



General Faculties Council
ACADEMIC PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting #132
March 29, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

By Zoom platform

Voting Members

Dru Marshall, Co-Chair
Tara Beattie, Academic Co-Chair
Elena Braverman
Nicole Culos-Reed
Frank Finley – present for Items 1-4 and 7-12
Andy Knight – left during Item 6
Tanille Shandro
Amy Warren
Penny Werthner

Non-Voting Members

Violet Baron
Florentine Strzelczyk
Melanie Zimmer

Secretary

Susan Belcher

Scribe

Jaclyn Carter

Regrets

David Stewart
Barry Wylant

Staff

Elizabeth Sjogren

Guests

Jalel Azaiez, Senior Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies – present for Item 5
Susan Barker, Vice-Provost (Student Experience) – present for Item 6
Cheryl Dueck, Senior Academic Director, University of Calgary International – present for Item 5
Lesley Gerein, Senior Specialist, Academic Advising, Student Success Centre – present for Item 6
Dianne Gereluk, Dean, Werklund School of Education – present for Item 7
Erin Gibbs Van Brunschot, Director, Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies – present for Item 4
Robin Yates, Dean and Vice-Provost (Graduate Studies) – present for Items 4 & 5

Observers

Sara Fedoruk, Analyst, Planning & Reviews, Office of the Provost – present for Items 4 & 7
Christine Johns, Senior Director (Academic & International Strategies)
Jessica Revington, Program Proposal Specialist, Office of the Provost – present for Item 4

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:11 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the March 29, 2021 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

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

The Co-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- An overview of the approved University Budget and how the University continues to be affected by the provincial cut to the Campus Alberta Grant
- The April 12th APPC meeting will be cancelled due to a lack of business
- Frank Finley was thanked for his contributions to the Committee on this occasion of his last Committee meeting
- The Co-Chair expressed her thanks to the Academic Co-Chair and Committee members for all their hard work

The Academic Co-Chair thanked Dru Marshall for her tireless work chairing the APPC over the last ten years.

3. Approval of the March 15, 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 March 15, 2021 be approved.

Carried

4. Suspension of the PhD in Strategic Studies

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

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposal, explaining that, in response to diminishing applications to the PhD in Strategic Studies, and in order to address issues students are currently facing in-program, such as lengthy time to completion, the Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies proposes to suspend the PhD program in order to conduct a curriculum review with a view to updating the program to optimize its potential
- There were no questions

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the suspension of the PhD in Strategic Studies, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried

5. Changes to Section A.3 Qualifications to add the Joint PhD Degree Admission Category

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Robin Yates, Cheryl Dueck and Jalel Azaiez presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposed changes, explaining that the current Cotutelle admission category has presented many challenges for students, including the increased likelihood of the requirement to withdraw, failure of candidacy, and extensions to candidacy. It was explained that Cotutelle contracts are often cumbersome and require a lot of administrative work, and that the proposed Joint PhD admission category provides a simpler option that aligns with the Alberta government framework, promotes networking and offers high publication impact.
- The proponents then provided an overview of the proposed Joint PhD agreement, which stipulates that degree completion requirements are set by the home institution, that the dissertation is co-supervised, and that one joint degree is issued by the home institution
- In response to a question, it was explained that, once all current Cotutelle students have completed their programs, the Faculty of Graduate Studies intends to eliminate this category of admission from the Calendar
- The Committee suggested that:
 - It be made clear that the University can serve as either the home institution in a Joint PhD agreement or as the collaborating institution
 - The Calendar entry clarify that a student must be accepted to the PhD program at their home institution, whether that be the University or another institution

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the changes to section A.3 *Admission Categories* in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee, with the requested amendments.

Carried

6. Changes to Section D. Change of Faculty or Program in the University Calendar

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Susan Barker and Lesley Gerein presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the changes, which aim to; make the process for requesting a change of program very clear to students, add information on Indigenous Admissions, update dates and deadlines, and eliminate redundancy. It was noted that the Writing Symbols Lodge supported the drafting of the Indigenous Admissions portion of this Calendar entry.
- The Committee discussed the regulations surrounding the number of majors, minors, and embedded certificates a student is permitted to take in their program, the system limitations that contribute to these regulations, and that a working group has been struck to address regulations regarding embedded certificates more holistically

- The Committee suggested that the way deadlines are presented in the Calendar entry be made consistent throughout

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the changes to Section D. *Change of Faculty or Program* in the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the Committee and as recommended by the Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee.

Carried**7. Quality Assurance Unit Review Report for the Werklund School of Education**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Dru Marshall and Dianne Gereluk presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Co-Chair provided an overview of the quality assurance (QA) review process and explained that reviews occur every five to seven years and include a self-study, a review conducted by internal and external reviewers, a report with reviewer recommendations and the unit's responses, and a final public report.
- The presenter reported on the progress of the Werklund School of Education (WSE) recommendations in its 2021 unit review, noting that:
 - The WSE has seen a lot of improvement in the last five years in terms of rankings, research, faculty, the leadership team, the development of a strong culture and ethos, and observance of synergies and intersectionality between scholars
 - There is a large focus on the governance structure in the WSE, and it was noted that Faculty members are excited to review and refresh the governance structure in the Faculty to better reflect the WSE's growth over the last decade
- The Committee discussed:
 - Acceptance of doctoral students on a rotational basis as a way to ensure sustainability of WSE programs and to best respond to community needs, versus accepting strong PhD students every year so as not to miss out on promising emerging scholars
 - The administrators responsible for the Psychology specializations in the WSE, and it was explained that these are not AUPE roles, but rather academic leadership roles, and that there are nuances to how these programs are accredited that make these leadership roles demanding
 - That the WSE is a non-departmentalized Faculty, and the ways in which the governance structure might be re-conceptualized to recognize educational study areas as well as interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary scholarly thinking

8. APPC Member Survey Results

Tara Beattie presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Academic Co-Chair reported that:
 - Feedback on the structure and efficiency of the APPC was overall fairly positive
 - The Academic Co-Chair will make every effort to connect with new APPC members to orient them to the Committee before their first APPC meeting
 - The Provost's Office team has worked to eliminate as much redundancy in proposal documents as possible. It was noted that the University uses standardized templates, and some proposals are longer than others depending on the nature of the program being proposed and the information required.
 - Members commented that the virtual format of meetings as a result of the pandemic can make it difficult to jump in and ask questions, and that some individuals who want to contribute to the discussion are missed. It was noted that the Co-Chairs make every attempt to ensure that all those who wish to contribute are given the opportunity to do so.
 - Many Committee members thanked Dru Marshall, outgoing Co-Chair, for her incredible work Co-Chairing this Committee

9. Academic Program Subcommittee Report for the March 7, 2021 Meeting

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

10. Status of Program Approvals Report

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

11. Other Business

There was no other business.

12. Adjournment

The March 29, 2021 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee was adjourned by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Susan Belcher
University Secretary