

Office of the Senate Secretariat

Acadia University
Wolfville, Nova Scotia
Canada B0P 1X0

Telephone: (902) 585-1617
Facsimile: (902) 585-1078



Dear Member of Senate:

I advise you that a meeting of the Senate of Acadia University will occur at 4:00 pm on Monday, 14 January 2013 in BAC 132.

The agenda follows:

- 1) Approval of Agenda
- 2) Minutes of the Meeting of 10 December 2012
- 3) Announcements (*normally 10 minutes per speaker*)
- 4) Brought forward from 10 December 2012
 - a) Proposed Amendments to the Scheduled Dates for Honours Submissions (*attached*)
 - b) Motion from Adam Foster, Graduate Student Representative (*attached*)
 - c) Policy on Compassionate Leave for Graduate Students (*attached*)
- 5) New Business
 - a) Academic Program Review Committee - Prioritized Recommendations (*to be circulated*)
 - i. Computer Science
 - ii. School of Recreation Management and Kinesiology
 - b) Initial Report from By-laws Committee regarding Potential Changes to Senate Committee Structures
 - c) Curriculum Changes to Graduate Programs for 2013-2014 (*attached*)

6) Other Business

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED
Rosemary Jotcham
Registrar and Secretary of Senate

Note: Proposed amendments pending to change the “Last Day to submit Honours Theses for Spring Convocation” to April 7, and to change “Deadline for approved Honours Theses for Spring Convocation” to May 1.

Calendar Dates for the 2013/2014 – December 3rd – Senate Submission

2013	
June 17	Classes begin - Intersession 2 (Summer)
July 1	Canada Day - no classes
July 26	Classes end - Intersession 2 (Summer)
July 5 and July 26	Examinations - Intersession 2
August 28	Residences Open for New International Students
August 29	New Student Orientation Activities begin for International Students
August 30	Last day to apply to graduate at Fall Graduation
August 30	Last day to submit Honours theses for Fall Graduation
August 31	Residences open (for all New Students) / New Student Orientation Activities (full schedule for all New Students)
September 2	Residences Open - Returning Students
September 3	Graduate Student registration
September 3	New Student Orientation Welcome Week ends
September 4 (Wed.)	Classes begin - Fall Term
September 4	Fee Deadline
September 11	Last day for course additions for Fall and full year courses
September 11	Last day to drop Fall or full year courses without a “W”
September 20	Final Exam Schedule posted for December Examinations
September 23	Deadline for approved Honours and Masters' theses for Fall Graduation
September 27	Last day to receive grades for Fall Graduation
September 30	Last day to opt out of ASU Health Plan or add dependents
September 30	Last day to decrease Meal Plan for Fall Term
October 1	Faculty Meeting for approval of Fall Graduates
October 8	Senate meeting to approve Fall Graduates
October 11-13	Homecoming
October 14	Thanksgiving Day - no classes
October 25	Last day to drop 3h first term courses without a failing grade “F”

November 7 and 8	Fall Study Days – no classes
November 11	Remembrance Day – University closed and no classes
November 29	Last day for undergrads to apply for Spring Convocation 2013
December 2	Last day of classes before exams
December 3	Study Day
December 4	Examinations begin - Fall Term
December 17	Last day of examinations - Fall Term
December 18	Residences close at 12:00 noon
2014	
January 2	Residences Open (Winter Term New Students Only)
January 3-4	New Student Orientation
January 5	Residences Open - Returning Students
January 6 (Mon)	Classes begin - Winter Term
January 6	Fee Deadline
January 13	Last day for course additions and dropping Winter courses without a “W”
January 13	Last day to drop full year courses without a failing grade “F”
January 24	Final Exam Schedule posted for April examinations
January 31	Last day to opt out of ASU Health Plan or add dependents - Winter Term Students
January 31	Last day to apply for Spring Convocation 2013 for Graduate Students
January 31	Last day to decrease Meal Plan for Winter Term
February 17-21	Study Week
February 28	Last day to drop Winter Term courses without a failing grade “F”
March 14	Last day to submit Honours Theses for Spring Convocation
April 7	Last day of classes before exams
April 8	Study Day
April 9	Examinations begin - Winter Term
April 14	Deadline for approved Masters’ Thesis for Spring Convocation
April 17	Deadline for registration - Intersession 1
April 18	Good Friday - no classes
April 21	Deadline for approved Honours Theses for Spring Convocation
April 23	Last day of examinations - Winter Term
April 24	Residences close at 12:00 noon

