



General Faculties Council
GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting #63, December 15, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

Zoom Platform

Voting Members

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

Non-Voting Members

Christine Johns – left during Item 9
Anthony Sayers – joined during Item 8
Louise Wells

Meeting Secretary

Cherie Tutt

Scribe

Jyoti Myers

Guests

George Colpitts, Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Arts – present for Items 5-8
Ariel Ducey, Associate Professor (Department of Sociology), Faculty of Arts – present for Item 8
Scott McLean, Professor (Department of Sociology), Faculty of Arts – present for Item 8
Joelle Welling, Associate Director, School of Creative Arts and Performing Arts – present for Items 5-7

Observers

Elizabeth Pando, Program Proposal Specialist, Office of the Provost – joined during Item 5
Jessica Revington, Program Proposal Assistant, Office of the Provost

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 December 15, 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 made no remarks.

3. Approval of the November 17, 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 November 17, 2021 be approved.

Carried

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

- 1. Faculty of Arts**
- 2. Faculty of Science**
- 3. Werklund School of Education**

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 Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science, and the Werklund School of Education (WSE) include:
 - An update to the Program/Course Requirements section for the Master of Fine Arts in the Faculty of Arts
 - The addition of a new specialization to the Data Science and Analytics Program and a revised Calendar entry for the Faculty of Science
 - An update to the Program/Course Requirements section for the PhD, Educational Research in the WSE
- The Committee discussed the proposed Calendar changes for the graduate programs and the rationale for the proposed changes
- In particular, the Committee discussed the practicum hours for the Clinical Psychology program and suggested that broader dialogue is needed to ensure that practicum hours are reflected in the GFC course hours. The Committee agreed that although the hours do not align that the addition of the practicum hours improves transparency and is a benefit to students.
- In response to questions, relating to the Calendar entry for Greek and Roman Studies it was explained that the addition of language outlining the number of units and courses is being noted is to add clarity as the courses are each 1.5-units

- The Committee suggested minor editorial amendments to reflect: a more-detailed clarification of the number of units of coursework required for completion of the Greek and Roman Studies in the Master of Arts (thesis-based) program
- There were no questions relating to the proposed Calendar changes for the Faculty of Science or WSE

MOTION 1:**Moved/Seconded**

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

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

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

Carried

Secretary's Note: The rationale for Items 5 and 6 were presented together.

5. Recommendation for the Suspension of the PhD in Music Specializations:

1. Composition
2. Musicology
3. Sonic Arts

6. Recommendation for the Suspension of the Master of Music – Specialization in Conducting

Documentation for these items was circulated with the Agenda. George Colpitts, Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Arts and Joelle Welling, Associate Director, School of Creative Arts and Performing Arts presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposed suspensions for three specializations in the PhD in Music: the Specialization in Composition, the Specialization in Musicology, and the Specialization in Sonic Arts and one specialization in the Master of Music: the Specialization in Conducting, explaining that there is a lack of supervisory and teaching capacity due to retired faculty members and that these specializations have historically had small cohort sizes, and that the proposed suspensions will allow for a reassessment of the sustainability of the specializations
- The Committee reviewed the proposals and recommended that they move forward to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee for approval

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve a three-year suspension of the specializations within the PhD in Music:

- Specialization in Composition
- Specialization in Musicology, and
- Specialization in Sonic Arts,

effective immediately, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve a three-year suspension of the Specialization in Conducting within the Master of Music, effective immediately, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried

7. Recommendation for the Change in Course Requirements for the Master of Arts – Specialization in Musicology

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Joelle Welling and George Colpitts presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the proposed change in course requirements for the Master of Arts (MA) - Specialization in Musicology, noting that the required course work would be reduced from 24 units to 18 units to allow students to complete the course requirements for the MA in Musicology in one year, rather than in two years and to ensure alignment with the other Master's degree programs

- The Committee reviewed the proposal and in response to a question, it was noted that the required course work is in alignment with other programs in Musicology. The Committee recommended that the proposal move forward to 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 change in course requirements for the Master of Arts (Specialization in Musicology), effective Fall Term 2022, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee.

