

## General Faculties Council ACADEMIC PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE

**Approved Minutes** 

Meeting #49

April 20, 2020, 2:00 p.m.

By Zoom platform

Voting Members Non-Voting Members

Leslie Reid, Co-Chair Christine Johns Jim Brandon, Academic Co-Chair Karen Then

Isabelle Barrette-Ng
Kevin Dang
Secretary

Jocelyn Hayley Susan Belcher Peggy Hedges

Paul Mains Scribe

Mary O'Brien Elizabeth Sjogren

Angelique Saweczko

#### Guests

Virginia Tumasz, Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) - present for Items 4-8

#### **Observers**

Semhar Abraha, incoming Students' Union Vice-President (Academic)
Jaclyn Carter, University Secretariat – arrived during Item 6
Sara Fedoruk, Analyst, Planning and Reviews, Office of the Provost – present for Items 4-8
Tasha Hodzic, University Secretariat
Kelly Hoglund, Program Proposal Specialist, Office of the Provost – present for Items 4-8

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

## 1. Approval of the Agenda

The Co-Chair reported that the Committee will address the name change proposals (Items 4, 7 and 8) before addressing the embedded certificate proposal (Item 6) and the suspension/termination proposal (Item 5).

## Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the April 20, 2020 Academic Program Subcommittee meeting be approved, with the reported amendment.

Carried

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

The Co-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- Members were thanked for their efforts to continue the Committee's business as normally as possible
- Kevin Dang, Students' Union (SU) Vice-President (Academic), was thanked for his service on this occasion of his last meeting. Semhar Abraha, incoming SU Vice-President (Academic) was welcomed as an observer.

The Academic Co-Chair reiterated the acknowledgement of Kevin Dang's exemplary service to the Committee, and thanked the University Secretariat for the well-orchestrated electronic meeting.

## 3. Approval of the March 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

#### Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Academic Program Subcommittee meeting held on March 9, 2020 be approved.

Carried

## 4. <u>Change of Name for the BA, BA Honours, and Minor in International Development Studies to the BA,</u> BA Honours, and Minor in Global Development Studies

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Virginia Tumasz presented this item.

#### Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the proposal, specifically noting that the Ministry of Advanced Education identifies the program as 'International Development Studies', but that the University currently uses the name 'Development Studies'. The proponent reported that the proposed new name of 'Global Development Studies' better reflects the program's scope, uses current terminology, and distinguishes the program from the discipline of Child Development Studies.
- In response to a question, it was confirmed that the proposal aligns with the University's Global Engagement Plan currently in development

## Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve a change of name from Bachelor of Arts (BA), BA Honours, BA with Co-operative Education and Minor in International Development Studies to BA, BA Honours, BA with Co-operative Education and Minor in Global Development Studies, effective July 1, 2021, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried

# 5. <u>Suspension and Termination of the BA, BA Honours, Minor, BA with Co-operative Education and Concurrent BA/Bachelor of Education Programs in Canadian Studies</u>

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Virginia Tumasz presented this item. Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the proposal, explaining that demand for the Faculty's various Canadian Studies programs has been in steady decline, and that it is proposed to suspend and eventually terminate the Canadian Studies BA and Minor programs and instead offer an embedded certificate in Canadian Studies
- The Committee discussed whether the suspension and termination of the programs in Canadian Studies
  must happen simultaneously with the creation of the embedded certificate in Canadian Studies. In
  response to a question, it was reported that the Registrar's office can hide the Canadian Studies
  programs for the Fall 2020 application period, effectively suspending new admissions to the programs
  for Fall 2021, which will allow time for the proposal to create the embedded certificate in Canadian
  Studies to be reconsidered.
- Based on the number of questions and concerns expressed by the Committee about the embedded certificate, the Committee decided not to entertain the motion to suspend and terminate the programs in Canadian Studies at this time. The proponent will be invited to return to the Committee with this proposal at the May 11, 2020 meeting, if the proponent indicates that the formal suspension is needed at this time, otherwise the proponent is invited to return to the Committee with this proposal when she returns with the embedded certificate in Canadian Studies proposal in the future.

Secretary's Note: The motion was withdrawn.

## 6. Creation of an Embedded Certificate in Canadian Studies

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Virginia Tumasz presented this item.

## Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the proposal, noting that, while demand for the Faculty's various
  Canadian Studies programs has been in steady decline, there is still interest in Canadian content and an
  embedded certificate is seen as an effective way to deliver this content. The proposed embedded
  certificate will provide a credential that demonstrates that a student has had concentrated studies in
  Canadian subject matter.
- The proponent explained the differences between a Minor in Canadian Studies and the proposed embedded certificate, and noted that the proposed embedded certificate is interdisciplinary in nature
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - The embedded certificate is meant to be interdisciplinary in nature, and students are restricted to a maximum of nine credit units from one discipline
  - Because French is the second official language of Canada, it is believed that French language courses are a component of Canadian Studies and should count towards this credential
- Discussion included:
  - The learning outcomes for the embedded certificate, and whether these will always be met given that there are only two required 200-level courses and the otherwise flexible course options

- That curriculum changes over time, and so some of the optional courses listed may not have significant Canadian content in the future
- That other embedded certificates have a higher number of required courses and/or a capstone course or experience in order to ensure that learning outcomes are consistently met, but the proposed embedded certificate does not have a capstone course or experience and has the fewest required courses of the University's current embedded certificates
- o The number of introductory-level courses that are permitted, and that requiring more higher-level courses might strengthen the certificate
- Whether introductory courses in disciplines such as Economics or Accounting, or courses such as French language or Geology of Western Canada, would truly have significant Canadian content, and if these should be part of the certificate course list
- The predicted enrolments for the embedded certificate. The Committee suggested that the numbers for first year be removed from the proposal, since students will not start the embedded certificate until their second year.
- o That embedded certificate programs can be brought forward for modification after creation
- It was suggested that the proponent:
  - Revise the proposal to clearly map out how students taking a variety of pathways through the embedded certificate will meet the intended learning outcomes of the certificate
  - Review the courses that are listed as part of the embedded certificate, and commit that these will be regularly reviewed and curated in order to continue to provide flexibility and structure for students within the program while ensuring Canadian content
  - Consider adding a required capstone course or learning reflection component to the program
- The Committee then generally discussed the development of embedded certificates at the University, and the need for a clear framework and guidelines for this. The Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning) indicated that a working group to develop a framework and guidelines will be struck.
- The Committee decided not to address the motion to create the embedded certificate in Canadian Studies at this time. The proponent will be invited to return to a future meeting of the Committee with a revised proposal.
- The Committee noted that the proponents of all upcoming embedded certificate proposals should be made aware that a framework and guidelines are being developed for Fall 2020, and that embedded certificate programs may need to adjust to meet these future guidelines

Secretary's Note: The motion was withdrawn.

# 7. <u>Change of Name for the BA and BA Honours in Social and Cultural Anthropology to the BA and BA Honours in Anthropology</u>

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Virginia Tumasz presented this item.

#### Highlights:

• The proponent provided an overview of the proposal, noting that the proposed new name better reflects the broad curriculum of the program, which goes beyond the fields of social and cultural Anthropology, and aligns with the name of this discipline throughout Canada

There were no questions

#### Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve a change of name from Bachelor of Arts (BA), BA Honours and BA with Co-operative Education in Social and Cultural Anthropology to BA, BA Honours and BA with Co-operative Education in Anthropology, effective July 1, 2021, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried

## 8. <u>Change of Name for the BA, BA Honours, and Minor in Women's Studies to the BA, BA Honours, and Minor in Gender and Sexuality Studies</u>

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Virginia Tumasz presented this item.

## Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the proposal, noting that the program's curriculum is wider in scope than just Women's Studies, and that the proposed name aligns with current terminology in this area
- In response to a question it was confirmed that all of the name change proposals presented today should also include the BA with Co-operative Education degree and the Committee agreed to include this in all three motions

## Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve a change of name from Bachelor of Arts (BA), BA Honours, BA with Co-operative Education and Minor in Women's Studies to BA, BA Honours, BA with Co-operative Education and Minor in Gender and Sexuality Studies, effective July 1, 2021, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried

#### 9. Status of Program Approvals

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

## 10. Other Business

There was no other business.

#### 11. Adjournment

#### Moved/Seconded

That the Academic Program Subcommittee adjourn the April 20, 2020 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Susan Belcher University Secretary