



General Faculties Council
GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE
APPROVED MINUTES

January 17, 2024, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

AD 167 (Governors Boardroom)

Voting Members

Tara Beattie (Co-Chair)
Qiao Sun (Academic Co-Chair)
Amy Dambrowitz
Kimberly Lenters
Andy Knight
Oleksiy Osiyevskyy
Kirsten Neprily* - left during Item 6
Elizabeth Oddone Paolucci

Non-Voting Members

Francine Smith*
Louise Wells

University Secretary

Courtney McVie

Meeting Secretary

Michelle Speta

Scribe

Holly Lywin

Regrets

Amy Burns
Christine Johns
Justin MacCallum

Guests

Heather Jamniczky, Associate Dean, Graduate Sciences Education, Cumming School of Medicine – present for Item 4
Nancy Chibry, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs, Faculty of Science – present for Item 5
Ari Pandes, Associate Dean, Professional Programs, Haskayne School of Business – present for Items 6 & 7
Patrick Nay, Graduate Program Specialist, Haskayne School of Business – present for Items 6 & 7
Dorothy Badry*, Associate Dean, Graduate Program, Faculty of Social Work – present for Items 7 & 8

Observers and Resource Personnel

Kelly Hoglund*, Partner, Program Innovation Hub – present for Items 7 & 8
Jessica Revington, Program Proposal Assistant, Program Innovation Hub – present for Item 7
Karen Quinn, Analyst, Planning & Reviews, Provost Office, Program Innovation Hub – present for Item 7

**Attended virtually*

The Academic Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Traditional Land Acknowledgement and Approval of the Agenda

Amy Dambrowitz provided the Traditional Land Acknowledgement.

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the January 17, 2024 Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Remarks of the Academic Co-Chair

The Co-Chair welcomed Oleksiy Osiyevskyy to his first meeting as the new Associate Dean, Policy and Program Development in the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS). Oleksiy is the new FGS Representative on the GAPS, taking over the seat that David Anderson was previously held in an interim capacity.

It was shared that all proposals recommended to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) at the last meeting were approved by the APPC on January 15, 2024, without amendments.

3. Approval of the December 13, 2023 Minutes

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes from the December 13, 2023 Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee meeting be approved.

Carried

4. Approval of the 2024-2025 Calendar Revisions for the Cumming School of Medicine Graduate Programs

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Heather Jamniczky, Associate Dean, Graduate Sciences Education, Cumming School of Medicine, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The GAPS Co-Chair, followed by the presenter, provided an overview of the proposed Calendar revisions. Substantive changes include:
 - Extension of the maximum program completion time for the Leaders in Medicine (LIM) program from six (MSc/MD) or eight (PhD/MD) years to ten years (MSc or PhD)
 - Redistribution of unit load for the Master of Pathologists' Assistant (MPath) program
 - Formalizing courses that have been previously taught as directed studies
 - Course code changes for alignment with area of study and to ensure correct tuition assessments for courses in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (MDBC), Biomedical Technology (MDBT), and the Pathologists' Assistant program (MDPA)
- The Calendar revisions also included an annual clean-up of program information pages, course descriptions, course offerings, and contact information
- In response to questions, it was clarified that:
 - The Required Examinations section applies to all CSM graduate programs, but each program may have more specific requirements. CSM graduate students have always been required to give a public presentation of their work; the option to complete this seminar at the start of the final oral exam allows flexibility for students who may not have had the opportunity to present in a different forum. The 10-minute time limit is intended to help avoid exams from running overtime.
 - Historically, students in the LIM program would work on their graduate degree and their medical degree at the same time. Now, students complete the degrees in succession; they do not commence their MD courses until they have completed their graduate degree. With this in mind, the maximum program completion time for LIM has been extended to ten (10) years. This also aligns with the maximum completion time given in Section 5.6 of the Cumming School of Medicine Faculty Regulations for the MD program.
 - The MPath course unit distribution was updated in response to the change to a term-based registration system to allow students to maintain full-time status in the summer term

- The Committee requested an amendment to the wording of the 10-minute public seminar to clarify requirements for MSc thesis examinations, examiner expectations, and ensure alignment with program-level (namely, Community Health Sciences) and FGS requirements

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar revisions for the Cumming School of Medicine, effective for the 2024-2025 Calendar, as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group, and as set out in the documents provided to the Committee, with the requested amendment.

Carried**5. Approval of the Approval of the 2024-2025 Calendar Revisions for the Faculty of Science Graduate Programs**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Nancy Chibry, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs, Faculty of Science, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter provided an overview of the proposed Calendar revisions, which include adjustments to course hours, addition of course anti-requisites, assigning formal numbers to successful pilot courses, and updated content to reflect current offerings
- In response to questions, it was explained that the rationale for changing the hours of Information Security and Privacy (ISEC) 681 and 691 from 200 hours to (6-0) is to facilitate the course's continuity across terms as students undertake a 4-month internship or a 200-hour project. Under the current approach, each term is graded independently through an internal process that is not detailed in the Calendar entry.
- However, the Faculty of Graduate Studies is transitioning away from this practice to prevent students with extenuating circumstances during the Winter term from losing credit for work completed in the Fall term. Consequently, the proposed multi-term format requires reconsideration.
- The Committee requested that the changes to ISEC 681 and 691 be removed from the package of proposed Calendar revisions and be brought back to the next GAPS meeting for approval after further review

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar revisions for the Faculty of Science, effective for the 2024-2025 Calendar, as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group and as set out in the document provided to the Committee, with the requested amendment.

