



General Faculties Council
ACADEMIC PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting #134
May 3, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

By Zoom platform

Voting Members

Teri Balsler, Co-Chair
Tara Beattie, Academic Co-Chair
Elena Braverman
Nicole Culos-Reed
Andy Knight
Nicole Schmidt
Tanille Shandro
Amy Warren
Barry Wylant

Non-Voting Members

Violet Baron
David Stewart
Melanie Zimmer

Secretary

Susan Belcher

Scribe

Jaclyn Carter

Regrets

Penny Werthner
Florentine Strzelczyk

Staff

Tasha Hodzic

Guests

Kathryn King-Shier, Associate Dean (Graduate Programs), Faculty of Nursing – present for Items 5 and 6
Robin Yates, Dean and Vice-Provost (Graduate Studies) – present for Items 4-7
Mary Grantham O’Brien, Associate Dean (Policy), Faculty of Graduate Studies – present for Item 7
Janaka Ruwanpura, Vice-Provost (International) – present for Item 8

Observers

Sara Fedoruk, Analyst, Planning & Reviews, Office of the Provost – present for Items 5 and 6
Christine Johns, Senior Director (Academic & International Strategies)
Elizabeth Pando, Program Proposal Specialist, Office of the Provost – present for Items 5 and 6

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 May 3, 2021 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

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

The Co-Chair welcomed Nicole Schmidt to the Committee on this occasion of her first meeting.

The Academic Co-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- Teri Balsler was welcomed to the Committee on this occasion of her first meeting
- A reminder for Committee members to take a break following the end of term for wellness

3. Approval of the March 29, 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 29, 2021 be approved.

Carried

Barry Wylant abstained.

4. Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee Report for the March 17, 2021 Meeting

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Robin Yates presented this item.

The proponent provided an overview of the report, highlighting that the Leaders in Veterinary Medicine program proposal is a challenging one, that the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) requested further clarifications, and that the motion to recommend this item was postponed in order for the proponent to add more information to the proposal

5. Creation of the Specialization in Palliative and End of Life Care within the Graduate Certificate in Advanced Nursing Practice I and II

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Robin Yates and Kathryn King-Shier presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposal, explaining that palliative and end of life care occurs in multiple healthcare settings and in the home, that the proposal responds to great interest from the healthcare field, and that expertise in the field is often underdeveloped
- In response to questions, the proponents explained that:
 - Reliance on sessional instruction for this program is designed, in part, to strengthen relationships with clinical representatives in the healthcare field, and to create a more knitted network between the Faculty of Nursing and its clinical partners. It was noted that sessional instructors are often seconded from Alberta Health Services (AHS) as part of this network. The Committee

emphasized that it should be made clear in future proposals that reliance on sessional instructors is a deliberate choice and not an obligation in response to a lack of funding to hire limited-term or other permanent Faculty hires.

- Work-integrated learning is not built into the curriculum because it is expected that students registering in this program are already working in a healthcare field. It was noted that any student registered in an Advanced Nursing Practice (ANP) Certificate is eligible for a Transformative Talent Internship through the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS), should they desire a work-integrated learning experience while registered in the program.
 - 33 of 34 students currently registered in an ANP Certificate intend to carry on to complete the course-based Master of Nursing (MN)
 - A statistics course is required for admission to the ANP Certificate, not because students need it to complete the Certificate, but because it is required if they carry on to the course-based MN
 - The Specialization in Palliative and End of Life Care is unique to the University
 - The budget accounts for domestic tuition revenue only. International students are not targeted for this program, as program delivery becomes challenging in terms of synchronous learning activities and applicability in international clinical settings.
 - The admission deposit is not a revenue-generating fee, but is an enrolment management tool, and the deposit is applied to a student's overall tuition. It was noted that if a student pays the admission deposit and does not attend the University, this money is redirected to FGS awards and scholarships.
- The Committee discussed the role of intercultural competencies and how these are built into the Specialization's curriculum

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a Specialization in Palliative and End of Life Care within the Graduate Certificate in Advanced Nursing Practice I and II, effective for the Fall 2021 term, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried

6. Creation of the Specialization in Oncology Nursing within the Graduate Certificate in Advanced Nursing Practice I and II

