

General Faculties Council  
**ACADEMIC PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE**  
Approved Minutes

Meeting #32  
February 27, 2017, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

A167

***Voting Members***

Lynn Taylor, Co-Chair\*  
Jim Brandon  
Alicia Lunz  
Rob Kremer  
Kyle O'Keefe  
Joelle Welling

***Non-Voting Members***

Kent Donlevy  
Christine Johns

***Secretary***

Susan Belcher

***Scribe***

Cherie Tutt

***Regrets***

Heather Addy  
Angelique Saweczko

***Guests***

Cindy Graham, Associate Dean (Undergraduate), Faculty of Science – present for Items 4 and 5  
Heather Smith-Watkins, Analyst, Planning and Reviews

*\*by telephone*

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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 February 27, 2017 Academic Program Subcommittee meeting be approved.

**Carried**

**2. Remarks of the Co-Chair**

The Co-Chair welcomed Jim Brandon as a new member to the Committee.

The Co-Chair reported that the position of Academic Co-Chair of the Committee is currently vacant and acknowledged the service of Lorraine Doepel, former Academic Co-Chair.

### **3. Approval of the November 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Minutes of the Academic Program Subcommittee meeting held on November 21, 2016 be approved.

**Carried**

### **4. Recommendation of a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience (additional degree component)**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Cindy Graham, Associate Dean (Undergraduate), Faculty of Science, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent explained that, currently the Faculty of Science only offers a Bachelor of Science (BSc) (Honours) in Neuroscience and is proposing that a BSc in Neuroscience route be created. Students will not be able to apply to, or transfer to the BSc in Neuroscience, but would be granted the credential if they did not meet the grade point average (gpa) to be eligible to graduate with the BSc (Honours) in Neuroscience or if they left the program early to attend medical school or another professional program.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - There are no other programs in the Faculty of Science that only have an honours route, and students who do not achieve the gpa to be eligible to graduate with an honours degree are automatically awarded a BSc (non-honours)
  - Students who leave the BSc (Honours) in Neuroscience to complete medical school are able to receive credit towards their BSc degree, as long as they have completed 90 or more units in a Science program
  - For graduation purposes the gpa is calculated over the last 90 units
  - The BSc in Neuroscience will not be included in the list of programs offered by the Faculty of Science, but will be included in the University's internal listing of programs
- The Committee discussed:
  - The importance of providing students who do not meet the requirements for an honours degree with an alternative option in order to graduate
  - How information relating to the BSc in Neuroscience will be shared with students, particularly within the University Calendar. The Committee suggested that the proponent work with the Registrar on the Calendar wording to ensure clarity.
- It was confirmed that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) has the final approval authority for this item

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience degree, effective June 2017, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

**Carried****5. Recommendation of the Creation of a Visualization and Analytics Concentration within the Bachelor of Science Computer Science**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Cindy Graham, Associate Dean (Undergraduate), Faculty of Science, presented this item.

**Highlights:**

- The proponent reported that the Department of Computer Science offers a series of courses in the area of Visualization and Analytics, and is proposing that a concentration in this area be created. By formalizing the courses into a concentration, students will be able to receive credit on their transcripts and demonstrate to employers that they have expertise in this area.
- In response to a question, it was explained that the Faculty Council Committee approved the proposal, acting on behalf of, and with the full authority of, the Faculty Council
- The Committee discussed the value of creating formal concentrations for students that accurately reflect the expertise gained from taking specific groups of courses, the attrition rate, in relation to the anticipated number of graduates, and if external consultation is required for concentrations
- It was confirmed that the APPC is the final approval authority for the creation of concentrations
- Prior to the proposal moving forward to the APPC for consideration, the Committee suggested that:
  - The enrolment plan and table be revised to address the low attrition rate
  - The reference to 'Big Data' be changed to 'data visualization'
  - The sections on student demand and labour market analysis be expanded

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a Concentration in Visualization and Analytics, for the Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Computer Science and the BSc (Honours) in Computer Science, effective September 2017, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee, with the suggested amendments to the proposal documents.

**Carried****6. Status of Program Approvals**

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

**7. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**8. Adjournment**

The February 27, 2017 Academic Program Subcommittee meeting was adjourned by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.