



General Faculties Council
GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting #50
February 19, 2020, 2:00 p.m.

Governors Boardroom A 167

Voting Members

Robin Yates, Co-Chair
Paul Mains, Academic Co-Chair
Mohamed Abdelsamie
Jalel Azaiez – left after Item 7
Jim Brandon
Jim Field
David Paskevich
Angelique Saweczko
Michael Sideris

Regrets

Francine Smith
Jewel Spangler

Guests

John Brown, Dean, School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape – present for Item 5
Sara Fedoruk, Analyst, Planning and Reviews, Office of the Provost – present for Items 6 and 7
Pil Hansen, Associate Professor, School of Creative and Performing Arts – present for Items 6 and 7
Kelly Hoglund, Program Support Proposal Specialist, Office of the Provost – present for Items 6 and 7
Tanya Zdorenko, Administrative Assistant, Graduate Studies* -- present for Item 4

*by telephone

Non-Voting Members

Christine Johns
Louise Wells

Secretary

Susan Belcher

Scribe

Jyoti Myers

Observers

Jaclyn Carter, Governance and Student Appeals Office
Coordinator
Gillian Robinson, Senior Director, Strategic Operations,
Graduate Studies

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the February 19, 2020 Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee meeting be approved.

Carried

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

The Co-Chair and the Academic Co-Chair made no remarks.

3. Approval of the January 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee meeting held on January 22, 2020 be approved.

Carried**4. Approval of Calendar Changes for the Graduate Programs:****1. Cumming School of Medicine****2. Faculty of Social Work****3. Faculty of Science****4. Faculty of Law****5. Schulich School of Engineering**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Robin Yates and Louise Wells presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents reported that the Calendar changes for the graduate programs in the Cumming School of Medicine (CSM), the Faculty of Social Work, the Faculty of Science, the Faculty of Law and the Schulich School of Engineering (SSE) have been reviewed by the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) Calendar Working Group and the suggested changes include:
 - The addition of a Sex and Gender Training Module requirement for all graduate programs and additional information about the new CSM funding policy
 - An amendment to the Calendar entry for the Master of Social Work (thesis-based) to reflect a redesigned program structure and the addition of a new and separate Calendar entry for a “Laddering Pathway” in the Faculty of Social Work
 - The addition of the new Mathematics and Statistics Graduate Program specialization in Mathematical Finance in the Faculty of Science
 - The addition of a new Calendar entry for the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Degree in the Faculty of Law, conditional on the approval of the degree by the Ministry of Advanced Education

- Minor changes to the program descriptions and program-level admission requirements for the SSE
- The Committee discussed all of the proposed Calendar changes and suggested amendments to the submissions to reflect:
 - The addition of generic wording to replace specific wording, the modernization of language in the program descriptions and editorial revisions to ensure consistency and alignment with the Calendar
 - Consistency of “face-to-face vs. online residencies” wording in the Program Delivery section of the Master of Social Work (Course-Based) degree to align with the wording in the Master of Social Work (Course-Based) Laddering Pathway degree and the Master of Social Work (Thesis-Based) degree
 - The addition of a note related to the optional courses in the Faculty of Science available for the Haskayne School of Business, highlighting that there are additional tuition fees for these optional courses
 - An amendment to the Supervisory Assignments section for the Faculty of Law to reflect that the supervisory committee will be established within three months and not 12 months as noted in the proposal. Additionally, the detailed wording in the Candidacy section should be replaced with generic wording to ensure consistency across the Calendar.

MOTION 1:**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar changes for the graduate programs in the Cumming School of Medicine, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group, with the requested amendments.

Carried**MOTION 2:****Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar changes for the graduate programs in the Faculty of Social Work, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group, with the requested amendment, if required.

Carried

MOTION 3:**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar changes for the graduate programs in the Faculty of Science, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group, with the reported and requested amendments.

Carried**MOTION 4:****Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar changes for the graduate programs in the Faculty of Law, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group, with the requested amendments.

