

Academic Programs and Curriculum Committee
March 7, 2023 at 3pm – 5pm
University Boardroom A341

IN ATTENDANCE:

Peter Choate, GFC Academic Staff Member, CHAIR

Phil Warsaba, Vice-President, Students, VICE-CHAIR

Evan Cortens (Interim), Dean, Faculty of Continuing Education & Extension

Stephen Price, Dean Representative

Shane Gannon, Academic Staff Member - Faculty Curriculum Committee (Arts)

Adam Cave, Academic Staff Member - Faculty Curriculum Committee (Business and Communication Studies)

Melanie Rathburn, Academic Staff Member - Faculty Curriculum Committee (Science and Technology)

David Clemis, Academic Staff Member - Faculty Curriculum Committee (Teaching & Learning)

Yasmin Ahmed, Student Representative

Joseph Nguyen, Student Representative

Resources

Nicole Cross, Designate for University Registrar

Cheryl Melatdoost, Academic Quality Assurance Coordinator

Sheena Jensen, Assistant University Secretary, GFC, RECORDING SECRETARY

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Peter Houston, Academic Staff Member - Faculty Curriculum Committee (University Library)

Tanya Stogre, Academic Staff Member - Faculty Curriculum Committee (Health, Community and Education)

Gaye Warthe, Chair of a Faculty Curriculum Committee

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:03pm.

1. Approval of Agenda (*motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the March 7, 2023 Academic Programs and Curriculum Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from February 7, 2023 (*motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the February 7, 2023 Academic Programs and Curriculum Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. Program Definitions Policy

3.1. Recommendation to GFC – Indigenous Content

The Chair summarized the memo that was circulated to APCC members in advance of the meeting regarding the 3-credit Indigenous component. This included an overview of Jennifer Petit’s work with the Associates Deans on a proposal that would add prepared modules to GNED courses (as a way for all MRU students to have foundational knowledge that meets MRU and Truth and Reconciliation Commission objectives), and proposed a way forward for APCC to bring a change to the Program Definitions Policy for GFC to consider. Discussion ensued on the following areas:

- how the approaches presented could provide a better pathway forward from a 3-credit requirement
- amending the proposed draft policy wording for Indigenous content
 - removal of reference to “three credits or equivalent”
 - incorporate wording so that all programs in the university would be required to have Indigenous content to expose their students to material that is connected to their field of study and have a requirement to incorporate discipline-specific content through core courses and options to build upon the knowledge from the foundational GNED components
- addressing assessment and tracking at the program level, as it is not within the scope of policy
 - programs would be required to report on progress in this area through program reviews

The draft wording was confirmed as:

- *2.4 Indigenous Content – In the context of this Policy, Indigenous Content is interpreted as coursework that includes Indigenous knowledge. Content may be incorporated within a course or the sole focus of the course.*
- *7.4 All baccalaureate degrees must integrate Indigenous Content within the Major. This requirement may be achieved through a single Course within the Major or through a combination of modules across multiple Courses.*

The next steps were discussed and it was agreed that the approach APCC is taking be presented to GFC at their March 2023 meeting for their support to move away from a three-credit requirement and to support the proposed draft wording for community consultation, and to provide GFC with the rationale for this approach. The final draft wording would consider the feedback received from consultation, and brought to GFC for final approval. It was reminded that this is independent of the other changes to the Program Definitions Policy that are still being worked on as part of the overall review of the policy, and that this is supplemental to the other proposals coming forward separately (i.e. the GNED modules).

Moved and seconded:

THAT APCC approve the proposed wording for the Program Definitions Policy – Indigenous Content to bring forward to the March 17, 2023 General Faculties Council meeting.

Motion carried

- 3.2. Working Group Update
No update.

4. Committee Chair Report

A copy of the most recent APCC Committee Chair's Report to GFC was provided for information.

5. Report from Senior Administrator to the Committee

No report.

6. Faculty Council Approved Curriculum

The Faculty Council approved curriculum was provided for information.

7. For Information:

The APCC meeting schedules for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 and preliminary APCC membership for 2023-2024 was provided for information.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment 4:29PM