



General Faculties Council
GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting #62, November 17, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

Zoom Platform

Voting Members

Robin Yates, Co-Chair
Kathryn King-Shier, Academic Co-Chair
Amy Dambrowitz – joined during Item 4
Rhiannon Jones
Jocelyn Hayley – joined during Item 5
Mary O'Brien
David Paskevich
Alex Paquette
Warren Wilson
Michael Wright

Non-Voting Members

Christine Johns – joined during Item 4
Anthony Sayers
Louise Wells

Meeting Secretary

Cherie Tutt

Scribe

Jyoti Myers

Guests

Signe Bray, Associate Professor, Radiology (Cumming School of Medicine) – joined for Item 5

Observers

Elizabeth Pando, Program Proposal Specialist, Office of the Provost – joined during Item 4
Jessica Revington, Program Proposal Assistant, Office of the Provost
Kelly Kay Spurlock, Analyst, Planning and Reviews, Office of the Provost – joined during Item 2

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the November 17, 2021 Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee meeting be approved.

Carried

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

The Co-Chair and Academic Co-Chair welcomed members and then provided an update on the Leaders in Veterinary Medicine Program proposal that was brought to the GAPS Committee and then was withdrawn, due to the additional work that was required on the proposal. It was noted that there may be an additional GAPS meeting scheduled in the new year for consideration of this proposal.

3. Approval of the October 20, 2021 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 October 20, 2021 be approved.

Carried

4. Approval of the Calendar Changes for the Graduate Programs:

- 1. School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape**
- 2. Faculty of Law**
- 3. Haskayne School of Business**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Robin Yates, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Louise Wells, Graduate Calendar Coordinator presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reported that the proposed substantive Calendar changes for the graduate programs in the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (SAPL), Faculty of Law, and the Haskayne School of Business (HSB) include:
 - Course description modifications for the Architecture, Planning and Landscape (APLA) course in SAPL
 - An update to the admission requirements for the Master of Laws (LLM) program to include a writing sample and curriculum vitae
 - An update to the admission requirements for the Master of Management (MMgmt) and Graduate Certificates to include an admission deposit for the HSB
- The Committee reviewed the proposed changes and suggested minor editorial amendments to reflect a clarification of the number of units of coursework required for completion of the Master of Architecture (MArch) program and the inclusion of an embedded web link to information outlining the specifics around the writing sample for the LLM program

MOTION 1:

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar changes for the graduate programs 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 reported amendment.

Carried

MOTION 2:**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 amendment.

Carried**MOTION 3:****Moved/Seconded**

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

Carried**5. Recommendation of the Creation of a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Computational Neuroscience and approval of Calendar Changes for:**

- 1. The MSc and PhD programs in Neuroscience (Cumming School of Medicine)**
- 2. The MSc and PhD programs in Physics and Astronomy (Faculty of Science)**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Signe Bray, Associate Professor, Radiology (Cumming School of Medicine) presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the proposal, explaining that Computational Neuroscience (CN) is an area of neuroscience that will employ existing knowledge of the fundamentals of neuroscience and quantitative sciences such as mathematics, physics and computer science to improve the overall understanding of the principles that govern brain development, structure, physiology, and cognition
- The proponent noted that the proposed interdisciplinary specialization in the CN program will address the gap that exists within the neuroscience area and integrate students and supervisors from the graduate programs in Physics and Astronomy and Neuroscience, and attract high-quality students from diverse backgrounds who seek to further develop their quantitative skills in neuroscience applications
- In response to a question, the proponent confirmed that students who enrol in the Physics and Astronomy Interdisciplinary Specialization will be required to take more courses than students in the Neuroscience program, but do not take any additional courses in comparison to other students in Physics and Astronomy
- The Committee discussed the program proposal, including: the positive impact of the quantitative approach; the future linkage to brain disease and integration with programming at the Cumming School of Medicine; the flexibility in selecting electives in relation to the program requirements; the interdisciplinary trends; and the increased potential for future innovative research

- The Committee expressed support for the proposal and provided some editorial suggestions to reflect clarity in the wording of the proposal and recommended that the proposal move forward to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) for approval and approved the Calendar changes contingent on APPC approval

MOTION 1:**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Computational Neuroscience within the MSc (thesis-based) and PhD programs in Neuroscience in the Cumming School of Medicine, effective Fall term 2022, as set out in the proposals provided to the Committee.

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

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Computational Neuroscience within the MSc (thesis-based) and PhD programs in Physics and Astronomy in the Faculty of Science, effective Fall term 2022, as set out in the proposals provided to the Committee.

Carried**MOTION 3:****Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate and Academic Program Subcommittee approve the Calendar changes for the new Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Computational Neuroscience within the MSc (thesis-based) and PhD programs in Neuroscience in the Cumming School of Medicine and in Physics and Astronomy in the Faculty of Science, contingent upon approval of the programs, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group, with the requested amendments.

Carried**6. Recommendation of the Addition of the “Laddered Pathway” section in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Mary O’Brien, Associate Dean (Policy and Program Development), Faculty of Graduate Studies presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the proposal, explaining that the addition of the new “Laddered Pathway” section in the Graduate Chapter Calendar will reflect revised nomenclature for the terms “credential laddering” and “laddering credit” and that the terms will also be included in the Glossary of Terms in the University Calendar

- The proponent noted that the proposed section will provide clarity in outlining the structure of ladder pathways for graduate students seeking to complete stackable credentials
- The Committee reviewed the proposal and provided some suggestions for amended wording to clarify that admission is competitive in a ladder pathway unless otherwise stipulated and recommended that the proposal move forward to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee for approval

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the addition of the “Laddered Pathway” section to be included in the Admissions section of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the GAPS, and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group, with the requested amendment.

Carried**7. Recommendation of the Revisions to the Advanced Credit section of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Mary O’Brien, Associate Dean (Policy and Program Development), Faculty of Graduate Studies presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the proposed revisions to the Advanced Credit section of the Graduate Chapter, explaining that there are currently inconsistencies in how graduate programs use the terms “advanced credit” and “course exemption”
- The proponent noted that the proposed changes will distinguish between the two terms and provide important information about whether credit is given for the previous work (advanced credit) or whether a student simply does not have to take a course that duplicates work they have already done (course exemption)
- A member of the Committee expressed concerns regarding having this apply to course-based as well as thesis-based programs
- The Committee reviewed the proposed revisions and recommended that the proposal move forward to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee for approval

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the revisions to the Advanced Credit Section, including new information for "Course Exemption" in the Admissions section of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the GAPS and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group.

Carried

Michael Wright opposed.

8. Status of Program Approvals Report

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

9. Other Business

There was no other business.

10. Motion to Adjourn

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee adjourn the November 17, 2021 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Cherie Tutt
Meeting Secretary