



General Faculties Council
Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee
Approved Minutes

Thursday, November 21, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
Meeting #101

A167/Zoom

Voting Members

Amy Dambrowitz, Co-Chair
Melissa Boyce, Academic Co-Chair
Fabiola Aparicio-Ting
Alberto de Salvatierra*
Cari Din
Catherine Heggerud
Zahra Shajani
Erin Spring – arrived during Item 6
Mindi Summers
Rebecca Archer
Dan Wilson*
Gail Zuk*
Jessie Dinh
Shawna Cunningham*
Andrew Szeto – arrived during Item 6
Wendy Benoit

Non-Voting Members

Christina Furtado
Lesley Gerein
Emma Lockyer* – arrived during Item 2
Carol Poland
Vanessa Wood

Meeting Secretary

Michelle Speta

Scribe

Vanessa Kozielec

Regrets

Verity Turpin
Meera Singh

Resource Personnel & Observers

Ahmad Ghasemloonia, Associate Dean, Student Success & Interdisciplinary Academic Programs, Schulich School of Engineering
Sarah Ha*, Undergraduate Program Specialist, School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape
Constance Heshka, Manager, Undergraduate & Graduate Programs, Faculty of Kinesiology
Carol Hoover*, Specialist, Teaching & Learning, Haskayne School of Business
Pat Kaip, Manager, Undergraduate Student Services, Haskayne School of Business
Caitlin Karpetz, Team Lead, Undergraduate Science Centre
Jennifer Logan*, Program Coordinator, Bachelor of Health Science, Cumming School of Medicine
Maria Soos-Gonczol, Manager, Student Services, Faculty of Social Work
Mikhail Elizakov*, Interim Manager, Undergraduate Programs in Education, Werklund School of Education

Guests

Jennifer de Roaldes, Associate Registrar, Information, Admissions & Recruitment – present for Item 3 & 4
Catherine Laing, Interim Dean, Faculty of Nursing – present for Item 3
Carrie MacKay, Director of Faculty Operations, Faculty of Nursing – present for Item 3
John Remnant, Co-Associate Dean (Curriculum), Faculty of Veterinary Medicine – present for Item 5

**Attended virtually*

Secretary's Note: In accordance with the General Faculties Council (GFC) Bylaws Section 8.2, the motion box and "Carried" denotation serves as the entry in the minutes that the Chair of the meeting declared the motion carried.

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Meeting Opening

1.1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the November 21, 2024 Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee be approved.

Carried

1.2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

Catherine Heggerud, Associate Dean, Haskayne School of Business, provided the Traditional Land Acknowledgement.

1.3. Remarks of the Co-Chair

The Co-Chair included the following in her opening remarks:

- Fall 2024 Convocation added 2,146 new graduates to the University's alumni list. The Co-Chair extended thanks to those who supported the event, including staff, faculty, and volunteers, recognizing their efforts in making the convocation a success.
- Updates on the ongoing changes to international student policy, including the closure of the Student Direct Stream and the University's ongoing advocacy to both federal and provincial governments to address the impacts on enrolment.
- The tuition proposal has been reviewed by the Board of Governors' Finance and Property Committee and is proceeding to the Board for approval in December.

2. Approval of the October 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee approve the September 19, 2024 meeting minutes.

Carried

Secretary's Note: Item 6 was presented before Item 3.

3. Recommendation of Lottery-based Admission for Undergraduate Programs in the Faculty of Nursing

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Catherine Laing, Interim Dean, and Carrie MacKay, Director of Faculty Operations, Faculty of Nursing; Jennifer de Roaldes, Associate Registrar, Information, Admissions & Recruitment; and Amy Dambrowitz, Registrar, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter explained that the proposal to implement a lottery-based admission process for the Faculty of Nursing aims to increase accessibility by allowing all applicants who meet the required course prerequisites and an adjusted competitive admission average to enter a lottery for random selection, until all seats are filled.
- This proposal seeks to address the Canada-wide issue of high attrition rates in the nursing field, coupled with oversubscribed programs. Current high entrance averages (above 90%) may exclude potential students who are seeking a career in nursing and meet the course requirements but do not meet the high entrance average.
- The presenter shared that the common themes from the Faculty of Nursing's Information Night were concerns about meeting the competitive average for admission and interest in transitioning from nursing to medical school, supporting the need for this change. The presenters noted that the lottery aims to discourage students from using nursing as a means to enter medical school.
- The Committee expressed appreciation for the proposal's focus on inclusivity and diversity, recognizing the importance of creating greater access to the nursing program and acknowledging that reliance on academic performance may marginalize students from diverse backgrounds who may bring valuable qualities to the nursing profession.

Moved/Seconded

That the Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve lottery-based admission for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Nursing, effective Fall 2026, and the associated revisions to Calendar Section A. Undergraduate Admissions, effective for the 2025-2026 Calendar, as set out in the documents provided.

Carried

Secretary's Note: Item 5 was presented before Item 4.