Carried**6. Approval of the 2024-2025 Calendar Revisions for the Haskayne School of Business Graduate Programs**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Ari Pandes, Associate Dean, Professional Programs, Haskayne School of Business, and Patrick Nay, Graduate Programs Specialist, Haskayne School of Business, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter provided an overview of the proposed revisions. Substantive changes include the:
 - Introduction of a new internship course for the Master of Business Administration (MBA)
 - Addition of a required Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) course to the Master of Management (MMgmt) program
 - Removal of the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) from admission requirements for the MBA and Executive MBA programs for applicants that hold a degree from Canada or the United States

- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - Many business schools across North America are moving towards eliminating entrance exams due to lack of correlation between GMAT scores and successful academic outcomes. The GMAT can be a financial burden for applicants and removing it improves program accessibility.
 - The rationale for only removing it for applicants who hold a degree from a Canadian or American institution is to ensure international students entering the program are set up for success, as it can be more challenging to assess the strength of an applicant holding an international degree
 - International applicants will continue to have the ability to request a waiver for the GMAT requirement, as per current practice
 - The Haskayne School of Business will track the impacts of this change on enrolment and student experience and will give further consideration to the feasibility of removing the GMAT requirement for international applicants after this first year
 - Assessing the MBA tuition rate, which is higher than the regular graduate course tuition rate, for the MBA Internship course is not anticipated to be a barrier for students, as it is expected that the internship position they are undertaking during the course would have a competitive salary.
- The Committee requested an amendment to clarify the language regarding applicants not required to complete the GMAT (i.e., whether international students who hold a Canadian or American degree are exempt versus Canadian or American students who have an international degree).
- The proponents were also asked to return to the GAPS in one year with their analysis of the impacts of the GMAT change to review whether this requirement should also be removed for international applicants

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) approve the Calendar revisions for the Haskayne School of Business, effective for the 2024-2025 Calendar, as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group and as set out in the document provided to the Committee, with the requested amendment.

Carried**7. Recommendation for the Termination of the Master of Social Work/Master of Business Administration (MSW/MBA) Combined Degree**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Dorothy Badry, Associate Dean, Graduate Programs, Faculty of Social Work, and Ari Pandes, Associate Dean, Professional Programs, Haskayne School of Business, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters outlined the rationale for terminating the MSW/MBA combined degree program, which has been suspended since 2017
- There has been a general lack of interest from students since its inception in the early 2000s and only three students in total completed the program (two in 2012 and one in 2015). There have been no admissions in the past decade and there are no students currently enrolled.
- There is a lack of integration between the two program's curricula, particularly since the redesign of the MSW program. Additionally, HSB has since launched the MMgmt degree for students who do not come from a business background and would be an alternative for MSW students who are interested in business education.

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee approve the termination of the Master of Social Work/Master of Business Administration (MSW/MBA) combined degree program, effective immediately, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried**8. Recommendation for the Termination of the Graduate Certificate and Diploma in Mental Health and Addictions**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Dorothy Badry, Associate Dean, Graduate Programs, Faculty of Social Work, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter shared the rationale for terminating the Graduate Certificate and Diploma programs in Mental Health and Addictions, which were approved in 2010 but never actually launched
- The program was intended to be a multi-faculty initiative in collaboration with the Faculty of Nursing, the Cumming School of Medicine, the Faculty of Arts, and the Werklund School of Education. The Faculty of Social Work was unable to launch the program due to changes in funding following its approval
- Mental health and addictions content is available to students through the redesigned MSW ladder program

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approve the termination of the Graduate Certificate in Mental Health and Addiction, 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 (APPC) approve the termination of the Graduate Diploma in Mental Health and Addiction, effective immediately, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried**9. Recommendation for the Revision to Graduate Academic Regulations Section A.3 Admission Categories (Joint Thesis-based Degree)**

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Tara Beattie, Interim Dean and Vice-Provost, Graduate Studies presented this item.

Highlights:

- The current Joint PhD Student admission category allows PhD students to pursue their degree program at the University of Calgary and a collaborating institution, where one of the two is designated as the home institution and sets the degree requirements and issues the degree parchment as per a formal agreement
- The rationale for the proposed revisions to this admission category is to expand the ability of the University to develop joint degree agreements with collaborating institutions for all thesis-based students, not just PhDs

- The expansion responds to new institutional initiatives, namely the University's forthcoming partnership with the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH), prompting a broader need for flexible credentialing options beyond PhD programs

Moved/Seconded

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) recommend that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) approve the revisions to Graduate Academic Regulations Section A.3: *Admission Categories*, effective for the 2024-2025 Calendar, as recommended by the GAPS Calendar Working Group and as set out in the document provided to the Committee.

Carried

Tara Beattie abstained.

10. Program Approvals Status Report

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

11. Other Business

There was no other business.

12. Adjournment**Moved/Seconded**

That the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee adjourn the January 17, 2024 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Courtney McVie
Secretary