

Academic Standards Committee
May 4, 2022 at 3pm – 5pm
VIRTUAL

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lee Easton, CHAIR, GFC Academic Staff Member
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)
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

Resources

Geri Lynn Gouglas, University Registrar
Sheena Jensen, RECORDING SECRETARY, Assistant University Secretary, GFC

Guests

Nicole Cross, Associate Registrar
dr. linda manyguns, AVP, Indigenization and Decolonization
Cheryl Melatdoost, Academic Quality Assurance Coordinator

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Michael Quinn, VICE-CHAIR, Vice-Provost and AVP, Academic
Sally Haney, GFC Academic Staff Member (Business and Communication Studies)
Therese Wiart Jenkinson, GFC Academic Staff Member (Health, Community and Education)
Rusna Mahoon, Student Representative

L. Easton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:06pm and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of Agenda (*motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the May 4, 2022 Academic Standards Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from April 20, 2022 (*motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the April 20, 2022 Academic Standards Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. Review of Recommendations with respect to Indigenous Peoples Ways of Knowing and Doing in the *Institutional Tenure And Promotion Criteria* (for discussion)

The working group to Acknowledge Indigenous Peoples Ways of Knowing (Dr. Lee Easton, dr. linda manyguns, Dr. Kelly Williams-Whitt) provided a written report to ASC and gave an overview at the meeting. The report recommended several changes to the *Institutional Promotion and Tenure Criteria*, including a draft version of a proposed Appendix to guide tenure and promotion committees when assessing the dossiers of Indigenous faculty. In the report, the working group offered recommendations about other changes that they believe are necessary to support those who are engaged with Indigenous Peoples Ways of Knowing and Doing. The committee reviewed the recommendations, asked questions for clarification, and provided some preliminary feedback.

It was explained that consultations with Indigenous faculty are on-going and the working group will meet again to revise the Appendix, confirm changes to the Teaching and Service documents, and finalize the proposed recommendations. Revised documents will be brought to ASC for a review before initiating a consultation process with Faculty Councils.

I. manyguns left the meeting.

4. Grades and Examinations Policy Proposals – Recommendation to GFC (motion)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Academic Standards Committee recommend to General Faculties Council the approval of the proposed Examinations and Grades policies, with the amendment to the Grades Policy section 4.4. “~~30~~40 instructional days for a full semester course”.

Discussion:

- Grades policy – Prescriptiveness on assignment weightings
 - In response to a concern about balancing this with academic freedom, it was explained how this section of the policy was decided upon, including consultations with Deans and consideration of linked course components, noting that a wide range of feedback was received on the matter; the policy aims to achieve a balance that offers students an opportunity to receive sufficient information to make decisions about their courses around the time of the withdrawal period
- Grades policy – section 4.4. regarding timing of formal evaluation feedback, to consider the “30-day” timing in the Winter semester/Reading Break and extending it to 40-days to better accommodate that timing consideration
- Questions were also responded to for clarification to other proposed changes in the policies
- It was requested that ASC receive an update, once the Grades policy is approved, on whether changes made to the grade reporting section were helpful

Motion carried

5. Feedback on Academic Program Reviews (for discussion) – C. Melatdoost

C. Melatdoost explained that the academic program review process is under review to help improve the process, including development of templates for advancement plans and mid-plan check-in’s with ASC, and providing assistance to self-study teams. Feedback was provided from members about improving the advancement plan process and considerations for resourcing to help with making advancement

plans achievable. It was requested that a review of the academic program review process be included at the first ASC meeting next year.

6. Review of Committee Charter

The Charter was reviewed and it was agreed to recommend adding the Academic Quality Assurance Coordinator as a Resource to ASC's membership.

7. Reports

7.1. Update on Cyclical Reviews – C. Melatdoost

A written update for academic program reviews was shared.

7.2. Committee Chair Report – L. Easton

No report.

8. New Business

On behalf of ASC, the Chair thanked Michael Quinn for his contributions to ASC.

9. Adjournment (*motion*) 4:42PM