

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL  
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE  
REQUEST FOR DECISION

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**PRESENTED BY:** Alison Oates, chair, Academic Programs Committee

**DATE OF MEETING:** October 21, 2021

**SUBJECT:** **Termination – the Master of Northern Governance and Development (MNGD) program**

**DECISIONS REQUESTED:**

*It is recommended that Council approve the termination of the Master of Northern Governance and Development (MNGD) program, effective May 2022.*

**PURPOSE:**

University Council has the authority to approve the termination of degrees and degree-level programs.

**CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND:**

The College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS) and the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JSGS) are proposing the termination of the Master of Northern Governance and Development (MNGD) program.

JSGS has had oversight of the program since the disestablishment of the International Centre for Northern Governance in 2017. Admission into the program was suspended at that time and JSGS worked to ensure students in the program were able to complete their degree programs. During this time JSGS also worked to develop the Master of Governance and Entrepreneurship in Northern and Indigenous Areas (GENI) with a partner institution in Norway and that program continues and is successful. A number of courses developed for the MNGS program are now offered as part of the GENI program.

There are currently no students enrolled in the program and students have not been permitted to register since 2017.

**CONSULTATION:**

The academic programs committee reviewed the proposal for this program termination at its October 6, 2021 meeting and supports the rationale for the move.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1. Proposal for the termination of the Master of Northern Governance and Development program**



## Memorandum

**To:** Executive Committee of CGPS

**Copy:** Loleen Berdahl, Executive Director, Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy

**From:** Graduate Programs Committee of CGPS

**Date:** September 17, 2021

**Re:** Program Termination – Master of Northern Governance and Development

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On September 7, 2021, the Graduate Programs Committee reviewed a request to terminate the Master of Northern Governance and Development program.

The context provided for this program termination was as follows:

*“The MNGD program was housed within the International Centre for Northern Governance and Development (ICNGD) that was disestablished in June 2017. When ICNGD closed, it was decided that the MNGD program would be suspended as well. The Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JSGS) took over the administration and delivery of the MNGD program and ensured the remaining students successfully completed the program. The MNGD program recently graduated its last student and graduated 53 students in total. It should be noted that the MNGD program is the predecessor for the Joint Master of Governance and Entrepreneurship in Northern and Indigenous Areas (GENI), and some of the MNGD courses are now being offered as part of the GENI program.”*

The members of the Graduate Programs Committee found that the program termination is well justified.

The Graduate Programs Committee passed the following motion:

*To recommend termination of the Master of Northern Governance and Development program.*

CARRIED unanimous

Attached please find the full report for program termination.

If you have any questions, please contact Ryan Walker at [ryan.walker@usask.ca](mailto:ryan.walker@usask.ca)



**Program(s) to be deleted:** Master of Northern Governance and Development (MNGD)

**Effective date of termination:** July 1, 2021

**1. List reasons for termination and describe the background leading to this decision.**

*The MNGD program was housed within the International Centre for Northern Governance and Development (ICNGD) that was disestablished in June 2017. When ICNGD closed, it was decided that the MNGD program would be suspended as well. The Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JSGS) took over the administration and delivery of the MNGD program and ensured the remaining students successfully completed the program. The MNGD program recently graduated its last student and graduated 53 students in total.*

*It should be noted that the MNGD program is the predecessor for the Joint Master of Governance and Entrepreneurship in Northern and Indigenous Areas (GENI), and some of the MNGD courses are now being offered as part of the GENI program.*

**2. Technical information.**

**2.1** Courses offered in the program and faculty resources required for these courses.

*The courses that were offered as part of the MNGD program were the following:*

- *INDG 810.3 Aboriginal Self Determination Through Mitho Pimachesowin*
- *NORD 836.3 Strategic Communication for Northern Development*
- *NORD 838.2 Communication II Negotiations and Consultations*
- *NORD 857.4 Northern Resource Economics and Policy*
- *NORD 860.4 Internship*
- *NORD 990 MGENIA Seminar Series*
- *NORD 992 Project (Students must maintain continuous registration in this course.)*
- *POLS 855.4 Northern Governance*
- *POLST 858.4 Research and Planning Methods for the North*

*Note that no current JSGS faculty teaching resources are associated with this program. NORD 857 continues to be a part of the GENI program (along with NORD 990 and NORD 992). INDG 810 continues to be part of the Indigenous Studies course offering.*

**2.2** Other resources (staff, technology, physical resources, etc) used for this program.

*JSGS has had the administrative oversight of the program since ICNDG was disestablished in June 2017. The program has been managed alongside the GENI*

*program by the GENI Academic Lead and the Manager of Graduate Programs (Distance Delivery) and has received clerical support from the Graduate Programs Assistant. The MNGD program is a distance program delivered via Blackboard and videoconferencing and required no physical space. Over the last years, the main program activity has been to support students with the completion of their projects (student supervision).*

2.3 Courses to be deleted, if any.

*Courses that will be deleted includes:*

- *NORD 836.3 Strategic Communication for Northern Development*
- *NORD 838.2 Communication II Negotiations and Consultations*
- *NORD 860.4 Internship*

2.4 Number of students presently enrolled.

*None.*

2.5 Number of students enrolled and graduated over the last five years.

*The last MNGD admission was completed Fall 2016 and welcomed 11 students. The MNGD program graduated a total of 53 students.*

### **3. Impact of the termination.**

#### Internal

3.1 What if any impact will this termination have on undergraduate and graduate students? How will they be advised to complete their programs?

*N/A*

3.2 What impact will this termination have on faculty and teaching assignments?

*There are no faculty members currently teaching courses only for the MNGD program.*

3.3 Will this termination affect other programs, departments or colleges?

*The termination will not impact other current programs, departments or colleges.*

3.4 If courses are also to be deleted, will these deletions affect any other programs?

*No, the removal of NORD 836, NORD 838 and NORD 860 will not impact other programs.*

3.5 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop a program to replace this one?

*The MNGD program was the predecessor of the GENI program. The GENI program has maintained some of the content from the MNGD program, as noted above.*

- 3.6 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop courses to replace the ones deleted?

*It is very unlikely.*

- 3.7 Describe any impact on research projects.

*None.*

- 3.8 Will this deletion affect resource areas such as library resources, physical facilities, and information technology?

*No.*

- 3.9 Describe the budgetary implications of this deletion.

*None.*

#### External

- 3.10 Describe any external impact (e.g. university reputation, accreditation, other institutions, high schools, community organizations, professional bodies).

*The JSGS and the GENI program have taken over the external partnerships and outreach that was part of the MNGD program.*

- 3.11 Is it likely or appropriate that another educational institution will offer this program if it is deleted at the University of Saskatchewan?

*No, it is not likely.*

#### Other

- 3.12 Are there any other relevant impacts or considerations?

*None*

- 3.13 Please provide any statements or opinions received about this termination.

*Statements were collected by the University leadership when the ICNGD was disestablished and subsequently, the MNGD was suspended in June 2017.*

#### **(Optional)**

**4. Additional information.** *Programs which have not undergone recent formal reviews should provide additional relevant information about quality, demand, efficiency, unique features, and relevance to the province.*