

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Committee Name: Governance Committee, University Council

Date: June 11, 2026

Presented by: Susan Detmer, Chair, Governance Committee

Subject: Amendments to the Academic Programs Committee Terms of Reference

MOTION

It is recommended by the Governance Committee that Council approve the terms of reference for the Academic Programs Committee in the *Council Bylaws and Regulations* as described in this report, effective July 1, 2026.

SUMMARY

Revisions to the *Council Bylaws and Regulations* require approval by University Council at the recommendation of the Governance Committee of Council. At the May meeting of University Council, the Governance Committee presented notice for the above motion in accordance with the requirement for a 30-day notice period for bylaw changes. Since the time notice was provided and the posting of this report, no questions or concerns were raised to the Governance Office about these changes.

Over the past year, the Academic Programs Committee has undertaken a review of its terms of reference to clarify the role and responsibilities of the committee and to align with current practice.

Discussion on this matter occurred over three committee meetings of the Academic Priorities Committee, and on March 25, 2026 the changes (articulated below) were approved by the committee.

These changes were presented to the Governance Committee at its meeting on May 5, 2026. The Governance Committee endorsed the changes as presented.

SIDE-BY-SIDE COMPARISON

Current	Edits	New
Recommending to Council policies and procedures related to academic programs and sustaining program quality.	Recommending to Council policies and procedures related to academic programs and sustaining program quality (e.g. Assessment Policy , Course Delivery Policy and Admission to Degree Programs Policy).	Recommending to Council policies and procedures related to academic programs and sustaining program quality (e.g. Assessment Policy , Course Delivery Policy and Admission to Degree Programs Policy).
Approving minor changes (such as wording and renumbering) to rules governing examinations and reviewing and recommending to Council substantive changes.	Approving minor changes (such as wording and renumbering) to rules governing examinations and reviewing and recommending to Council substantive changes. to the procedures attached to the Assessment and Course Delivery Policies and recommending substantive changes to Council.	Approving changes to the procedures attached to the Assessment and Course Delivery Policies and recommending substantive changes to Council.

	<p>Evaluating the fit alignment of new academic programs, program deletions and major program revisions academic program proposals with university policy and procedures and considering financial analysis provided by the Strategic Finance Office and endorsement by the Provost. reviewing financial sustainability of proposals for new academic programs and program deletions; and recommending to Council on new programs, major program revisions and program deletions, including their budgetary implications.</p> <p><i>Note: Created a separate point for the recommendation of new programs, deletions and major revisions – see next line.</i></p>	<p>Evaluating the alignment of new academic programs, program deletions and major program revisions with university priorities, policies and procedures and considering financial analysis provided by the Strategic Finance Office and endorsement by the Provost.</p>
N/A	N/A	<p>Recommending to Council new academic programs, program deletions, and major program revisions.</p>
<p>Approving minor program changes, including additions of new courses and revisions to or deletions of existing courses and reporting them to Council.</p>	N/A	N/A
<p>Consulting with Planning and Priorities Committee on processes and outcomes of academic program review, following consultation with the Planning and Priorities Committee and other Council committees as appropriate.</p> <p>Consulting with Planning and Priorities Committee on proposals for the establishment, disestablishment or amalgamation of any college, school, department or any unit responsible for the administration of an academic program.</p>		<p>Consult with Planning and Priorities Committee on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processes and outcomes of academic program review. • Proposals for the establishment, disestablishment or amalgamation of any college, school, department or any unit responsible for the administration of an academic program. • Proposed or discontinuing affiliation or federation of other institutions with the University when academic programs are impacted.

Consulting with Planning and Priorities Committee on proposed or continuing affiliation or federation of other institutions with the University.

Reporting to Council on the academic implications of enrolment plans, changes, and admission standards.

N/A

N/A

Approving the annual academic schedule and reporting the schedule to Council for information and recommending to Council substantive changes in policy governing dates for the academic sessions.

N/A

N/A

Recommending to Council classifications and conventions for instructional programs.