Carried**8. Recommendation for the Creation of a Course-Based Master of Arts (MA) in Sociology and the approval of Calendar changes for the MA program in Sociology (Faculty of Arts)**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Scott McLean, Professor (Department of Sociology), Faculty of Arts, Ariel Ducey, Associate Professor (Department of Sociology), Faculty of Arts and George Colpitts presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposed creation of a course-based Master of Arts (MA) degree program in Sociology and the corresponding Calendar changes, noting that the 27-unit, course-based MA program will complement the existing 18-unit, thesis-based MA program and provide an alternative route for students' to complete the MA degree in Sociology in a shorter timeframe
- The proponents noted that the course-based MA program will: address the lack of opportunities for faculty members to teach at the graduate level in the program; provide graduate students with an enriched student experience and be a leverage point for the program to develop and support and develop equity, diversity and inclusion and Indigenous engagement initiatives; align with other Social Science programs in the Faculty of Arts, who also offer course-based MA programs and with other Sociology departments in Canadian research-intensive universities
- In response to questions, the proponents explained that it is anticipated that the initial student enrolment in the MA program will allow for marginal tuition revenues and that an assessment of the MA program will allow for incremental increases in staffing and provide opportunities for faculty members to teach in the MA program
- The Committee discussed the proposal and its rationale, that the curriculum is designed to allow students to apply for tri-council funding and doctoral programs and that there are specific parameters embedded in the curriculum to enable the facilitation of the timely completion of autonomous research
- The Committee then discussed the various scenarios and the timelines for completion of the MA program and recommended that the wording in the proposal explicitly state that only the 6-unit research paper course is new and all other courses in the course-based program have already been created and offered by the department. The Committee then recommended that the proposal move forward to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee for approval.

MOTION 1:**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a course-based Master of Arts in Sociology, effective Fall Term 2022, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

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

That the Graduate and Academic Program Subcommittee approve the Calendar changes for the new Course-Based Master of Arts in Sociology in the Faculty of Arts, contingent upon approval of the program, effective for the 2022-2023 Calendar, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee, and as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group with the requested amendment.

Carried**9. Recommendation for the Revisions to Academic Regulations: Section M – Thesis Examinations**

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 Section M - Thesis Examinations Academic Regulation in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar explaining that the addition of an "advisory member" category will allow for the meaningful engagement of Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers and other knowledge experts to participate in examinations without being required to officially assess students' theses and oral performance
- The Committee learned that consultation has taken place with peer institutions and it was noted that other U15 institutions engage in a range of practices and the proposed "advisory category" will align with comparative programs at other U15 institutions and provide the University with flexibility with thesis examinations
- The Committee discussed: the proposed addition of the new category; the process for establishing the level of involvement of the advisory member; the range of advisory members which may be utilized beyond Indigenous Elder and Knowledge Keepers; and the potential implications or negative influence the advisory member could have on the rest of the examining committee and the resulting pressure on students.
- In response to questions, the proponent explained that cases will be managed on an individual basis and a procedural document is being developed which will clearly outline the rules of engagement to support advisory members.
- The Committee recommended an amendment to the implementation date 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 Academic Regulations: Section M - Thesis Examinations in the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, effective immediately, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee.

Carried**10. Recommendation for the Revisions to Academic Regulations: Section F.1.3 Flexible Grade Option (Credit Granted Grade)**

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 Academic Regulations: Section F.1.3 Flexible Grade Option (Credit Granted Grade) (CG), explaining that the CG grade option will only be offered in certain graduate courses and is designed to support graduate students' breadth of learning and wellness
- The Committee learned that the CG grade option was initially introduced to differentiate it from the "completed requirements" (CR) option, and that the CG grade will ensure alignment with undergraduate policies, provide increased flexibility for students, and will encourage students to seek out accommodations without incurring penalties
- In response to a question, it was noted that individual programs will be required to provide a clear declaration indicating if the CG grade will be allowed or not as there may be additional requirements or restrictions around certain graduate programs or courses
- 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 Academic Regulations: Section F.1.3 Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade) in the University Calendar, effective for the 2022-2023 Calendar, as set out in the documents provided to the Committee.

Carried**11. Status of Program Approvals Report**

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

12. Other Business

There was no other business.

13. Motion to Adjourn

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee adjourned the December 15, 2021 meeting by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Cherie Tutt
Meeting Secretary