

Academic Standards Committee
October 28, 2025 at 3pm – 5pm
University Boardroom A341

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lee Easton	GFC Academic Staff Member, CHAIR
Karim Dharamsi	Vice-Provost, Academic, VICE-CHAIR
Peter Ryan	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)
Meekena Erkin	Student Representative
Jelena Stojic	Student Representative
<u>Resources</u>	
Geri Lynn Gouglas	University Registrar & Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Management
Tabussom Qureshi	Academic Quality Assurance Coordinator
Sheena Dyer	Assistant University Secretary, GFC, RECORDING SECRETARY

Guests

Karen Atkinson-Leadbetter	Chair, Psychology
Chad London	Provost and VP, Academic
Nancy Ogden	Professor, Psychology
Jennifer Pettit	Dean, Faculty of Arts

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Phil Warsaba	Vice-President, Students
Todd Burton	GFC Academic Staff Member (Business & Communication Studies)
Christina Lovestone	Continuing Education Representative

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:01PM.

1. Approval of Agenda***Moved and seconded:***

THAT the Agenda for the October 28, 2025 Academic Standards Committee meeting be approved, as amended.

Amendment:

- Addition to New Business: Follow-up from the GFC October 17, 2025 meeting regarding the revised *Research and Scholarship Criteria, Evidence and Standards for Tenure and Promotion for the Faculty of Health, Community and Education*

Motion carried

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**2.1. Minutes from September 16, 2025*****Moved and seconded:***

THAT the Minutes of the September 16, 2025 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: Bachelor of Arts - Psychology

Preliminary discussion of the program review highlighted areas of feedback and questions for the guests, including:

- clarifying why partnership opportunities with Science & Technology do not appear in the final advancement plan
- addressing questions about the honours program (selection, communication, faculty workload)
- considering how the new advising model may affect planned actions in the advancement plan

Guests K. Atkinson-Leadbetter, N. Ogden, and J. Pettit joined the meeting.

Discussion:

- In response to the committee's questions, the program review guests provided clarification and additional information on the following areas raised by the committee:
 - It was explained that there is a strong interest for a BSc in Psychology, but it was not included in the final plan because of resourcing and capacity constraints. It was noted that there may be new funding opportunities that would allow for these options to be discussed in future.
 - The honours-related recommendations were addressed, acknowledging communication gaps, capacity constraints, and plans to streamline processes.
 - Questions about WIL and institutional changes (such as new advising structures) were noted, though impacts are still under review.

Guests K. Atkinson-Leadbetter, N. Ogden, and J. Pettit left the meeting.

The committee did not identify anything from the discussion with the program review guests that would result in recommending or requiring changes to the program review.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Academic Standards Committee approve the Bachelor of Arts - Psychology program review.

Motion carried

A comment was made about limited honours resources creating barriers for students trying to enter the program.

4. Revised Tenure, Promotion and Permanency Handbook Recommendation

Preliminary discussion focused on the overall proposed revisions to the Tenure and Promotion Handbook, noting that the current changes are primarily editorial updates required to align with the new Collective Agreement (CA). The importance of the timing for these changes was acknowledged, but it also discussed that there is a need for a full review of the Handbook beyond these editorial updates.

Guest C. London joined the meeting.

C. London, Provost and VP, Academic, explained that updates to the handbook follow an established process referenced in the Handbook and that when a new Collective Agreement is finalized, corresponding changes to the Handbook are subsequently required. These updates were not substantive changes, but made to align with the CA. He advised that these updates were time-sensitive due to upcoming promotion timelines that must reflect the new CA provisions.

Guest C. London left the meeting.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Academic Standards Committee recommend the revised Tenure, Promotion and Permanency Handbook v4.0.

Motion carried**8. New Business – Follow-up from the GFC October 17, 2025 meeting regarding the revised *Research and Scholarship Criteria, Evidence and Standards for Tenure and Promotion for the Faculty of Health, Community and Education***

Discussion:

- Concern was expressed that GFC's tabling of the motion to approve the revised *Research and Scholarship Criteria, Evidence and Standards for Tenure and Promotion for the Faculty of Health, Community and Education* upon recommendation by ASC prevented further discussion at GFC, and that the item should have been formally referred back to the Committee.
- The ASC Chair acknowledged that he put forward the motion to table at GFC and that it could have been clearer that the intent was for it to be referred back to ASC. He indicated that the item will return to ASC for review, with a placeholder set for the December 2 meeting with an invitation to the Dean and Vice-Dean from the Faculty to discuss the concerns raised at GFC and how to move it forward again.
- It was discussed that the committee also consider its role with assessing these types of documents and what to look for that is within ASC's scope.

5. Draft ASC 2025-26 Annual Plan

The ASC 2025-26 Annual Plan was reviewed and finalized with additions to the projected activities section.

6. ASC Program Review Process & Template Documents

The suggestions made at the September 16, 2025 meeting for the following documents were reviewed:

- Program Review Approval Process

- Program Review Feedback Form Template
- Program Review Approval Memo Template

It was discussed and agreed to remove the following line from the Program Review Approval Memo Template, as it had not been agreed to by the committee: *“ASC looks forward to receiving, for information, a midterm report on the progress made on the final advancement plan in [DATE].”*.

Clarification on the requirements/process for CAQC audits with respect to mid-term reports of advancement plans within the Office of Institutional Research and Planning was explained, and a discussion will take place at the next meeting with respect to ASC’s role regarding receiving mid-term reports.

7. Reports

7.1. Update on Academic Program Reviews

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

7.2. Report from the Senior Administrator to the Committee

Updates on the Experiential Learning Steering Committee and General Education Steering Committee's work were shared. It was considered that presentations from the Chair’s/Co-Chair’s of the AI Steering Group and the Generative Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Learning (AI) Working Group could come to ASC.

7.3. Committee Chair Report

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

8. New Business

There was no other new business.

9. Adjournment 4:53PM