Recommending to Council classifications and conventions for instructional programs e.g. [Academic and Curricular Nomenclature](#), [Certificate and Diploma Guidelines](#), [Micro-credential Guidelines](#), [University Course Challenge Procedures](#), [Moribund Course Procedures](#), [Special Topics Courses](#), [Cross-College Minor Procedures](#)

Recommending to Council classifications and conventions for instructional programs (e.g. Academic and Curricular Nomenclature, Certificate and Diploma Guidelines, Micro-credential Guidelines, University Course Challenge Procedures, Moribund Course Procedures, Special Topics Courses, Cross-College Minor Procedures)

Designating individuals to act as representatives of the Committee on any other bodies, when requested, where such representation is deemed by the Committee to be beneficial.

N/A

N/A

Carrying out all the above in the spirit of a philosophy of equitable participation and an appreciation of the contributions of all people, with particular attention to rigorous and supportive programs for Indigenous student success, engagement with Indigenous communities, inclusion of Indigenous knowledge and experience in curricular offerings, and intercultural engagement among faculty, staff and students.

~~In carrying out all the above in the spirit of a philosophy of equitable participation and an appreciation of the contributions of all people, with particular attention to rigorous and supportive programs for Indigenous student success, engagement with Indigenous communities, inclusion of Indigenous knowledge and experience in curricular offerings, and intercultural engagement among faculty, staff and students.~~ [its responsibilities, the Academic Programs Committee will operate in a spirit of respect, equity, inclusion, and belonging, ensuring meaningful](#)

In carrying out its responsibilities, the Academic Programs Committee will operate in a spirit of respect, equity, inclusion, and belonging, ensuring meaningful participation for all members of the university community. The committee affirms its role in shaping academic programs that reflect the university's commitments to EDI, Indigenization, and the creation of learning environments where all learners can thrive.

	<p>participation for all members of the university community. The committee affirms its role in shaping academic programs that reflect the university's commitments to EDI, Indigenization, and the creation of learning environments where all learners can thrive.</p>	
<p>Considering outreach and engagement aspects of programs.</p>	<p>Considering outreach and engagement aspects of programs as appropriate.</p>	<p>Considering outreach and engagement aspects of programs as appropriate.</p>
<p>Consider the priorities of the University, such as Indigenization and internationalization, when assessing current and new academic programs and policies.</p>	<p>Consider the priorities of the University, such as Indigenization and internationalization, when assessing current and new academic programs and policies.</p>	<p>None – wrapped into the new wording of commitment to EDI and Indigenization</p>

CLEAN VERSION

The Academic Programs Committee of University Council is responsible for:

- 1) Recommending to Council policies and procedures related to academic programs and sustaining program quality (e.g. Assessment Policy, Course Delivery Policy and Admission to Degree Programs Policy).
- 2) Approving changes to the procedures attached to the Assessment and Course Delivery Policies and recommending substantive changes to Council.
- 3) Evaluating the alignment of new academic programs, program deletions and major program revisions with university priorities, policies and procedures and considering financial analysis provided by the Strategic Finance Office and endorsement by the Provost.
- 4) Recommending to Council new academic programs, program deletions, and major program revisions.
- 5) Consult with Planning and Priorities Committee on:
 - Processes and outcomes of academic program review
 - Proposals for the establishment, disestablishment or amalgamation of any college, school, department or any unit responsible for the administration of an academic program.
 - Proposed or discontinuing affiliation or federation of other institutions with the University when academic programs are impacted.
- 6) Recommending to Council classifications and conventions for instructional programs (e.g. Academic and Curricular Nomenclature, Certificate and Diploma Guidelines, Micro-credential Guidelines, University Course Challenge Procedures, Moribund Course Procedures, Special Topics Courses, Cross-College Minor Procedures).
- 7) Considering outreach and engagement aspects of programs as appropriate.
- 8) In carrying out its responsibilities, the Academic Programs Committee will operate in a spirit of respect, equity, inclusion, and belonging, ensuring meaningful participation for all members of the university community. The committee affirms its role in shaping academic programs that reflect the university's commitments to EDI, Indigenization, and the creation of learning environments where all learners can thrive.