

Academic Standards Committee
October 29, 2024 at 3pm – 5pm
University Boardroom A341

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lee Easton	GFC Academic Staff Member, CHAIR
Karim Dharamsi	Vice-Provost, Academic, VICE-CHAIR
Phil Warsaba	Vice-President, Students
Pearl Herscovitch	MRFA Academic Policy and Governance Officer
Kelly Williams-Whitt	Dean Representative
Mary-Lee Mulholland	GFC Academic Staff Member (Arts)
Joyce Totton	GFC Academic Staff Member (Health, Community & Education)
Jon Mee	GFC Academic Staff Member (Science & Technology)
Kalen Keavey	Academic Staff Member (University Library)
Fiona Chetty	Student Representative
Jelena Stojsic	Student Representative

Resources

Geri Lynn Gouglas	University Registrar & Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Management
Cheryl Melatdoost	Academic Quality Assurance Coordinator
Sheena Dyer	Assistant University Secretary, GFC, RECORDING SECRETARY

Guests

Adam Cave	Vice-Dean, Faculty of Business, Communication Studies and Aviation
Kevin O'Connor	Chair and Associate Professor, Self-study Team Lead (Faculty of Health, Community and Education) (<i>virtual</i>)
Stephen Price	Dean, Faculty of Health, Community and Education
Milena Radzikowska	Professor and Co-Chair, School of Communication Studies
Gaye Warthe	Vice-Dean, Faculty of Health, Community and Education

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Brooks DeCillia	GFC Academic Staff Member (Business & Communication Studies)
Christina Lovestone	Continuing Education Representative

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00PM.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the October 29, 2024 Academic Standards Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from September 24, 2024

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the September 24, 2024 Academic Standards Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

- 2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes
There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. Program Review: B.Education + B. Ed. MHC collaborative degree

The Chair gave a summary of the member feedback provided in the pre-collection of feedback form for the Bachelor of Education (including the MHC Collaborative Degree program) Program Review. A preliminary discussion of the review focused on identifying potential questions to ask the program review guests.

K. O'Connor, G. Warthe and S. Price joined the meeting.

The guests gave a summary of their experience with the program review process and learnings about the program. In response to questions, additional information was provided about:

- Indigenous student consultation
- the student-led initiative for expanding into secondary teacher education
- exploration of admission practices
- addressing the external reviewer's comments about resourcing in the Advancement Plan
- top initiatives to focus on in the Advancement Plan

Feedback from ASC was shared based on the discussions about ways to enhance the Advancement Plan, such as articulating priorities and addressing resourcing constraints.

K. O'Connor, G. Warthe and S. Price left the meeting.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Academic Standards Committee approve the Bachelor of Education Program Review, as amended.

The following amendments to communicate to the Program Review Team to enhance the program review were agreed:

- Advancement Plan – clarify priorities and staging of the timelines, with a focus on the areas that are within the program's ability to change
- Advancement Plan – address workload issues as identified in the Review (contextualize the issues where they also exist institutionally)
- Response to External Reviewers' Report – reword the statement about sabbaticals, as the proposed plan is outside the scope of a program

Motion carried

4. Program Review: BComm Information Design

K. Williams-Whitt was recused from the preliminary discussion.

The Chair gave a summary of the member feedback provided in the pre-collection of feedback form for the Bachelor of Communication Studies – Information Design major and minor Program Review. A

preliminary discussion of the review focused on identifying potential questions to ask the program review guests.

K. Williams-Whitt rejoined the meeting. M. Radzikowska and A. Cave joined the meeting.

The guests shared their highlights of the program review process. In response to questions, additional information and clarification was provided on:

- flexibility of core course offerings
- rationale for areas where the program disagreed with the external reviewer's recommendations
- exploration of a BDes designation
- advocacy for more exhibition and studio spaces

Feedback from ASC was shared based on the discussions for responding to the external reviewers' recommendations, and incorporating more language in the Advancement Plan about "exploring" or "advocacy for" initiatives with specific timelines that may not be within the program's control.

M. Radzikowska and A. Cave left the meeting. K. Williams-Whitt was recused from the motion/discussion.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Academic Standards Committee approve the Bachelor of Communication Studies – Information Design major and minor Program Review, as amended.

The following amendments to communicate to the Program Review Team to enhance the program review were agreed:

- Response to the External Reviewers' Report – articulate the rationale where the program decided not to accept certain recommendations
- Advancement Plan – incorporate more language about "exploring" or "advocacy for" those initiatives with specific timelines, and whose success may not be within the program's control
- Advancement Plan – indicate more clarity the priorities and staging of the timelines

Motion carried

K. Williams-Whitt rejoined the meeting.

5. Reports

5.1. Update on Academic Program Reviews

A written update was provided on current, upcoming and in progress program reviews. Program review materials will be shared as they become available to give members more time to review in advance.

5.2. Committee Chair Report

- MRFA PD Committee Invitation to sit on Generative AI Panel Winter 2025 - ASC participation – the Chair confirmed that he will sit on the panel.
- A copy of the previous Committee Chair's Report to GFC was provided for information.

5.3. Report from the Senior Administrator to the Committee

An update was shared on the Experiential Learning Steering Committee's work, including the development of a draft framework and forthcoming consultation plans.

6. New Business

There was no new business.

7. Adjournment 4:55PM