

The University of Alberta  
Faculty of Education

GRADUATE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL

April 3, 2017

PRESENT: Cathy Adams, Trudy Cardinal, Joe da Costa, Bill Dunn, Domenique Gadsden, Doug Gleddie, Ella Hitchcock, Remonia Morrison, Norma Nocente, Jacqueline Pei, Kelsey Reed, Gaylene Schreiber, Ali Shiri, Evelyn Steinhauer, Jill McClay, (Chair), Betty jo Werthmann (Administrator)

Regrets: Lynn McGarvey, Hayley Morrison

1. Approval of Agenda

*MOVED TO APPROVE the agenda as presented.  
J da Costa / E Steinhauer / CARRIED*

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to adjourn was changed from Cathy Adams to Doug Gleddie. Original minutes will be updated to reflect this change.

*MOVED TO APPROVE the minutes of March 6, 2017 as amended.  
A Shiri / N Nocente / CARRIED*

3. Motion to Approve

3.1 EDIT 578 Internship in Instructional Technology

The proposed title change is to reflect that EDIT 578 is site one internship placement.

3.2 EDIT 579 Internship in Instructional Technology

The proposed title change is to reflect that EDIT 579 is site two internship placement.

*MOVED TO APPROVE EDIT 578 Internship in Instructional Technology and EDIT 579 Internship in Instructional Technology.  
J da Costa / D Gleddie / CARRIED*

4. Notice of Motion

4.1 EDSE 620 Advanced Research Seminar in Secondary Education II

This course is normally taken as the final taught course in the department's doctoral program, however, some students take it earlier. The proposed prerequisite change clarifies that students must take at least one Advanced Research Methods course before registering in this required course.

4.2 EDSE 900 Directed Research Project

This is the final course in the department's \*30 credit course-based master's program. In order to align with FGSR's terminal course in such programs, as well as with the

current calendar description of the program, the department has proposed to rename EDSE 900 as a Research/Capping Exercise.

5. Exit Survey results

Jill provided a hand-out to GAAC members summarizing the Faculty of Education Fall 2016 Exit Survey. This data will assist with the upcoming Quality Assurance Reviews which are tied to Campus Alberta. Such program reviews have not taken place for several years. The data will also be valuable for self-assessment of our programs.

6. Chair's Report

**Teachers' conventions.** Thank you to those who staffed our booths at various conventions in Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Red Deer, and Calgary. We will have a follow up meeting with GPAs to discuss how things went this year, whether swag is worthwhile, etc.

**Congratulations** to Doug, Elaine, Cathy, and Evelyn for their successful micro-grant bid to explore possibilities of a blended delivery EdD. An EdD must fit within FGSR's definitions of doctoral research. Many online programs do not include research and thesis, and so these would not be acceptable models. However, if there is a credible way to do an online, blended delivery program, we believe we may be well positioned to offer one.

**International applications** for graduate programs update. We have been tracking international applications for U of A graduate programs, and these are indeed showing an increase. An "Inside Higher Education," March 20 article discusses the Canadian post-secondary situation. Three factors that seem to be driving the increase are:  
(1) political events in US and Britain (Brexit factor),  
(2) more recruitment and increasingly high standings of Canadian universities in international rankings. Our prominence as a study destination is increasing, in part due to opportunities it provides for former international students to immigrate. "In November, Canada amended its points-based Express Entry immigration system to award extra points to graduates of Canadian universities when they apply for permanent residency."  
(3) weak Canadian dollar.

"In recent years, Canadian universities have experienced steady and significant growth in international enrollments, which increased by 92 percent from 2008 to 2015, according to data from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada published in a report by the Canadian Bureau for International Education. Canada had 353,570 international students in fall 2015. At the University of Alberta, international undergraduate applications are up by 28 percent this year. Some of the increases for particular countries are even more striking: applications are up 118 percent from India, 51 percent from the U.S., 35 percent from the United Arab Emirates, 22 percent from Nigeria, 96 percent from Bangladesh and 82 percent from Pakistan. Applications from China also increased, but by a smaller percentage (12 percent)." The article quotes U of A Vice Provost International Britta Baron. From Iran, "graduate applications rose from 263 last year to 740 this year -- "and counting," U of A, like a number of other Canadian universities, waived application fees for citizens from countries affected by Trump's original travel ban.

**MOVED TO ADJOURN.**  
**C Adams.**

