

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

Meeting #39  
January 22, 2018, 2:00 p.m.

A167

***Voting Members***

Leslie Reid, Co-Chair  
Joelle Welling, Academic Co-Chair  
Jim Brandon  
Peggy Hedges  
Shahirose Premji  
Angelique Saweczko  
Antony Ware

***Non-Voting Members***

Christine Johns\*  
Paul Rogers

***Secretary***

Susan Belcher

***Scribe***

Cherie Tutt

***Regrets***

Tina Miller  
U.T. Sundararaj

***Guests***

Dianne Gereluk, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs in Education, Werklund School of Education – present for Item 4  
Douglas Sewell, Associate Dean, International Foundations Program – present for Item 4  
Michele Jacobsen, Associate Dean, Graduate Programs in Education, Werklund School of Education – present for Item 5

***Observers***

Karen Campbell, Manager, International Foundations Program – present for Item 4  
Heather Smith-Watkins, Analyst, Planning and Reviews

*\*by telephone*

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The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Agenda for the January 22, 2018 Academic Program Subcommittee meeting be approved.

**Carried**

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

The Co-Chair welcomed the Committee to the first meeting of 2018.

The Academic Co-Chair made no remarks.

## **3. Approval of the December 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

### **Moved/Seconded**

That the Minutes of the Academic Program Subcommittee meeting held on December 11, 2017 be approved.

**Carried**

## **4. Creation of a Bridging to the Community-based Bachelor of Education Pathway**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Dianne Gereluk and Douglas Sewell presented this item.

### Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the Community-based Bachelor of Education (BEd) program and explained that the program was developed to improve access for students in rural and remote locations. The proponents then outlined the reasons for creating an alternative pathway into the program for students who do not meet the English subject requirement.
- The proponents explained that students in the pathway program will take courses that focus on academic acculturation, academic reading, writing, and research, and junior education courses related to literacy in children. It was noted that some of the courses will involve experiential learning opportunities.
- In response to questions, the proponents explained that:
  - The proposal was presented twice to the Werklund School of Education (WSE) Faculty Council because the proposal was significantly changed following suggestions from the Decision Support Team, and so was rerouted to the WSE Faculty Council
  - The WSE expects that funding from external sources will be sustainable long term
- The Committee discussed:
  - The minimum grade point average (GPA) the WSE is intending to use for admission and if a minimum GPA should be stated in the proposal. It was decided that, to allow for flexibility, the GPA should not be included, but the importance of having a minimum GPA that will set students up for success was emphasized.
  - The target audience for the program, demand for the program, the reasons why the enrolment numbers in the proposal are relatively low, and if there will be an option to increase enrolment should the demand exceed expectations

- The importance and value of providing access to post-secondary education for individuals living in rural and remote locations
- The Committee requested that, prior to the proposal moving forward to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee:
  - The budget table be updated to reflect the addition of two courses and the expected enrolment numbers
  - The total number of courses that a student may use to count toward their elective courses in the four-year Community-based BEd program be made consistent
  - The note under the course description for 'English Academic Success' be removed
  - A reference to the expansion program with the government be added to help further demonstrate the sustainability of this model

#### **Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a Bridging to Community-based Bachelor of Education (BEd) pathway for students who do not meet the English subject requirement for admission to the Community-based BEd program, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

**Carried**

#### **5. Suspension and Termination of the Bridge to Teaching University Certificate**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Michele Jacobsen presented this item.

##### Highlights:

- The Co-Chair clarified that the Committee is responsible for reviewing and recommending the proposal for the suspension and termination of the Bridge to Teaching University Certificate. The proposal for the creation of a Bridge to Teaching Post-Baccalaureate Certificate has been included for information only, and will go to the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee for recommendation to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.
- The proponent provided an overview of the Bridge to Teaching program and explained that the program is for internationally trained teachers who want to become certified to teach in Alberta, and who typically hold more than one undergraduate degree when they apply
- The proponent explained that the Bridge to Teaching Program has been offered through the Faculty of Graduate Studies, but that the program is tied to an undergraduate credential, and that in order to fix this and to offer students a credential that more accurately reflects students' needs and achievements, it is being proposed to suspend and terminate the Bridge to Teaching University Certificate and create a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Bridge to Teaching
- In response to questions, it was confirmed that:
  - The courses/assignments required to complete the existing Bridge to Teaching University Certificate are at the graduate-level
  - The tuition fees will not change

- The proposed change will not affect how a student's credential is assessed by Alberta Education
- The Committee suggested that:
  - A statement regarding consultation with external bodies be added to Section 3.1.1
  - The routing tables in the proposal documents be reviewed, for accuracy

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the immediate suspension and eventual termination of the Bridge to Teaching University Certificate, Werklund School of Education, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

**Carried****6. Status of Program Approval Reports**

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

In response to a question, it was reported that currently, there is not a proposal for a masculine studies program moving through the program approval process, and that it is believed the references to this program in the media refer to a lecture series on this topic.

**7. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**8. Adjournment**

The January 22, 2018 Academic Program Subcommittee meeting was adjourned by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

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Susan Belcher  
University Secretary