
**Academic Standards Committee (ASC) Annual Report for General Faculties Council
2021-2022**

DATE: May 12, 2022

SUBMITTED BY: Lee Easton, Chair of ASC

I am pleased to provide a report on the work of the Academic Standards Committee (ASC) for the 2021-2022 academic year. The ASC met seven times over the year and assessed and approved three program reviews, reviewed and recommend two new policies to GFC.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Changes to the Institutional Tenure And Promotion Criteria

In September 2021, General Faculties Council accepted the recommendations from ASC to make changes to the Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria document. That approval led the Academic Standards Committee to strike a Working Group of dr. linda manyguns, Associate Vice-President, Indigenization and Decolonization, Dr. Kelly Williams-Whitt, Dean, Faculty of Business and Communication Studies and Dr. Lee Easton, Professor, Department of English, Languages and Cultures. The working group began revising the Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria document drawing on the focus group interviews held in February 2021 and on further consultation with current Indigenous faculty.

On May 4, 2022 the working group presented a draft report and a proposed new Appendix to recognize Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Doing in the Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria. With the leadership of dr. manyguns, Elders from the surrounding nations have reviewed the text of the proposed Appendix twice and found it meets their approval. Consultations with Indigenous faculty are currently on-going and the Working Group will meet once more this year to revise the Appendix, confirm changes to the Teaching and Service documents and finalize its other recommendations. These revised documents will be brought to the Academic Standards Committee for a final review before initiating a consultation process with Faculty Councils.

In addition to this work, the Committee also reviewed proposed changes to the Scholarship criteria in the Faculty of Arts to better include the kind of scholarship faculty in the Department of Interior Design undertake. The Committee recommended these changes to the General Faculties Council and the Board of Governors have now approved the changes.

Program Reviews

The Academic Standards Committee plays an important role in the University's quality assurance process. The Committee examines program reviews and ultimately approves the review and its advancement plan on behalf of General Faculties Council, which received the Executive Summary of the review for information after any changes are made on the advice of ASC.

This academic year, the Committee undertook three program reviews including:

- Advanced Athletic Therapy Certificate program
- Bachelor of Interior Design
- Bachelor of Science - Environmental Science major

Policy Reviews

The ASC invited Chris Rogerson to review the proposed changes to the Student Code of Conduct and its suite of new policies. The Committee also received the changes to the Grades and Examinations Policies and associated process and after a thorough review the Committee recommended those policies subject to a few changes being made to GFC for approval at its May 2022 meeting.

Reviewed ASC Charter

The Committee reviewed its charter and recommended adding the Academic Quality Assurance Coordinator as a resource to the Committee.

Matters Not Addressed

- The *Tenure and Promotion Handbook* still needs to be updated to accommodate the University's changes to practice and to make the Handbook more user-friendly and accessible
- The ASC report recommending the creation of a Permanency Handbook to support Senior Lecturers and Permanent Lab Instructors was forwarded to the Interim Provost for consideration. No further action has been taken.

MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Next academic year, the Academic Standards Committee will need to consider the following matters

- Create a process to consult with Faculty Councils about the proposed revisions to the *Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria*
- Recommend to General Faculties Council changes to the *Institutional Criteria* documents including the addition of Appendix A - Acknowledging Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Doing.

There will need to be changes to the *Tenure and Promotion Handbook* as a result of these changes and process for making those will be needed.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge Dr. Michael Quinn's many contributions to the Academic Standards Committee over the past two years. On behalf of the Committee, I wish Dr. Quinn the best in his next endeavors. I would also like to thank the members of the ASC for their diligence in considering the different matters that have come before them. And finally, I would like to thank Dr. Linda Manyguns for her work in moving forward with the necessary changes to the Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria in such a collaborative and consultative fashion.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Lee Easton, CHAIR, GFC Academic Staff Member

Michael Quinn, VICE-CHAIR, Vice-Provost and AVP, Academic

Phil Warsaba, Vice-Provost and AVP, Students

Peter Ryan, MRFA Academic Liaison Officer

Kelly Williams-Whitt, Dean Representative

Aida Patient, GFC Academic Staff Member (Arts) *(January – Present)*

Sally Haney, GFC Academic Staff Member (Business and Communication Studies)

Therese Wiart Jenkinson, GFC Academic Staff Member (Health, Community and Education) *(December – Present)*

Bill Scott, GFC Academic Staff Member (Science and Technology)

Cynthia Gallop, Academic Staff Member (Teaching & Learning)

Erik Christiansen, Academic Staff Member (University Library)

Haroon Chehade, Student Representative

Rusna Mahoon, Student Representative

Elaine Mullen, GFC Academic Staff Member (Arts) (September – December, temporary replacement)

Yasmin Dean, GFC Academic Staff Member (Health, Community and Education) (September – November)

Resources

Geri Lynn Gouglas, University Registrar

Sheena Jensen, RECORDING SECRETARY, Assistant University Secretary, GFC

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

- October 6, 2021
- November 10, 2021
- December 8, 2021
- January 19, 2022
- February 16, 2022
- April 20, 2022
- May 4, 2022

For additional information and meeting minutes, visit the [ASC](#) webpage.