



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Academic Planning Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, June 25, 2014
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Carl Amrhein	Chair, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Nathan Andrews	Member, President of the Graduate Students' Association
Lorne Babiuk	Member, Vice-President (Research)
Phyllis Clark	Member, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Lise Gotell	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Loren Kline	Member, Academic Staff-at-large, Cross-Representative from GFC FDC
William Lau	Member, President of the Students' Union
John Law	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Keith McKinnon	Member, Academic Staff-at-large
D. Douglas Miller	Member, Dean Representative, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Wendy Rodgers	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Alexander Schlacht	Member, Graduate Student-at-Large

Non-Voting Members:

Ed Blackburn	Member, Faculty Member of the GFC Executive Committee
Lisa Collins	Member, Vice-Provost and University Registrar

Presenter(s):

Carl Amrhein	Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee
Lise Gotell	Chair, Department of Women's and Gender Studies
Nat Kav	Vice-Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee
Gary Lopaschuk	Professor, Department of Pediatrics
Paul Melancon	Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research
D. Douglas Miller	Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Michael O'Driscoll	Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Arts
Joan White	Associate Dean, Faculty of Business

Staff:

Garry Bodnar, Coordinator, GFC Academic Planning Committee
Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary
Andrea Patrick, Scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Carl Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee

Motion: Kline/Lau

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of June 11, 2014

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Carl Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee

Motion: Miller/Kline

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Minutes of June 11, 2014.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair commented on a number of relevant issues to members. Dr Amrhein also took this opportunity to thank departing members of the Committee for their engagement and service.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Proposal for the Establishment of the University of Alberta Cardiovascular Translational Science Institute (CTSI)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): D. Douglas Miller, Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry; Gary Lopaschuk, Professor, Department of Pediatrics; Gavin Oudit, Assistant Professor, Department of Cardiology

Purpose of the Proposal: The University of Alberta Cardiovascular Translational Science Institute (CTSI) is a pan-university initiative that builds upon existing cardiovascular research strengths in order to enhance the University's cardiovascular translational science capabilities and competitiveness. The CTSI will coordinate existing discovery and applied cardiovascular science assets and build new research capacity and capabilities for trans-disciplinary research bridging. The CTSI will also offer a new Master of Science (MSc) in Translational Medicine—training graduate students, fellows, and faculty members in the concepts and skills critical to bridging the four pillars of translational research—the first such program to be established in Canada.

Discussion:

Dr Miller thanked members for their consideration of this proposal and provided a brief synopsis of its contents. He noted that the proposed establishment of the CTSI builds upon existing strengths and partnerships at the University of Alberta, allowing the institution to become more competitive in the area of

cardiovascular translational science. He reported that, as part of the planning process, over 200 faculty members and students were surveyed and that there was considerable consultation with Alberta Health Services (AHS) as well as with a number of provincial and national professional associations.

Dr Lopaschuk explained that, as heart disease is the number one cause of death in the world, there is significant interest in cardiovascular research which, at the University of Alberta specifically, spans across ten Faculties. He commented that the establishment of the CTSI would foster scientific programs; would translate into improved health care for Albertans; and provide an increased number of collaborative research efforts. He stated that there would be additional opportunities to secure research funding in this area, as well. He noted that additional goals of CTSI would be to provide specific training within this discipline and to bring scientists together to facilitate common research objectives and develop synergies.

The Provost noted that this proposal has garnered extensive support.

Motion: Kline/Rodgers

Abstention: Miller

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposal submitted by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry for the formal establishment of the University of Alberta Cardiovascular Translational Science Institute (CTSI) to be housed in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, as set forth in Attachment 1, to be effective upon final approval.

CARRIED

5. Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and Faculty of Business Proposal for a (New) Freestanding For-Credit Post-Master's Certificate in Business Fundamentals

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Nat Kav, Vice-Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee (ASC); Paul Melancon, Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Joan White, Associate Dean, Faculty of Business

Purpose of the Proposal: To introduce a new Post-Master's freestanding for-credit certificate program in Business Fundamentals.

Discussion:

Dr White began by recommending a 'friendly' amendment to this proposal, stemming from suggestions made by members of the GFC Academic Standards Committee (ASC) at the time that GFC standing committee had considered and recommended this proposal, to allow post-doctoral fellows (PDFs) the opportunity to apply for admission to this certificate program. She stated there was no reason why PDFs should be excluded for enrolling in this particular program.

Dr Kav, in his role as Vice-Chair of GFC ASC, noted that this and the following two proposals (ie, the Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship and the Master of Accounting (MAcc)) before GFC APC, had received considerable support from GFC ASC.

Dr White explained that this proposal has been developed over the course of several years in order to provide doctoral students with the opportunity to develop a better understanding of business fundamentals as a way to augment their studies and future employment.

A member sought clarification regarding the need for the Board Learning and Discovery Committee (BLDC) to consider this proposal.

