



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

General Faculties Council
GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

May 17, 2023, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

AD 167 (Governors Boardroom)

Voting Members

Robin Yates, Co-Chair
Kathryn King-Shier, Academic Co-Chair
Jocelyn Hayley*
Rhiannon Jones
Mary Grantham O'Brien
Michael Wright
Warren Wilson*

Regrets

Andy Knight
Amy Dambrowitz
Kristen Neprily

Invited Guests

Gopal Achari*, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies, Schulich School of Engineering – present for Item 4
Jeff Caird, Professor, Department of Psychology – present for Item 5
Reed Ferber, Director, Interdisciplinary Specialization in Wearable Technology – present for Item 5
Kim Mcleod, Associate Registrar and Director of Policy and Systems, Registrar's Office

Resource Personnel

Jaclyn Carter, ITL Consultant, Taylor Institute – present for Items 5 & 6
Kelly Hoglund, Partner, Program Innovation – present for Items 5 & 6
Cathy McLaughlin, Grant Writer, Schulich School of Engineering Operations Staff – present for Item 4
Elizabeth Pando, Partner, Program Innovation – present for Item 4
Kirsten Penrose, Program Coordinator, Faculty of Kinesiology – present for Item 5
Karen Quin, Analyst, Planning and Reviews, Provost's Office

**attended via Zoom*

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the May 17, 2023 Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Remarks of the Co-Chairs

Kim McLeod, Associate Registrar and Director of Policy and Systems, Registrar's Office, was welcomed to the Committee as a resource person, as the Registrar was unable to attend the meeting, she will also present Item 9. Calendar Software Update: Introducing CourseDog.

3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes for the April 19, 2023 Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee meeting be approved.

Carried

4. Recommendation for the Creation of a PhD in Engineering with a Sub-Specialization in Sustainable Systems Engineering (SUSE)

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Gopal Achari presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent provided an overview of the proposed Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Engineering with a sub-specialization in Sustainable Systems Engineering (SUSE). It was explained that the sub-specialization will formally recognize the interdisciplinary nature of Engineering (ENGG) by officially extending course options across all six departments. To allow for this, prerequisites will be less restrictive and degree parchment will signal the broader learning to help increase work opportunities for graduates. Rather than creating a new department, SUSE will interface with existing resources across the Faculty, drawing operational and teaching support from established areas. For example, the program will leverage the contacts within their current undergraduate Engineering Career Centre to PhD students to ensure that each can experience work-integrated learning. These changes respond to identified societal needs and the interests of students and employers.
- In response to questions, it was explained that the SUSE will build capacity rather than cannibalize from other departments by uniquely addressing pre-operations (sustainability systems) rather than clean-up operations (environmental). Additionally, the program will grow and be financially stable without plans for any academic recruitment by ensuring current academic members take on six to seven students and by removing barriers to allow students to be supervised by faculty outside of the SUSE.
- The Committee discussed the timing of the work-integrated learning component of the program with research expectations and expressed concern that students would have to submit a first draft of the thesis before the internship starts, possible impacts to time to completion and the commitment for funding within this time
- The Committee recommended that further detail on the faculty who will support this program be added to the proposal, that it be explained if there is an expectation students will need to take courses outside of the faculty, that more clarity be provided on time to completion of the program and that stronger language be added to the proposal to clarify the option to opt out of work-integrated learning

Moved/ Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of a Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering with a sub-specialization in Sustainable Systems Engineering (SUSE), as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee with the requested amendments.

Carried**5. Recommendation of the Interdisciplinary Specialization in Wearable Technology**

- A. Interdisciplinary Specialization in Wearable Technology to the Master of Science (thesis-based) and Doctor of Philosophy programs in Psychology**
- B. Interdisciplinary Specialization in Wearable Technology to the Master of Science (thesis-based) and Doctor of Philosophy programs in Computational Media Design**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Reid Ferber and Jeff Caird presented these items.

