CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE

Report to Academic Council

at its meeting of February 28th, 2017

FOR ACTION

1. Faculty of Business and Information Technology
   
a. Bachelor of Commerce – Major Program Modification: New Major and Minor in Technology Management
   The Curriculum and Program Review Committee recommends:
   
   *That Academic Council approve the Technology Management major and minor in the Bachelor of Commerce.*

   **Rationale**
   In April 2016 Academic Council approved the Bachelor of Informatics degree with a Major in Business Technology Management; this proposal was subsequently approved by the Board of Governors and submitted to the Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance (Quality Council) and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development. The Quality Council raised concerns regarding the use of the Informatics nomenclature and if it would be confusing for potential applicants. After discussion with the Quality Council and the Office of the Provost, the decision was made to convert the proposed Bachelor of Informatics in Technology Management into majors within the existing Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Information Technology degrees.

   The proposal outlines the Bachelor of Commerce major in Technology Management, the minor in Technology Management, and two Bachelor of Commerce Diploma to Degree pathways. The programs offer a balance of business and information technology courses designed to meet the needs of today’s technology-enabled economy. Students completing the major program with electives in data science will qualify for the Certified Business Technology Manager (CBTM) designation from Canadian Coalition for Tomorrow’s ICT (Information Communication Technology) Skills (CCICT), once they obtain sufficient work experience. This major is consistent with UOIT’s mandate and FBIT’s priority to be market relevant. It also builds on and supports UOIT’s and FBIT’s priorities to develop pathways for students from college programs.

   b. Bachelor of Information Technology – Major Program Modification: New Major in Technology Management
   The Curriculum and Program Review Committee recommends:
   
   *That Academic Council approve the Technology Management major in the Bachelor of Information Technology.*

   **Rationale**
   As noted in Item 1a, the Quality Council raised concerns regarding the use of the Informatics nomenclature and if it would be confusing for potential applicants. After discussion with the Quality Council and the Office of the Provost, the decision was made to convert the proposed Bachelor of Informatics in Technology Management into majors within the existing Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Information Technology degrees.
This proposal outlines the Bachelor of Information Technology major in Technology Management and two Diploma to Degree pathways. The BIT Technology Management major offers a focus on information technology with a complementary set of business courses designed to meet the needs of today’s technology-enabled economy. Students completing the major would qualify for the Certified Business Technology Manager (CBTM) designation from Canadian Coalition for Tomorrow’s ICT (Information Communication Technology) Skills (CCICT), once they obtain sufficient work experience. This major is also consistent with UOIT’s mandate and FBIT’s priority to be market relevant, and supports UOIT’s and FBIT’s priorities to develop pathways for students from college programs.

2. Faculty of Health Sciences

   a. Bachelor of Health Science in Kinesiology – Major Program Modification: Addition of the OTA/PTA pathway

   The Curriculum and Program Review Committee recommends:

   That Academic Council approve the new OTA/PTA pathway into the Bachelor of Health Science in Kinesiology.

   Rationale

   A survey of college Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Assistant (PTA and OTA) students indicated that they want a university pathway so that they have the option to become an autonomous health professional, either as a Registered Kinesiologist or as an Occupational or Physical Therapist. They also felt it would increase job opportunities, income potential, and provide additional practical experience.

   Students showed strong interest in the Kinesiology. After general discussion at the Kinesiology team meeting and review of the college curriculum, it was recommended that a block transfer be given for ten UOIT courses, resulting in a 2+3 pathway. UOIT also has a Bachelor of Allied Health Science that could be taken by those wishing to complete a 2+2 pathway.

3. Faculty of Science

   a. Bachelor of Science – Major Program Modification: New Minor in Data Science

   The Curriculum and Program Review Committee recommends:

   That Academic Council approve the new minor in Data Science.

   Rationale

   The term Big Data has been coined to address the value of intelligent analysis of large volumes of data to support crucial business, financial and strategic decisions. Individuals with this ability, often called data scientists, are highly sought after in a variety of industries, from healthcare to finance to business consultancy. The proposed Data Science minor will enable students enrolled in a diverse set of non-Computer Science (CS) Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics (STEM) program; applied mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, informatics, etc.; to acquire the computational and data analytics skills needed to be competitive in tomorrow’s job market.