4. Recommendation of the Revisions to Undergraduate Admission Regulations

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Jennifer de Roaldes, Associate Registrar, Information, Admissions & Recruitment, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter provided an overview of the proposed changes to the undergraduate admission regulations, noting that they are proposed to take effect immediately for the Fall 2025 admission cycle, which is currently underway. Mid-cycle changes to admission regulations are uncommon and traditionally only proposed if they directly benefit students.

- The proposed changes include:
 - Expansion of the Faculty of Nursing's Indigenous Community and Rural Community admissions pathways to include additional communities and Nations. For the Fall 2025 intake, this will include cohorts from Bonnyville and Tsuut'ina, with agreements in place with each community.
 - Updated language regarding documentation for Indigenous citizenship/membership. The University's Pilot Committee on Indigenous Citizenship and Membership recommended using the terms 'citizenship/membership' instead of 'identity' when determining eligibility for supports dedicated to Indigenous students, including through Indigenous admission processes.
 - Creation of an Indigenous Pathway Program (IPP) for the Bachelor of Kinesiology and Bachelor of Science programs in the Faculty of Kinesiology.
 - Expanding admission eligibility requirements for several Biological Sciences programs in the Faculty of Science to include transfer students who have completed less than 30 units of post-secondary courses.
- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - In cases where students do not have the required documentation to verify Indigenous citizenship/membership at the time of application, the practice is to follow up individually with each student before offer of admission.
- The Committee requested the following amendments:
 - For the Faculty of Nursing's Indigenous Community admission route, revise language in the tables to clarify that documentation to verify Indigenous citizenship/membership is required before a student can be admitted into the program.
 - For the Faculty of Kinesiology's Indigenous Pathway, add the specific name of the course (Engineering Physics Foundations (ENFD) 111) that will be required for students who are applying to Biomechanics and do not have Math 31 from high school.
- The Committee suggested that the Schulich School of Engineering update the prerequisite for ENFD 111 to include the Faculty of Kinesiology's Indigenous Pathway Program for ease of registration.

Moved/Seconded

That the Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee (CCS) recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the revisions to the undergraduate admission regulations, effective immediately for Fall 2025 admission and the 2024-2025 Calendar, as recommended by the CCS Calendar Working Group and as set out in the documents provided, with the requested amendments.

Carried**5. Approval of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine 2025-2026 Calendar Revisions**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Rebecca Archer and John Remnant, Co-Associate Deans (Curriculum), Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters explained that the proposed Calendar revisions focus primarily on changes to course offerings

and the admission process following the restructuring of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program, which was approved by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) in June 2024.

- The presenters emphasized their efforts to align the program's guidelines and processes with those of the rest of the University.
- Tutorial sections have been added to all courses to allow for self-regulated and self-directed learning (30% of the course time). This change aims to better reflect the workload of the program and offer more flexibility for students.
- A significant change to the program structure is the introduction of the option for students to request permission to complete one year of courses over two years, in cases of exceptional circumstances. This is a departure from the traditional lock-step structure of the program, which previously did not allow such flexibility. This adjustment is intended to support student wellness.

Moved/Seconded

That the Calendar and Curriculum Subcommittee (CCS) approve the proposed Calendar revisions for the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, effective for the 2025-2026 Calendar, as recommended by the CCS Calendar Working Group and as set out in the documents provided.

Carried**6. Proposed Academic Schedule for 2029-2030 and Revisions to the 2025-2029 Academic Schedules**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Amy Dambrowitz, Registrar, presented this item for discussion.

Highlights:

- The presenter provided an overview of the proposed changes to the Academic Schedules for 2025 through 2029, which included:
 - Moving the start of regular Fall term classes to no earlier than September 1 effective Fall 2026. This change will ensure students are not required to start attending classes before their housing becomes available to them.
 - Adjusting final exam scheduling such that there are no exams on Mondays to address logistical challenges with exam space setup.
 - Pushing back the start of Spring Convocation ceremonies to the second week of June to allow adequate time for the preparation of graduand lists in anticipation of the growth in number of graduates, pending availability of the Jack Simpson Gymnasium. The Spring 2025 Convocation will be the last held in Qatar, allowing more flexibility in scheduling.
- The Committee discussed concerns regarding the later start to Spring Convocation and possible impacts to campus events held for National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21st. The importance of protecting time around that event was noted, particularly to ensure senior leaders have capacity to attend.
- The presenter also provided an overview of the proposed Academic Schedule for the 2029-2030 academic year, and requested feedback from the Committee on the two options for the start date of the Winter 2030 term. Arguments were made in support of both options, including:
 - A later start to the Winter 2030 term would be beneficial for students as it would provide a longer

break between the Fall and Winter terms, which is particularly important for international students who may wish to travel home for the holidays.

- The Faculty of Nursing also expressed support for a later start as it would allow more time for students to complete required training for their Alberta Health Services placements.
- An earlier start to the Winter 2030 term would have the benefit of a longer break between end of term and start of exams, which is important for student wellness and also for logistical and administrative preparation for exams.
- The presenter is taking the feedback into consideration as the final proposal is developed for General Faculties Council approval.

7. Program Approvals Status Report

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda for information only. Questions can be directed to the Program Innovation Hub.

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 10:01 a.m.

Michelle Speta
Associate Secretary