

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

PRESENTED BY: Roy Dobson, Chair

DATE OF MEETING: June 20, 2013

SUBJECT: Annual Report to Council for 2012-13

COUNCIL ACTION: For information only

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
2012-13**

The terms of reference for the Academic Programs Committee are as follows:

- 1) Recommending to Council policies and procedures related to academic programs and sustaining program quality.
- 2) Recommending to Council on new programs, major program revisions and program deletions, including their budgetary implications.
- 3) Approving minor program changes, including additions of new courses and revisions to or deletions of existing courses and reporting them to Council.
- 4) Considering outreach and engagement aspects of programs.
- 5) Reporting to Council processes and outcomes of academic program review, following consultation with Planning and Priorities and other Council committees as appropriate.
- 6) Undertaking the academic and budgetary review of proposals for the establishment, disestablishment or amalgamation of any college, school, department or any unit responsible for the administration of an academic program and forwarding recommendations to the Planning and Priorities Committee.
- 7) Undertaking the academic and budgetary review of the proposed or continuing affiliation or federation of other institutions with the University and forwarding recommendations to the Planning and Priorities Committee.
- 8) Reporting to Council on the academic implications of quotas and admission standards.
- 9) 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.
- 10) Approving minor changes (such as wording and renumbering) to rules governing examinations and reviewing and recommending to Council substantive changes.
- 11) Recommending to Council classifications and conventions for instructional programs.
- 12) 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.
- (13) *[pending Council approval]* 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 Aboriginal student success, engagement with Aboriginal communities, inclusion of Indigenous knowledge and experience in curricular offerings, and intercultural engagement among faculty, staff and students.

The Academic Programs Committee of Council held 12 meetings this year. The Committee has dealt with 19 proposals for new programs, program revisions, policy revisions and exemptions this year (compared to 28 last year.)

Curricular changes

Council's curricular approval process. Over the last several years, approval authority for curricular changes has been devolved so that colleges are now in substantial control of their own curriculum. This delegation continued this year with the approval at the January meeting of Council of the revised chart for Approval of Academic and Curricular Changes. A workshop for departments and colleges was held in May to describe the Program Approval and the new portal for submission of curricular changes.

New programs, major program revisions, and program terminations.

The following proposals and policies were dealt with by APC this year and forwarded to Council for decision or for information:

The following curricular changes were recommended to Council for approval:

Arts and Science

- B.Sc. in Applied Mathematics
- Template for Certificate of Proficiency
 - Certificate in Global Studies
 - Certificate in Criminology and Addictions
- Termination of BA programs in Studies in Religious Traditions
- Termination of the BA Four-year and Honours in Community Planning and Native Studies

Dentistry

- Revision of admission qualifications to delete the carving portion (manual dexterity) of the Dental School Admission (DAT) test as a requirement for application for admission to the dental program, effective the 2014/15 admissions cycle. This change was subsequently confirmed by University Senate.

Graduate Studies and Research

- Revision of admission qualifications to permit departments to allow students to directly enter a Ph.D. program from a bachelor's degree. This change was subsequently confirmed by University Senate.
- Termination of the Master of Continuing Education

Medicine

- Revision of admission qualifications to require a four-year baccalaureate degree by Saskatchewan residents at entrance to medicine effective for students applying to be admitted in September, 2015, and to revise the admission requirement for out-of-province (OP) applicants that all university courses taken prior to and after application will be considered in calculation of their average, effective for students applying to be admitted in September, 2014. These changes were subsequently confirmed by University Senate.

Nursing

- Replacement program for Post-Degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing. The change in admission requirements included with this program revision still requires confirmation by University Senate.

Under the approval authority delegated to APC by Council, the following curricular changes were approved by the Academic Programs Committee and reported to Council for information

Arts and Science:

- New concentration in Language and Speech Sciences and name change for existing concentration to General and Applied Linguistics in the BA Four-year in Linguistics
- New concentration in Conducting/Music Education in the Master of Music
- Name change to Religion and Culture in BA programs of the Department of Religion and Culture

University Course Challenge

During the 2012-13 year, a total of 13 University Course Challenge documents were posted for approval.

One Challenge was received:

- The Division of Science in the College of Arts and Science challenged the May, 2013 submission from the Division of Humanities and Fine Arts in Arts and Science to allow Bachelor of Arts students to use the symbolic logic courses taught by Philosophy (PHIL 140 and 241) toward their science requirement.