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Robin Yates and Kathryn King-Shier presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposal, explaining that cancer patients and their families have very special needs, that this Specialization aims to advance knowledge about cancer care and treatment, and that the creation of this Specialization has been encouraged by AHS
- In response to questions, the proponents explained that:
 - There is no accreditation or oversight body that oversees advanced nursing education, but it was noted that the Certificates in ANP I and II can be recognized in a Registered Nurse's salary

- The Specialization in Oncology Nursing is not unique to the University, but other programs offer training geared towards undergraduate students, so this Specialization does enhance the training available
- The Committee continued its discussion regarding the reliance on sessional instructors, noting that:
 - The Faculty should consider whether this a sustainable model for future Specializations in this program
 - It should be recorded in the proposal that sessional hiring is a deliberate choice made by the Faculty
 - Sessional hires are partnered with existing Faculty members to receive mentorship
 - The sessional rate calculated in the budget is the minimum rate available, and it was queried whether this was appropriate given the advanced material and the expertise required to teach in these positions. It was noted that graduate students currently hired as sessional instructors are extraordinarily well-prepared to teach, and bring senior administrative or advanced expertise from their field into these positions, and that often individuals in a clinical environment are eager to teach in the Faculty because they are so passionate about the material.
 - Sessional instructors are not appointed to backfill vacant courses, but serve to temporarily release professional hires from their positions at AHS and elsewhere.

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a Specialization in Oncology Nursing within the Graduate Certificate in Advanced Nursing Practice I and II, effective for the Fall 2021 term, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee and as recommended by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee.

Carried**7. Changes to Sections D.1.3 *Continuous* and H.3 *Student Progress in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar***

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

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the changes, which, in section D.1.3, clarify the difference between course drops, course withdrawals, and extenuating circumstance withdrawals, and in section H.3, offer a new section that defines program milestones and explains how progress through milestones is tracked
- In response to a question, it was explained that FGS would prefer that all milestone requirements be captured in each graduate program's Calendar entry to provide an official record
- The Committee suggested that the Calendar entry for section D.1.3 clarify that students cannot withdraw from a specific course through their Student Centre more than once

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the changes to section D.1.3 *Continuous Registration* 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, with the requested amendment.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the changes to section H.3 *Student Progress* 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.

Carried**8. Final International Strategy Progress Report**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Janaka Ruwanpura presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter provided an overview of the report, highlighting that the International Strategy wrapped up in 2020, and the Global Engagement Plan (GEP) was launched in its place in December 2020
- The presenter discussed:
 - That new Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are being developed for the GEP, and these will be presented next year
 - An overview of the goals of the International Strategy, and the progress made to enhance diversity, improve cross-cultural competencies, enhance international partnerships and engage in international development
 - The level of diversity in the University's international student body as compared to other U15 institutions
 - That since 2013, the University has raised \$23.3 million for 15 international development projects involving 499 students and scholars
 - How countries and regions of emphasis and countries of interest are determined
 - The Global Engagement Plan 2020-2025, including the consolidation of goals from four to three
- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - It is difficult to track the number of University students taking language training courses, but this is being considered as part of the new KPIs
 - It is difficult to determine the effect that distance education has had on internationalization efforts at this time
 - The University's budget does not depend on international tuition, and as a result has been less affected by the pandemic than other institutions around the world
 - There have been no AUPE job losses as a result of consolidating the goals of the GEP, as goals

related to international development were folded into another goal rather than eliminated altogether

- Work is still being done to count foreign language publications as part of internationalization efforts, and it was noted that a Scopus analysis is helpful for this

9. Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee Report for the March 18, 2021 Meeting

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

10. Academic Program Subcommittee Report for the April 19, 2021 Meeting

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

11. Status of Program Approvals Report

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

12. Other Business

The Committee discussed Article 23.1 of the Faculty Association Collective Agreement regarding the use of continuing appointments to meet staffing needs. It was emphasized that proposals that are not consistent with this article should make it clear why an exception is being made. It was noted that this feedback will be communicated to proponents as new proposals are developed.

13. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee adjourn the May 3, 2021 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Susan Belcher
University Secretary