on page 17 be updated to include Intro to Nursing and the admissions section on page 43 be updated to remove the science or social science option (3 units)
 - It be indicated in the proposal what the entry pathway would be for students who have entered the University through the Indigenous Pathway Programs in Arts, Science, and Engineering

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) by the Faculty of Nursing, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the Academic Program Subcommittee with the required amendments to the proposal.

Carried

Secretary's Note: Items 6 and 7 were presented and discussed together and some of the minuted discussion may pertain to both items.

6. Approval of a Change to Course Requirements for the Master of Strategic Studies

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Maureen Hiebert, Erin Gibbs Van Brunshot, and Robin Yates presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of and the rationale for the proposed changes to course requirements for the Master of Strategic Studies (MSS) to move from a 36-unit two-year program to a 24-unit one-year program. It was explained that the revised program will respond to student needs and funding challenges and will align with other programs in Canada.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - There has not been pushback from students in the current program regarding the changes, but there was some concern expressed by thesis-based students. The proponents have assured the thesis-based students that this program will not diminish the thesis-based program and that it is just a different pathway for students.
 - The proposal was brought to the Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies and the Faculty of Arts Council for recommendation and fellows from the Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies were asked to consult on the proposal within their units
- The Committee discussed the consultation and approval process for this and the next proposal item

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the change to course requirements for the Master of Strategic Studies course-based program, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried

Malinda Smith and Dora Tam abstained.

7. Approval of a Redesign of the Military, Security and Strategic Studies PhD program

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Maureen Hiebert, Erin Gibbs Van Brunshot, and Robin Yates presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided a summary of the challenges associated with the existing Military, Security and Strategic Studies (MSSS) PhD program, including issues around funding, the field of study examinations, time to completion, and interdisciplinary nature of the program. It was reported that, due to the challenges associated with the program, it was suspended in 2019 and the proposed redesign follows a thorough curricular review, responds to the needs of students

around upskilling and reskilling, and introduces safeguards for areas such as student progress.

- In response to questions, the proponents explained:
 - The rationale for proposing a traditional PhD program versus a professional doctorate
 - The rationale for including “excessively long” language in reference to the dissertation. It was suggested that the program may want to include a link to the [non-traditional thesis information](#) on the Faculty of Graduate Studies website
 - Efforts being made to ensure Indigenous content can be interwoven into the program
 - The current make-up of the student body and professoriate, and the evolution of the field of security studies
- The Committee discussed: the reorganization of the program; how the proposal addresses Indigenous engagement and EDIA and concerns with the caveats expressed in the documents in relation to these areas, the use of the online Indigenous Canada course offered by the Faculty of Native Studies at the University of Alberta for both the Masters and PhD program; the need for and benefits of the University creating an additional course of this nature to be offered to our students; and the sustainability of the program based on the proposed enrolment
- The Committee suggested that it would be beneficial for details regarding the current diversity of students, faculty, and curriculum to be included in the proposals, so as to detail where the unit it is now and where it aims to be

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the restructuring of the Military, Security and Strategic Studies PhD program, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee with the requested amendment.

Carried

Dora Tam abstained.

8. Approval of a Revisions to Graduate Admissions and Academic Regulations Sections: A.5 – Offer of Admission, A.6 – Advanced Credit and Course Exemption, R – Vacation (Time Off from Studies)

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Mary O’Brien, Robin Yates, and James Steele presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters commented on the proposed revisions to the graduate Admissions sections A.5 *Offer of Admissions* and A.6 *Advanced Credit and Course Exemption* and Academic Regulations R *Vacation* of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar. It was explained that the revisions to sections A.5 and A.6 address various issues and provide additional clarity to students. The proposed change to Section R is to increase the vacation allocation for graduate students from two to three weeks. It is believed that this change will have a positive impact on graduate student wellness and align UCalgary with other top research universities. It was noted that Human Resources was consulted on the change to vacation time.

- In response to a question, it was confirmed these changes were discussed by the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council on January 19, 2023
- The Committee expressed its support for the changes, in particular increasing the vacation allocation for graduate students

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the revisions to Section A.5 – Offer of Admission in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee, effective April 1, 2023.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the revisions to Section A.6 – Advanced Credit and Course Exemption in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee, effective April 1, 2023.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the revisions to Section R – Vacation (Time Off from Studies) in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee, effective April 1, 2023.

Carried**9. APPC Mid-Year Survey Results**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda.

Secretary's Note: The discussion of the Committee's Mid-Year Survey Results was postponed until the March 27, 2023 meeting due to a lack of time for discussion.

10. Subcommittee Reports: Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee for the February 15, 2023 Meeting and Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee for the February 16, 2023 Meeting

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda for information only.

11. Status of Program Approvals Report

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

12. Other Business

There was no other business.

13. Motion to Adjourn

Moved/Seconded

The Academic Planning and Priorities Committee March 13, 2023 meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Courtney McVie
University Secretary