

Academic Standards Committee
April 29, 2025 at 3pm – 5pm
University Boardroom A341

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lee Easton	GFC Academic Staff Member, CHAIR
Karim Dharamsi	Vice-Provost, Academic, VICE-CHAIR
Pearl Herscovitch	MRFA Academic Policy and Governance Officer
Kelly Williams-Whitt	Dean Representative
Mary-Lee Mulholland	GFC Academic Staff Member (Arts) (<i>virtual</i>)
Brooks DeCillia	GFC Academic Staff Member (Business & Communication Studies)
Joyce Totton	GFC Academic Staff Member (Health, Community & Education)
Kalen Keavey	Academic Staff Member (University Library)
Christina Lovestone	Continuing Education Representative
Fiona Chetty	Student Representative
Jelena Stojic	Student Representative

Resources

Cheryl Melatdoost	Academic Quality Assurance Coordinator
Sheena Dyer	Assistant University Secretary, GFC, RECORDING SECRETARY

Guests

David Clemis	Academic Director, Liberal Education
Meekena Erkin	Student Representative
Leah Hamilton	Vice Dean, Business, Communication Studies and Aviation
Joseph Osuji	Director, School of Nursing and Midwifery
Stephen Price	Dean, Health, Community and Education
Kimberly Smith	Research and Planning Consultant, Office of Institutional Research and Planning
Linda Van der Zande	Director, Office of the Provost
Gaye Warthe	Vice Dean, Health, Community and Education

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Jon Mee	GFC Academic Staff Member (Science & Technology)
Phil Warsaba	Vice-President, Students

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05PM.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the April 29, 2025 Academic Standards Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from March 11, 2025 and 2.2. Minutes from April 9, 2025 Special Meeting

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the March 11, 2025 Academic Standards Committee meeting and the Minutes of the April 9, 2025 Academic Standards Committee special meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2.3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. Program Review: Advanced Studies in Critical Care Nursing

Preliminary discussion took place to clarify ASC's role in approving the ACCN Program Review, noting that steps related to program suspension fall outside ASC's purview. The Advancement Plan outlines these steps, but implementation would follow a separate governance process.

Guests Stephen Price, Joseph Osuji, and Gaye Warthe joined the meeting.

In response to a question, the guests noted that discussions about the program's future have been ongoing for years, and highlighted the challenges outlined in the Self-Study Report. They explained that this led to the Advancement Plan and the intent to pursue the program suspension. Going ahead with the formal Program Review was part of evaluating all options for long-term viability of the program.

Guests Stephen Price, Joseph Osuji, and Gaye Warthe left the meeting.

ASC discussed the governance implications of approving the Program Review and Advancement Plan, particularly the program's intent to explore the program suspension. It was clarified that it is another GFC committee that would recommend suspension to GFC, as part of that separate process. The Committee also questioned whether the Advancement Plan contains too much detail on operational procedures related to a program suspension.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Academic Standards Committee approves the Advanced Studies in Critical Care Nursing program review, as amended.

Amendments:

- It was agreed the Advancement Plan be amended to replace the word "Explore" with "Pursue" to be clear of their intention for the program: ~~"Explore"~~ *Pursue program suspension*.
- A suggestion was made about removing the operational process for suspension of a program.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the subsequent 5 bullet points in the Advancement Plan that provide operational details are deemed not necessary and be deleted.

Discussion:

- Considered deleting or moving the bullet points, and if deleting them sets a precedent that ASC can manage the level of detail that a program presents in their Advancement Plan.

Motion defeated***Main Motion carried***

As a follow-up, the Chair suggested that ASC consider in future the kinds of information and level of detail shared in an Advancement Plan.

4. Revised Tenure and Promotion Criteria for the Faculty of Business, Communication Studies and Aviation

The ASC Chair summarized the approval pathways for revisions to Faculty Tenure and Promotion Criteria documents. The Committee considered potential conflicts of interest for ASC members from Business and agreed that no conflict exists.

Guest Leah Hamilton joined the meeting.

L. Hamilton highlighted the background information and context provided in the meeting package. Comments were made in support of the revisions.

Guest Leah Hamilton left the meeting.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Academic Standards Committee recommend to GFC the proposed revisions to the *Research and Scholarship Criteria, Evidence and Standards for Tenure and Promotion for the Faculty of Business, Communication Studies and Aviation* for recommendation to the Board of Governors for approval.

Motion carried

5. Addition: Minimum Required Academic Credential for Indigenous Faculty (*Revision to Tenure, Permanency, and Promotion Handbook – Appendix D*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Academic Standards Committee recommend to GFC the approval of the addition of a minimum required academic credential in the Tenure, Permanency, and Promotion Handbook (Appendix D) for tenure for Indigenous faculty across all Faculties as follows:

“A Master's degree with significant relevant expertise. In determining the expertise, the AVP Indigenization and Decolonization will be consulted. If necessary, the AVP Indigenization and Decolonization will assist and/or support in identifying First Nations, Métis or Inuit Indigenous experts to assess expertise in specific cases. Also, note that the above credentials should not be confused with hiring criteria. When hiring, academic units may seek candidates with credentials which exceed those listed above.”

Discussion:

- In response to a question, it was clarified that the presented language allows for exceptions with respect to hiring.

Motion carried

David Clemis, Kimberly Smith and Linda Van der Zande joined the meeting.

6. Experiential Learning Steering Committee and General Education Steering Committee Updates

K. Dharamsi gave an update on the *“Phase 1: Experiential Learning Framework (Draft recommendations for discussion)”* and presented the *“Update: General Education Current Model Assessment”*. Questions were responded to for additional information and clarification. Committee members were also asked to complete the feedback survey after the meeting.

David Clemis, Kimberly Smith and Linda Van der Zande left the meeting.

7. ASC Program Review Process, Timelines & Workload

Item deferred to the next academic year.

8. Reports**8.1. Update on Academic Program Reviews**

A written update was provided on current, upcoming and in progress program reviews.

8.2. Committee Chair Report**8.2.1. ASC 2024-25 Annual Report**

The ASC 2024-25 Annual Report was reviewed.

8.2.2. Copy of previous Committee Chair Report to GFC

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

9. For Information:

The following items were provided for information:

9.1. Program Review Approval Letters: HRIS and BCIS**10. New Business**

There was no new business.

11. Adjournment 4:56PM