Carried**MOTION 5:****Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar changes for the graduate programs in the Schulich School of Engineering, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group.

Carried**5. Approval of Calendar Changes for the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Robin Yates and John Brown presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents reported that the Calendar changes for the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (SAPL) have been reviewed by the GAPS Calendar Working Group and include; course changes, minor changes to the text of the program descriptions, changes to degree options, and changes to program-level admission requirements
- The Committee learned that a review of the SAPL program was undertaken and suggestions included a fundamental refresh of the professional design curriculum to address the advances in digital technology related to digital twinning and design and to reflect current societal challenges including climate change and greenhouse gas emissions

- In response to questions related to the technology electives, the proponent confirmed that:
 - There is no previous training required for the technology courses however, students will have a steep learning curve these courses are competitive with similar programs at other institutions
 - The labs at the downtown campus will be utilized for the technical coursework and additional electives will be offered to students to allow for broader, interdisciplinary opportunities
 - Technical support courses will be made available to students
- The Committee discussed the proposed Calendar changes and noted that the program will be extended by a half term into the Spring and Summer sessions due to the additional electives, and that the professional enrichment courses will allow students to benefit from the blended work and academic learning environments
- The Committee suggested an amendment to Section 10 of the proposal to replace the “oral” wording with the statement “Doctoral students are required to meet all candidacy requirements.” as full candidacy requirements are already outlined on the SAPL website and the generic wording will allow for more flexibility

MOTION:**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar changes for the graduate programs in the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group, with the suggested amendment.

Carried**6. Recommendation for the Course Load Changes: Master of Fine Arts in Drama**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Pil Hansen presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent reported that the proposed course load change for the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Drama will result in a reduction in the required coursework for all four specializations within the MFA in Drama from 24 units to 18 units to align with comparative programs at other post-secondary institutions
- The Committee learned that the reduced course load will increase the time available for pre-thesis and thesis work, and allow students to have a more reasonable workload
- The Committee discussed the proposal and noted that the present workload was well above National standards and overwhelming for students and that the reduction in the required coursework would be beneficial for students

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the proposed course load changes in the Master of Fine Arts in Drama, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried**7. Recommendation of the Creation of a new Specialization in Interdisciplinary Creation and Research in the Master of Fine Arts in Drama**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Pil Hansen presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent reported that the proposed creation of a new Specialization in Interdisciplinary Creation and Research in the MFA in Drama will leverage existing courses and resources in the School of Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA), and the addition of one course will provide a clear pathway for MFA Drama students who wish to pursue interdisciplinary coursework and research, and further enhance their primary art form with the study of a second art form
- The Committee learned that there is significant interest across the art forms and the creation of a new Specialization will allow professional artists the opportunity for collaboration across disciplinary boundaries
- The Committee discussed the proposal and noted that the new specialization is being proposed in response to the demand by students, and that the desire for collaboration across disciplines is growing

MOTION:**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a new Specialization in Interdisciplinary Creation and Research within the Master of Fine Arts in Drama, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried**8. Revisions to the Academic Regulations: Reappraisal of Academic Assessments (Final Grades)**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Angelique Saweczko presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent reported that the proposed revisions to the Academic Regulations: Reappraisal of Academic Assessments (Final Grades) stem from a review that was done to look at the number of courses for which a student may request a reappraisal of their final grade. The proponent noted that it was determined that the limit of two reappraisals in one academic year was unfair to students.

- In response to a question about the assessment of a student's final term work, the proponent confirmed that if a student's graded term work is returned to the student after the last day of classes, the term work would be considered as a part of the Academic Assessment
- The Committee discussed the proposed revisions and noted that students will be granted a maximum of three reappraisals of the final grade for a maximum of three courses in one academic year and requests for a reappraisal of the final grade that result in the grade being raised will not count towards the three course limit

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. Motion to Adjourn

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee adjourn the February 19, 2020 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Susan Belcher
Secretary