May 1	Last day to receive grades for Spring Convocation
May 5	Classes begin - Intersession 1 (Spring)
May 6	Faculty Meeting to approve Spring Graduates
May 7	Senate Meeting to approve Spring Graduates
May 11	Baccalaureate Service
May 11-12	Spring Convocation
May 19	Victoria Day - no classes
May 30	Last day to opt out of ASU Health Plan or add dependents – 16-month Bachelor of Education Students
May 30	Deadline for registration - Intersession 2
June 2	Last day to submit an appeal to the Academic Appeals Committee
May 23 and June 13	Examinations - Intersession 1 (Spring)
June 16	Classes begin - Intersession 2 (Summer)
July 1	Canada Day - no classes
July 25	Classes end - Intersession 2 (Summer)
July 4 and July 25	Examinations - Intersession 2 (Summer)

Motion from Adam Foster, Graduate Student Representative to Senate, on behalf of the Acadia Graduate Student Association (AGSA)

Background: There are currently discrepancies in documents as to whether the graduate student who is chosen to sit on the Research Ethics Board is to be selected by the AGSA or the SRC. It is suspected that initially, the student was to be chosen by the AGSA, but because it has occasionally not existed in a given year, the SRC stepped in to choose the student. The AGSA has discussed the matter and believe that, whenever possible, the graduate students' representative should be selected by graduate students. However, taking into consideration that the AGSA has not existed every year, and there is no way to ensuring that situation won't arise again, we wish to include in this motion that the SRC will be able to choose the representative if the AGSA does not exist in any given year.

The Acadia Graduate Student Association recommends that Senate approve the following amendment to the membership of the Research Ethics Board:

- i. Membership of the Research Ethics Board (including both men and women) shall be as follows:

Non-voting members:

The Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, who shall act as liaison to the Senate Research Committee, the Senate Graduate Studies Committee, and Senate;

One graduate student, who shall be appointed by the **Acadia Graduate Student Association. In the event the Acadia Graduate Student Association is not able to select a representative in a timely fashion in a given year, the appointment shall be made by the Student Representative Council.**

Voting members:

One faculty member, knowledgeable in ethics, to serve as Chair;

One member from the Faculty of Arts with broad expertise in the methods or in the areas of research that are covered by the REB;

One member from the Faculty of Professional Studies with broad expertise in the methods or in the areas of research that are covered by the REB;

One member from the Faculty of Pure and Applied Science with broad expertise in the methods or in the areas of research that are covered by the REB;

One member from the Faculty of Theology with broad expertise in the methods or in the areas of research that are covered by the REB;****

One member from the community with no affiliation with Acadia University and not currently engaged in scientific, legal or academic work; ** ****

One member from the community who has legal knowledge, but with no affiliation with Acadia University.

Amendment

The Committee on Graduate Studies recommends that Senate approve the following amendments to the proposed Policy on Compassionate Leave for Graduate Students, and further recommends that Senate approve the Policy as amended.

Original wording with sections to be deleted marked:

Graduate students will be provided with compassionate leave for a period of up to one year in the case of the death or serious illness of a family member. This leave is not intended to cover circumstances related to travel, employment, or other financial concerns. Once on leave, students will not be registered with the University, ~~nor will they be required to pay tuition or continuing fees.~~ However, students may choose to maintain computer network, email, and library access during the period of the leave ~~by paying a \$100.00 fee.~~ Financial support from University sources will normally be suspended during the period of the leave and, where possible, will be reinstated upon completion of the leave. It is the responsibility of the student to determine the status of funding from all external sources.