   The Faculty of Science currently offers minors in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Computational Science. While there is some overlap in course requirements for the existing Computational Science minor and the proposed Data Science minor, there are significant differences in the content covered and the primary focus of the two minors. The proposed minor, for example, requires students to take courses in databases, information visualization and big data, subjects that are not covered in Computational Science. The Computational Science minor aims at developing computer modeling skills; whereas, the proposed Data Science minor focuses on developing computing and algorithmic skills needed for large scale data analytics in support of scientific discovery and strategic decision making. It is expected that the two minors will attract different groups of students.
1. **Office of the Registrar**

   - **Advanced Standing Policy**
   
   CPRC approved a regulation that implements a deadline for students requesting changes or additions to their transfer credit assessment. The University has not had a defined deadline for transfer credit, which has resulted in students requesting credit long after being admitted. A deadline ensures that we will: a) no longer award transfer credit to students who failed to declare previous education at the time of admission; b) that students close to graduation would not be eligible to receive transfer credit for undeclared work as this may be an issue for their degree audits; c) that students are evaluated with the rules that were in place at the time of their admission; d) and it prevents re-evaluation requests because a peer who was admitted in a different term received additional or different transfer credit. This deadline would not apply for students who have changed their program and need to be reevaluated, nor would it prevent a Faculty or Department from providing a reevaluation based on clerical error.

2. **Faculties of Business and Information Technology, Energy Systems and Nuclear Science, Engineering and Applied Science, and Science**

   - **And Management Programs – Minor Program Adjustment: Course Removal and Replacement**
   
   As part of the initial stage of the BComm program review, FBIT has made changes to some core courses that affect the and Management programs offered to students in FESNS, FEAS, and FSCI. CPRC approved BUSI 1101U: Financial Accounting to be replaced with new course BUSI 1130U: Introduction to Financial Accounting and BUSI 2170U: Managerial Accounting to be replaced with new course BUSI 2180U: Managerial Accounting. These new courses will provide adequate background for students in these programs. And Management Programs will have new course numbers but the learning outcomes and content remains similar. This will put the students in the same courses as students in the BComm, increasing the scheduling flexibility for students as the courses will be offered more regularly.

3. **Faculty of Business and Information Technology**

   - **Bachelor of Commerce – Minor Program Adjustment: Course Removal and Replacement**
   
   CPRC approved the removal of BUSI 2150 – Financial Accounting I and BUSI 2160U – Financial Accounting II to be replaced with new course BUSI 1130U: Introduction to Financial Accounting, with the opportunity to take a second course (BUSI 2130U – Intermediate Financial Accounting I) if desired. The committee also approved the removal of BUSI 2201U – Marketing I and BUSI 2202U – Marketing II to be replaced with BUSI 2200U – Marketing Management, a comprehensive marketing management course in second year, and have the opportunity to take additional marketing electives throughout the program. Related changes will be implemented for the various pathways and minor programs.

   The changes allow for the introduction of an additional business elective and open elective which significantly increases the flexibility of the program for students to explore other areas of interest and participate in internships and exchange programs. Additionally, this will enable students to pursue a double major in the B.Comm. The implementation of these changes will also allow students graduating with the Accounting major to meet the current CPA Ontario requirements and prepare them to complete the Graduate Diploma (G.Dip.) program.

