

#### **General Faculties Council**

## **CALENDAR AND CURRICULUM SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Approved Minutes** 

**Special Meeting** 

November 30, 2020, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

By Zoom Platform

**Voting Members** 

Susan Barker, Co-Chair

Sherry Weaver, Academic Co-Chair

Semhar Abraha – arrived during Item 3

Melissa Boyce

**Amy Burns** 

Nancy Chibry

Ebba Kurz – left during Item 3

Siu Ming Kwok

Catherine Laing

David Paskevich

Leslie Reid

Angelique Saweczko

Meera Singh

Jason Wiens

Regrets

Marjan Eggermont

Robert McCorkell

Nickie Nikolaou

**Guests and Observers** 

Rachel Bruce, Manager, Arts Student Centre

Angie Crowley, Manager, Undergraduate Programs, Werklund School of Education

Pat Kaip, Manager, Undergraduate Programs, Haskayne School of Business

Jennifer Logan, Program Coordinator, Cumming School of Medicine – left during Item 3

Carrie MacKay, Undergraduate and Graduate Programs Manager, Faculty of Nursing – arrived during Item 3

Vanessa Wood, Deputy Registrar, Enrolment Services

Robin Yates, Dean and Vice-Provost, Graduate Studies – present for Item 3

**Non-Voting Members** 

Carol Crooks

**Carol Poland** 

Lesley Gerein

Secretary

Elizabeth Sjogren

Scribe

Tasha Hodzic

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. and confirmed quorum.

### 1. Approval of the Agenda

#### Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the November 30, 2020 Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee meeting be approved.

Carried

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

The Co-Chair provided an overview of the proposal being presented to the Committee.

The Academic Co-Chair made no remarks.

# 3. Recommendation of the COVID-19 Temporary Academic Regulation Guidelines and Associated Calendar Changes

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Susan Barker, Vice-Provost (Student Experience), Leslie Reid, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning) and Angelique Saweczko, Registrar, presented this item.

## Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposal, which allows students the option to take one Completed Requirements (CR) grade in a course of their choosing for the Fall 2020 term. It was explained that the proposal presents a balanced approach to help reduce pressure on students, address the long-term impacts of CR grades and provide flexibility to the Faculties.
- The Committee discussed:
  - Concerns for professional programs, where a CR grade may impact student progression, accreditation and professional recognition
  - The possibility of offering a CR grade option for upcoming terms, or to allow for more than one CR grade election for the current term
  - Concerns with student progression in their program and the potential impacts of a CR grade on transcripts
- In response to questions, it was explained that:
  - A list of courses where a CR grade is part of current standard grading practices could be added to the Calendar
  - A CR grade will remain on a student's transcript and is a non-reversible decision. It will be important for Academic Advising to inform students on the potential future impacts of choosing CR grades.
  - The option for a CR grade in one course is in line with other institutions and limits the unintended consequences for students with CR grades
  - Consultations to consider CR grades for the Winter 2021 term or in the long term will take place in the new year

- Students who have recently dropped courses may be allowed back into the course, with the instructor's permission, to use the CR grade option for the dropped course, and an extension to the withdrawal deadline could be offered
- An exception could be added for CR grade eligibility in cases of student misconduct in a course
- The January 11, 2021 deadline to elect a CR was selected to allow time for the conferral process, and it was noted that an extension to this date may impact academic reviews
- The Committee suggested that:
  - The January 11, 2021 deadline be extended to allow students more time for advising before making a decision to elect a CR grade
  - Information outlining the benefits and consequences of electing a CR grade be provided to students

## Moved/Seconded

That the Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve that students can choose the CR grade option for the Fall 2020 term, as set out in the document provided to the Committee.

Carried

Semhar Abraha abstained and Catherine Laing opposed.

#### 4. Other Business

There was no other business.

## 5. Adjournment

## Moved/Seconded

The November 30, 2020 meeting of the Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee was adjourned by consensus.

**Carried** 

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Elizabeth Sjogren Meeting Secretary