Proposed amended wording:

Compassionate Leave

Graduate students will be provided with compassionate leave for a period of up to 52 weeks for the care and support of a seriously ill family member. This leave is not intended to cover circumstances related to travel, employment, or other financial concerns. Statuary periods for completion of degree programs will be extended by the length of the leave. Once on leave, students will not be registered with the University, but they may choose to maintain computer network, email, and library access during the period of the leave. Financial support from University sources will normally be suspended during the period of the leave and, where possible, will be reinstated upon completion of the leave. It is the responsibility of the student to determine the status of funding from all external sources.

Curriculum Changes to Graduate Programs for 2013-2014
Submitted by Research and Graduate Studies
Approved by Senate Committee of Graduate Studies

School of Education (MEd program) Changes

- Modification to MEd Counselling program

The Master of Education in Counselling Program is an accredited program with the Council for the Accreditation of Counsellor Education Programs (CACEP). The current change requires all students entering the program to participate in two one-day competency-focused workshops that address CACEP Standard III B, 6 (Diversity), and Standard III B, 10 (Program Evaluation). All beginning students take the Diversity workshop in year one. All returning students (and exiting full time students) take the workshop on Program evaluation in year two.

Paragraph to be inserted in the Calendar under the Overall Requirements section:

Note: All students are required to complete two one-day workshops during the first week of classes. All beginning students complete a one-day workshop on Diversity in the first summer of their program. All full-time and returning part-time students complete a second one-day workshop on program evaluation in the second summer of their program.

Reason for Modification: As noted above, this modification allows the M.Ed. Counselling program to meet CACEP Standards that are not sufficiently covered in the courses. Students are currently required to take a professional development workshop upon entry into the M.Ed. Counselling program. This request formalises the requirements to address specific program competencies.

- Change in Course Title Only

Current Course Title and Description

EDUC 5313 INDIVIDUAL TESTING 1

This course is designed to familiarize students with standardized achievement and informal assessment tools. Students will experience the administration, scoring and interpretation of commonly used assessment battery instruments. Prereq: EDUC 5303

Proposed New Course Title and Description

EDUC 5313 ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING

This course is designed to familiarize students with standardized achievement and informal assessment tools. Students will experience the administration, scoring and interpretation of commonly used assessment battery instruments. Prereq: EDUC 5303

Reason for Change: The current title is outdated, suggesting that the course focuses on a variety of individual tests, even though the calendar description notes the inclusion of informal assessment tools. The new title captures this broader approach to assessment and reflects recent developments in the field of educational assessment.

- Change in Course Title and Calendar Description

Current Course Title and Description

EDUC 5323 INDIVIDUAL TESTING 2

This course is designed to familiarize the student with commonly used individualized tests of intelligence and other abilities. The course contains both theoretical and practical components. The student is required to administer, score, interpret and write a report on such tests as the Wechsler and Stanford-Binet. Open only to those fully enrolled in the graduate programs in counselling or inclusive education.

Prereq: EDUC 5303

Proposed New Course Title and Description

EDUC 5323 ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING 2

This course is intended to extend students' professional knowledge and critical awareness of central issues in the individual assessment process. It highlights the ways in which social identity constructs intersect with the assessment process. Students examine the design, administration, and interpretation of selected individual assessment tools. An emphasis will be placed on the interpretation of results within the context of a collaborative team/ teaching /learning process.

Prereq: EDUC 5303

Reason for changes: The new title captures the current approach to educational assessment, which goes well beyond individual testing to include performance-based and informal assessments. The old course description suggested that students would be trained to administer a number of tests either no longer in use or for which classroom teachers (the majority students in the course) are no longer qualified to administer. The new description also accounts for the social turn in educational assessment in the past decade.