   - **Bachelor of Commerce – Minor Program Adjustment: Double Majors**
   
   CPRC approved the option for students to complete a double major in the B.Comm, giving them greater depth of knowledge in an increased number of areas. Students have to complete all course requirements for both majors to be eligible and would receive for example a Bachelor of Commerce with majors in
Accounting and Marketing. Students will need to complete at least 8 courses (24 credit hours) that are exclusive to the second major. Depending on the combination of majors, students may be required to 3 additional courses for the degree (9 credit hours, for a total of 129 credit hours for the degree) during their 4-year program.

c. Bachelor of Commerce – Minor Program Adjustment: Major and Minor Requirements
CPRC approved the addition of the major and minor minimum admission and standing requirements into the Academic Calendar. The application to major/minor was approved in 2010, however the Academic Calendar did not include the minimum requirements to be in a major or minor, nor did it include the requirements to remain in good standing within a major or minor. Inclusion in the Calendar will enable faculty and staff to refer students to the Academic Calendar to review the major/minor minimum requirements.

d. Bachelor of Commerce – Minor Program Adjustment: Finance Minor for Applied and Industrial Mathematics Students
In consultation and collaboration with the Faculty of Science (FSCI) and the Applied and Industrial Mathematics (AMAT) program, the Faculty of Business and Information Technology (FBIT) created a finance minor to be offered to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in AMAT program. This minor is a modification of the finance minor offered to BComm students. Mathematics underlies much of our daily activities and is a key component of problem solving, from the modelling of atmospheric physics to the complexities of managing risk in financial markets. It is well understood and noticed that modern finance is becoming increasingly technical, requiring the use of sophisticated mathematical tools in both research and practice. Thus, FBIT will offer students in AMAT the opportunity to gain greater business and finance knowledge.

4. Faculty of Health Sciences

a. Bachelor of Health Science in Kinesiology – Minor Program Adjustment: Fitness and Health Promotion Bridge to Kinesiology
CPRC approved the proposal to change the credits given in the block transfer for Fitness & Health Promotion (FHP) Bridge students to reflect recent FHP program map changes. The changes to the FHP map were made to ensure students are prepared to progress to upper year courses. Furthermore, other courses have been added to the block transfer as college FHP programs have increased content in some areas, thus allowing for additional credit.

b. Bachelor of Science in Nursing – Minor Program Adjustment: Addition of Admission Requirement
CPRC approved the use of the CASPer (Computer-based Assessment for Sampling Personal Characteristics) score in combination with incoming GPA (i.e., summative tool) as the admission criteria for the BScN program. CASPer is an online screening tool designed to evaluate key personal and professional characteristics for successful students and graduates. To date, several nursing programs are utilizing CASPer or are in the approval stages and the use of online screening tools is an emerging trend in medicine and nursing across Canada.

GPA is often used as the foremost indicator of success in university programs, however because nursing is a practice discipline, the Faculty would also like to ensure the program is engaging with applicants of high interpersonal caliber. Combined with existing knowledge based measures (e.g., GPA), CASPer helps programs make more informed and data driven admissions decisions, resulting in stronger, higher quality students and graduates. Additionally, the UOIT BScN programs have strong retention rates and it is believed that this will be strengthened by the addition of CASPer.

c. Bachelor of Science in Nursing – Minor Program Adjustment: Core Course Revision
CPRC approved a new course for the BScN Program, HLSC 3712U Professional Ethics in Nursing, to
replace HLSC 3710U Ethics. When HLSC 3710U Ethics is offered in the Fall term to students in all programs, nursing students take it with components specifically designed with their needs in mind. For example, seminar sessions are led by nursing faculty and modules particular to nursing are integrated. However, when it is offered in the summer, these nursing components are not integrated, which means that nursing students who might register in the summer course do not get the addition of the content important to nursing. This change does not change content in the course, but instead clarifies the need for nursing students to take the ethics course for students in the nursing program. HLSC 3710U Ethics will continue to be offered to the BAHSc & BHSc students.

