



ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE (APC)
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Wednesday November 22, 2017

Time: 9:05-11:00am

Room: 209 Assumption Hall

Committee Members: Mr. Aftab Anwer, Dr. Fazle Baki, Dr. Cheryl Collier, Mr. Scott Cowan, Dr. Sue Fox, Dr. James Gauld, Dr. Erika Kustra, Dr. Dan Mennill, Dr. Karen Roland, Dr. Antonio Rossini (chair), Mr. Dilpreet Singh.

Absent: Prof. Jeff Berryman (regrets), Ms. Yosra Elsayad, Mr. Ahmed Khalifa (regrets), Dr. Scott Martyn (regrets), Dr. Ruth Urbanic (regrets).

In Attendance: Mr. Jeremiah Bowers, Ms. Renée Wintermute (University Secretary), Ms Alison Zilli (University Secretariat).

1 Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

Dr. C. Collier/Mr. S. Cowan
CARRIED

2 Approval of Minutes

MOTION: That the minutes of the Academic Policy Committee meeting of September 20, 2017 be approved.

Dr. E. Kustra/Dr. D. Menhill
CARRIED

3 Business arising from the minutes

Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding business

Nothing to report.

Items for Information

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Student Academic Amnesty Day for February 2nd, 2018 – National Day of Action

(See document APC171122-5.1 for more details.)

MOTION: That Senate declares Friday, February 2nd, 2018 as a day of Academic Amnesty for all Students such that, no student may be given academic penalty for being absent during this day, provided they inform their professor(s) at least forty-eight hours in advance of February 2nd, 2018 of their participation; and, that instructors be informed of this academic amnesty and encouraged to:

- Refrain from setting deadlines or tests on February 2nd, 2018
- Inform their classes of their right for academic amnesty for February 2nd, 2018 and the need to notify the professor at least 48 hours in advance of February 2nd.

Dr. E. Kustra/Dr. C. Collier

NOTED:

- The Day of Action is a full day event held on February 2, 2018 by the Canadian Federation of Students.
- The Day of Action will highlight that every student should be able to access higher education and skills training without the barrier of cost or the fear of debt, as education should be a right rather than a privilege.
- Students will need to notify their instructor(s) that they are participating at least 48 hours in advance of February 2nd.
- Similar to last year, the goal is to have a day where students (from across the country) can join forces in peaceful dissent without academic penalty for participating in campus-wide student-organized events in support of access to education.

CARRIED

5.2 New Course Numbering Framework – Minor Revision

(See document APC171122-5.2 for more details.)

MOTION: That the proposed revision to the Course Numbering framework be approved.

Dr. D. Menhill/Dr. J. Gauld

NOTED:

- The revision proposes to distinguish between the professional course-based Masters (cost-recovery programs) and other Masters programs by defining different levels of course numbers.
- The rationale came from recommendations in cyclical reviews that these courses be distinguishable.
- Concerns were raised regarding the issue that this differentiation (7000 level for cost-recovery Masters and 8000 level for other Masters programs) would help to support the argument that these course-based cost-recovery programs are “other” and lesser than research-based Masters programs; a perception that some areas are trying hard to overcome.

AGREED:

- The proposal be sent to Graduate Council for consideration and report back to APC.
- If the framework is not changed, there may still need to be a way to differentiate the courses if the University is to act on cyclical review recommendations.

WITHDRAWN

Item for Information

5.3 Centre for Teaching and Learning Annual Report

(See document APC171122-5.3 for more details.)

NOTED:

- A comprehensive presentation highlighting the work of the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL), for the period 2016-2017, was provided. ([See attached report for more details.](#))
- In response to a question raised about the status of the online teaching evaluations, it was noted that this project is on pause as the online survey in the system needs improvement and refinement.
- In response to a question raised about Blackboard Analytics and student privacy, it was noted that this issue is being reviewed at the committee level in order to determine what would be appropriate in terms of policies and guidelines.
- In response to a question raised about the University Teaching Certificate, it was noted that there has been some discussion regarding the possibility of including an online option in the future, if feasible.
- Some of the exciting components of the report and the work of CTL is the mentorship for faculty and the involvement with curriculum development during reviews or accreditation processes.
- The document was received for information.

6 Question Period/Other Business/Open Discussion

Nothing to report.

7 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

Dr. K. Engle/Mr. S. Cowan

CARRIED