Highlights:

- The proponents reviewed the proposal to add the existing Interdisciplinary Specialization in Wearable Technology to the Master of Science (thesis-based) and Doctor of Philosophy programs in Psychology and to the Master of Science (thesis-based) and Doctor of Philosophy programs in Computational Media Design
- The Committee recommended that the proposal include more information about how Psychology interacts with/is connected to wearable technology and that the details of the core academic staff members who will support the Interdisciplinary Specialization be listed
- The Committee recognized the extraordinary work of the academic staff member who created the Interdisciplinary Specialization in Wearable Technology model which can be used as a flagship for others to follow

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommends that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of the Interdisciplinary Specialization in Wearable Technology to the Master of Science (thesis-based) and Doctor of Philosophy programs in Psychology, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee with the requested amendments.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of the Interdisciplinary Specialization in Wearable Technology to the Master of Science (thesis-based) and Doctor of Philosophy programs in Computational Media Design as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried

6. Recommendation for the Creation of the Graduate Certificate in Transdisciplinary Studies I, the Graduate Certificate in Transdisciplinary Studies II, and the Master of Transdisciplinary Studies (course-based), including a Laddered Pathway

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Robin Yates, Vice-Provost and Dean Graduate Studies, and Mary O'Brien, Associate Dean, Policy and Program Development and Professor Faculty of Arts, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents provided an overview of the proposed Graduate Certificate in Transdisciplinary Studies I, the Graduate Certificate in Transdisciplinary Studies II, and the Master of Transdisciplinary Studies (course-based), including a laddered pathway. It was explained that students will be able to choose either an individual pathway or undertake one of two specializations and direct entry would be possible. The Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) will be the academic home and provide academic oversight and support to students. Specific care has been taken to ensure that individuals from equity-deserving groups are recruited and supported.
- In response to questions, it was explained that non-academic experts will be invited as guest lecturers but will not be instructor of record for the courses. It was also explained that depending on the project, integrative course work will be an option once students have completed two certificates and start their final master's year.
- The Committee discussed how the course-based students will be supported without a specific supervisor in courses across disciplines, without a specific home Faculty and without the ability for FGS to pre-plan the full variety of learner pathways
- The Committee recommended clarifying language be added to the proposal to outline who the course instructors will be and how course-based students will be supported

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the creation of the Graduate Certificate in Transdisciplinary Studies I, the Graduate Certificate in Transdisciplinary Studies II, and the Master of Transdisciplinary Studies, Faculty of Graduate Studies, as set out in the proposals provided to the Committee with the requested amendments.

Carried

7. Approval of Calendar Changes to:

- Admissions Section A.2 *Concurrent Program Enrolment***
- Academic Regulations Section D.1.7 *Courses Taken Extra-to-Program***

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Mary O'Brien and Louise Wells, Lead-Graduate Calendar, Policy and Program Development presented these items.

Highlights:

- The presenter explained the proposed changes to the Admissions Section A.2 *Concurrent Program Enrolment*, noting that when Concurrent Enrolment was implemented in Spring 2023 the need to include additional reference links and remove outdated regulations in the Section became apparent. Additionally, editorial updates to the current Academic Regulations Section D.1.7 *Courses Taken Extra-to-Program* that offer students clarity on credit for taking an extra-to-program course were required.

- There were no questions

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee approve the changes to Section A.2 *Concurrent Program Enrolment* of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, effective immediately.

Carried**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee approve the changes to Academic Regulations Section D.1.7 *Courses Taken Extra-to-Program* of the Graduate Chapter of the University Calendar, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, effective immediately.

Carried**8. Approval of the Calendar Changes for the Graduate Programs:**

- A. Faculty of Science**
- B. Schulich School of Engineering**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Robin Yates and Louise Wells presented these items.

Highlights:

- The presenters reviewed the proposed Calendar changes for the Faculty of Science and the Schulich School of Engineering, explaining that they are being made to clean-up the Calendar entries by adding and removing courses in addition to editorial changes to increase reader clarity around current processes
- There were no questions

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee approve the Calendar changes for the graduate programs the Faculty of Science, as set out in the document provided to the Committee, effective for the 2023-2024 Calendar with requested amendments to the Physics and Astronomy entry.

Carried**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, effective for the 2023-2024 Calendar.

Carried

9. Calendar Software Update: Introducing CourseDog

Kim McLeod presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Committee received an update on the implementation of the new CourseDog Calendar and curriculum software that the Registrar's Office team is working towards implementing. It was explained that the implementation team will continue to consult with various stakeholders to ensure a smooth transition for the anticipated launch in September 2023. The new CourseDog software will provide a modern feel, better navigation, and a more flexible front and back-facing website. Further updates along with a Change Management Matrix will follow in the upcoming year.
- In response to questions, it was reported that the communication strategy for launch will include a UToday story and updates to all Associate Deans who will be responsible for updating their faculties. The Committee suggested updates also come to General Faculties Council to reach a wider audience and socialize the new Calendar software.

10. Status of Program Approvals

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

11. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee adjourn the May 17, 2023 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Courtney McVie
Secretary