Motion: Kline/Law

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend to the Board Learning and Discovery Committee the approval of the new freestanding for-credit Post-Master's Certificate in Business Fundamentals, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Business and as set forth in Attachment 1, as amended, for implementation in September, 2015.

CARRIED

6. Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and Faculty of Business Proposal for a (New) Freestanding For-Credit Post-Master's Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Nat Kav, Vice-Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee (ASC); Paul Melancon, Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Joan White, Associate Dean, Faculty of Business

Purpose of the Proposal: To introduce a new Post-Master's freestanding for-credit certificate program in Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Discussion:

Dr White provided members with a brief summary of this proposal, noting that this certificate will be attractive to doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows (PDFs) in science-based Faculties who may want to learn more about commercializing their innovations.

Members commended the Faculty of Business for offering certificate programming that would clearly benefit individuals in their post-studies endeavours.

Motion: Rodgers/Lau

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend to the Board Learning and Discovery Committee the approval of the new freestanding for-credit Post-Master's Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Business and as set forth in Attachment 1, for implementation in September, 2015.

CARRIED

7. Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and Faculty of Business Proposal for a Master of Accounting (MAcc)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Nat Kav, Vice-Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee (ASC); Paul Melancon, Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Joan White, Associate Dean, Faculty of Business

Purpose of the Proposal: To offer a Master of Accounting (MAcc) program to provide the required competencies of the new Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) designation.

Discussion:

Dr White explained that there are imminent changes within the financial sector, with the unification of existing accounting professionals under the new CPA designation. She stated that there is a huge student

demand for the type of training to be offered through the MAcc program—this is the only program of its kind within Alberta at the current time.

Members, during the discussion surrounding this proposal, expressed a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: that international students have experienced various difficulties in similar programs at the University of Alberta, particularly after program completion; and clarification regarding fees related to this program, specifically, in relation to cost-recovery fees and revenue-generating fees.

Motion: Kline/Miller

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend to the Board Learning and Discovery Committee the proposal for a (new) Master of Accounting (MAcc) degree program, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Business and as set forth in Attachment 1, for implementation in May, 2015.

CARRIED

8. Proposed Name Change for the Master of Arts (MA) in Women's and Gender Studies to MA in Gender and Social Justice Studies

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Paul Melancon, Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Lise Gotell, Chair, Department of Women's and Gender Studies; Michael O'Driscoll, Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Arts

Purpose of the Proposal: On June 27, 2012, GFC APC approved a proposal from the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Arts to establish a new Master of Arts (MA) in Women's and Gender Studies. The proposal was subsequently forwarded to the Ministry of Enterprise and Advanced Education (EAE) (now Innovation and Advanced Education (IAE)) to begin the two-stage process of government review. On September 9, 2013, the Ministry informed the University in writing that the proposal would not be forwarded to the Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC) for the second stage of review. After consulting with representatives of EAE (IAE) in the past year, Faculty representatives have been encouraged to resubmit the proposal with further justification and responses to concerns expressed in EAE's letter. One of the outcomes of the consideration of EAE's concerns is this proposal to change the name of the MA program to 'Gender and Social Justice Studies'.

Discussion:

Dr Gotell explained that this proposal has been developed for re-submission to the Provincial Government and includes the newly-revised name, as recommended by the Vice-Provosts Council, an administrative body housed in the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic). She stated that the new name distinguishes the program from similar ones offered through the Campus Alberta system and that, at a recent meeting related to this proposal, members of the Ministry responded favourably to the renaming. She noted that this proposed program is not a duplication of a program offered by the Department of Women and Gender Studies at the University of Lethbridge and that 100 research affiliates across the University of Alberta have agreed to participate in the University of Alberta program. Dr Gotell noted that this is the first time that a proposal approved internally by the University of Alberta was not advanced by the Ministry to CAQC for review and, as such, should be cause for concern by this institution.

Members, during the discussion surrounding this proposal, expressed a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: the anticipated timeline of re-submission of this program proposal

to the Provincial Government; and whether there had been consideration of the use of the word “equity” within the MA program’s new name.

Motion: Lau/Miller

THAT the Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposal from the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Arts to change the name of the proposed Master of Arts (MA) in Women’s and Gender Studies to the MA in Gender and Social Justice Studies, to be effective upon approval.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. Budget Update

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Carl Amrhein, Carl Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee; Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

Purpose of the Proposal: For discussion/information.

Discussion:

Ms Clark noted that the Responsibility Centered Management (RCM) Oversight Committee membership is currently being established.

10. Question Period

Members enquired about the status of the discussion surrounding the definition and usage of the word of “college” at the University of Alberta.

A member enquired about the definition of “employability” in relation to the educational pursuits of the academy.

INFORMATION REPORTS

11. Items Approved by the GFC Academic Planning Committee by E-Mail Ballots

There were no items.

12. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

13. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:10 pm.