



Senate Academic Committee

TO: Karen Roche, Secretary of Senate

FROM: Dr. Douglas Ivison
Chair, Senate Academic Committee

DATE: November 20, 2014

SUBJECT: **Senate Academic Committee Report– December 1, 2014**

The Senate Academic Committee (SAC) met on October 24 and November 11, 2014.

1. SAC Regulations Sub-Committee

SAC Regulations reviewed the following referral from Senate (February 10, 2014) and reported to SAC. SAC passed the following motion:

- that the HESC Calendar Change – Merging HESC to PUBL InfoPage be approved and forwarded to the next Senate committee.

2. SAC Quality Assurance Sub-Committee

SAC QA reviewed the Final Assessment Report (FAR) and Implementation Plan (IP) for the Cyclical Program Review of the Faculty of Business Administration Undergraduate and Graduate Programs (excluding the MBA) and reported to SAC. SAC passed a motion to accept the Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan of the Cyclical Review of the undergraduate and graduate programs (excluding the MBA) of the Faculty of Business Administration and forward the Executive Summary to Senate as an item of information.

SAC QA reviewed the FAR and IP for the Cyclical Program Review of the Department of Geology Undergraduate and Graduate Programs and reported to SAC. SAC passed a motion to accept the Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan of the Cyclical Review of the graduate and undergraduate programs of the Department of Geology and forward the Executive Summary to Senate as an item of information.

SAC QA reviewed the FAR and IP for the Cyclical Program Review of the Faculty of Education undergraduate programs and reported to SAC. SAC passed a motion to accept the Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan of the Cyclical Review of the undergraduate programs of the Faculty of Education and forward the Executive Summary to Senate as an item of information.

SAC QA reviewed the FAR and IP for the Cyclical Program Review of the Faculty of Education graduate programs. SAC passed a motion to accept the Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan of the Cyclical Review of the graduate programs of the Faculty of Education and forward the Executive Summary to Senate as an item of information.

SAC QA reviewed the proposal for a Specialization in Environmental Sustainability (2014-SCI-4375) and reported to SAC. SAC passed a motion that the Specialization in Environmental Sustainability (2014-SCI-4375) be approved and forwarded to the next Senate Committee.

SAC QA reviewed referrals from Senate (October 20, 2014) and reported to SAC. SAC passed the following motions:

- that the proposal BADMIN.MGMT (2014-BUS-4381) be approved and forwarded to the next Senate Committee.
- that the request to remove BSc/BEd (Computer Sciences) (2014-EDU-3548) from the calendar be approved and forwarded to the next Senate Committee.
- that the request to remove HBSc (Geology with Major Concentration in Physics) (2014-SCI-3119) from the calendar be approved and forwarded to the next Senate Committee.

3. Course Classification (ABCD)

As mandated by Senate, SAC initiated the classification of all undergraduate courses in one of four categories: A (Humanities), B (Social Sciences), C (Engineering, Mathematical and Natural Sciences), and D (Health and Behavioural Sciences). The Chair of SAC worked with the Deans to complete course classifications for their Faculties. An ad-hoc committee was established to review the classifications. Most Faculties have completed their classifications, with only two Faculties still to complete their work. Once finalized, the course classifications will be distributed to the Deans for distribution to undergraduate programs. Programs with Group requirements will need to submit program changes incorporating the new classifications to the January 2015 Senate meeting.

4. SAC-O-AGC Sub-committee

SAC-O-AGC is continuing to work on the implementation of the motion passed by Senate (May 15, 2014) for all academic units to have calendared for all of their undergraduate degree programs, a degree requirement of at least one 0.5 FC course containing at least 50% Indigenous Knowledge and/or Aboriginal content.

5. Writing Initiatives Sub-committee

The Writing Initiatives Centre (WIC) is currently working with a number of academic units on pilot projects aimed at improving student writing.

The WIC is asking faculty members to submit sample writing assignments, rubrics and best practices.

To meet the increasing demands of the Writing Centre, all units are being asked for donations of their GA's time. Faculty members are also asked to consider donating their time to assist with the growing number of requests from graduate students.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Douglas Ivison
Chair, Senate Academic Committee

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Attachments