Approval of this curricular change is deferred pending resolution of this challenge. The Challenge is still being discussed by the Committee and its resolution will be reported to an upcoming meeting of University Council.

Other curricular changes

Council has delegated authority for approval of many other curricular changes, such as course titles and descriptions, to colleges. In some cases, such as changes of course labels, this should be done in consultation with SESD. Changes of this type which affect the Catalogue listings of other colleges can be posted for information in a course challenge posting.

Under the approval authority delegated by Council, the appropriate Dean and/or the Provost can approve changes to non-university-level programs, such as certificates of successful completion

and certificates of attendance. This year, there were no new certificates of this type approved by the Provost or by deans.

The following certificates were approved this year:

- Certificate of Successful Completion: Board Governance Certificate, Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy.

The following certificates were deleted:

- Certificates of Successful Completion in Agriculture (Crop Production; Farm Business Management)
- Certificate of Attendance in Agriculture Business

Policies and Procedures

A number of Council policy and procedures are reviewed on a regular basis by the Academic Programs Committee. These include issues around implementation of the enrolment plan, exam regulations, admission policies and procedures, and other areas of interest to students and faculty.

This year, the Academic Programs Committee dealt with the policies and procedures:

- A revised Framework for Approval of Academic and Curricular Changes (approved at the January Council meeting)
- Changes to the Academic Courses Policy to include a section on Class Recordings and to update sections on the course syllabus (approved at the March Council meeting).
- Following up on the implementation of the Admissions Policy approved last year, the first annual Admissions Report for 2013-14 was reviewed by the committee and presented for information to the February meeting of Council
- A proposal for Reforming Open Studies was discussed at the May Council meeting.
- The annual Academic Calendar for 2013/14 was approved and reported for information to the December Council meeting.

Policy exemptions

In specific situations and based on academic rationale, the Academic Programs Committee can permit exemptions to policies. This year, Academic Programs Committee approved the following exemptions request:

- Due to differences in grading practices between colleges, four MED courses taken by dentistry students are permitted to be double-listed as DENT courses.

Memberships

The Academic Programs Committee sends representatives to several other committees when required. This year, Michael Bradley represented APC during the Planning and Priority Committee discussions about Medicine restructuring. Roy Dobson represented the committee on the Centres Subcommittee and the Undergraduate Forum.

Members of the Academic Programs Committee

Council Members

Jim Greer (Vice-Chair)	University Learning Centre	2013
Roy Dobson (Chair)	Pharmacy & Nutrition	2014
Kevin Flynn	English	2015
Robert Johanson	Electrical and Computer Engineering	2015
Ludmilla Voitkovska	English	2013
Yandou Wei	Biology	2014

General Academic Assembly Members

Sina Adl	Soil Science	2015
Alec Aitken	Geography and Planning	2015
Michael Bradley	Physics & Engineering Physics	2014
Dean McNeill	Music	2014
Ian McQuillan	Computer Science	

Sessional Lecturer

Catherine Neumann-Boxer	Education	2013
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Other members

(voting)

Undergraduate Student member	Ruvimbo Kanyemba/Jenna Mollenbeck/ Jordan Sherbino
Graduate Student member	Dylan Beach/Izabela Vlahu
Dan Pennock/Patti McDougall	Vice-Provost, Teaching & Learning
Russ Isinger	Registrar and Director of Student Services

(non-voting)

Marion Van Impe/Jeff Dumba	[VP Finance designate] Director, Student Accounts & Treasury
Pauline Melis	Assistant Provost, Institutional Planning and Assessment
Jacque Thomarat	[Director of Budget Planning designate] Financial Planning and Projects Officer
Alison Pickrell	Director of Enrolment and Student Affairs <i>[pending approval]</i>
Secretary: Cathie Fornssler, Committee Coordinator, Office of the University Secretary	

I wish to thank Committee members for their willingness to undertake detailed and comprehensive reviews of program proposals. Their commitment to excellence and high standards resulted in improved programs for the University of Saskatchewan.

I also wish to thank Pauline Melis, Peter Krebs, Jacque Thomarat, Marion Van Impe, Jeff Dumba, Jason Doell and SESD staff, and the committee secretary Cathie Fornssler for the assistance and advice they have provided to the committee this year.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Committee,

Roy Dobson, Chair