5. Faculty of Science

a. Bachelor of Science – Minor Program Adjustment: Co-operative Education Calendar

Description

CPRC approved the proposed changes to the Faculty of Science’s Co-operative Education calendar description. The goal of the revision is to improve and clarify both the application procedure and the work term requirements. Most of the changes focus on reorganizing and reformatting the description to separate the different aspects of the program. A program map, that in practice was rarely followed, was also removed. Finally, an ambiguity regarding when the cGPA required for co-operative education is assessed was clarified by stating that a minimum of 2.70 (B-) is required at time of application.

b. Bachelor of Science in Chemistry – Minor Program Adjustment: Chemistry Course Requirements

CPRC approved the addition of a new 4th year elective chemistry course in the Calendar. The course, CHEM 4610U - Advances in Inorganic Chemistry, is currently being offered for a second time under a ‘Special Topics, CHEM 4041U’. The chemistry group has plans to offer a fourth-year advanced inorganic course on a more regular and consistent basis, and this course would be a suitable 4th-year senior chemistry elective for all chemistry programs. Adding a fourth-year class in Advanced Inorganic Chemistry would give students and faculty greater flexibility in course offering, in addition to providing a satisfactory number of courses in this area of chemistry. Currently, two courses in inorganic chemistry is not sufficient.

c. Bachelor of Science in Computer Science – Minor Program Adjustment: Admission Requirements

CPRC approved a revision to the admission requirements for the Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computer Science program. Specifically, Grade 12 biology and chemistry will be removed from the list of possible courses, and computer science will be added. Students will be required to take English (ENG4U) and Advanced Functions (MHF4U) and one of physics, calculus and vectors, or computer science.

Previously, Grade 12 Computer Science (ICS4U) was not offered at many high-schools. That is now changing, and a large fraction of Ontario high-school students now have access to this course. As students’ grades in this course are a good indicator for their aptitude in computer science, the new admission requirements will more accurately predict students’ success in the computer science program. The proposed changes will bring the admission requirements in line with the computer science first year program map, and with Computer Science admission requirements at other universities in the area. It is also likely that the new admission requirements will appear more attractive to prospective students.

d. Bachelor of Science in Physics – Minor Program Adjustment: Program Map Adjustments

CPRC approved a variety of changes to the Physics program, including some rearrangement of courses, deletion of two required courses, addition of more elective choice, some general clean-up, and corresponding changes to the specializations in Astrophysics and Energy and Environmental Physics. These changes will make the overall program more balanced with respect to student workload, help with retention issues, and form a base to make future improvements.
One of the additional benefits of the proposed changes is more flexibility for students wishing to take a Minor. In particular, students would now be able to fit the Data Science Minor into their program map. Other minors (e.g., Chemistry, Biology) would likewise be easier for students to take.

6. **Faculty of Social Science and Humanities**

   a. **Bachelor of Arts – Minor Program Adjustment: First-year Core**
   
   CPRC approved the new course LGLS 1000U – Foundations of Legal Studies to replace SSCI 1010U – Intro to Canadian Legal System and for the course to be included in the common first-year core for all BA programs in the Faculty. The introduction of LGLS 1000U is a response to the recommendations from the external review of the Legal Studies program (January 2016). It is also reflective of the Faculty’s decision to create a common first-year core, with courses introducing each of the disciplines taught in the Faculty. LGLS 1000U will provide students not only with knowledge of the basics of the Canadian legal system, but also with critical perspectives on law and its role in society as well as a general understanding of the discipline of legal studies, which will enhance student learning.

   b. **Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Digital Media Studies – Minor Program Adjustment: Program Map Adjustments**

   CPRC approved the removal of SSCI 1200U, SSCI 2900U, and one general elective; course numbering and sequencing changes for COMM 1311U and 1610U; course name changes for COMM 3720U and 3740U; and the addition of SSCI 1000U and LGLS 1000U, as part of the first-year common core, to the Communication and Digital Media Studies (CDMS) program. The removal of SSCI 1200U, SSCI 2900U, and one elective enables the curricular shift to a common first-year for CDMS students without deleting core CDMS courses. SSCI 1200U and SSCI 2900U will be offered to students as an elective option.

   Similarly, COMM 1311U and COMM 1610U are moved from the first year to the second year. Additionally, the removal of SSCI 2900U from the program reduces possible redundancy with the core field/discipline specific Research Methods course. SSCI 2900 has value to CDMS students as an elective option, but not as a required course. Course title, description, and prerequisite changes for COMM 3720U and COMM 3740U better reflect the courses as they are taught and are aimed at reducing confusion among students about what the courses are about.