REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND AWARDS

(SCAPA)

Faculty of Engineering: Engineering Excellence Admission Program

Faculty of Engineering and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry: Amendments to the Admission and Progression Requirements of the Concurrent Degree Programs in Engineering and Medicine

Faculty of Health Sciences: Removal of Aquatics Milestone Requirement from the Undergraduate Kinesiology Program

Huron University College: Introduction of a Minor in Communicating Cultures

School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Revisions to the Master of Nursing (MN) Program

Faculty of Arts and Humanities: Addition of "Digital Humanities" and "Medieval Studies" to the List of Breadth Requirements for Graduation

Revisions to the Policy on Academic Transcripts

Report of the Subcommittee on Teaching Awards

New Scholarship and Awards

FOR APPROVAL

1. **Faculty of Engineering: Engineering Excellence Admission Program**

Recommended: That the Engineering Excellence Admission Program be introduced in the Faculty of Engineering, effective September 1, 2013.

NEW CALENDAR COPY
http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg337.html

Engineering Excellence Admission Program

All students satisfying the following conditions will be guaranteed acceptance to their department of choice in second year within the Faculty of Engineering.

Students admitted directly to Western's Faculty of Engineering on the basis of an Ontario, Out-of-Province, or International High School Diploma:

Students must have achieved both a minimum 85% mid-year and final admission average, including prerequisites for the Faculty of Engineering as calculated by Western's Admission Office;

AND

Students must successfully complete all requirements for the first-year Engineering program with at least a 75% weighted average on a full courseload.

Background:

The Engineering Excellence Admission Program was first introduced on a trial basis a few years ago. The Faculty now wishes to formalize this arrangement so it can be entered into the Academic Calendar and advertised to students.

2. **Faculty of Engineering and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry: Amendments to the Admission and Progression Requirements of the Concurrent Degree Programs in Engineering and Medicine**

Recommended: That effective September 1, 2013, the admission and progression requirements of all concurrent Bachelor of Engineering Science (BESc) and Doctor of Medicine (MD) programs be revised as set out in **Appendix 1**.

Background:

The admission and progression requirements for all concurrent programs in Engineering and Medicine needed to be updated to reflect current procedures.

3. **Faculty of Health Sciences: Removal of Aquatics Milestone Requirement from the Undergraduate Kinesiology Program**

Recommended: That the Aquatics Milestone be removed as a requirement for the undergraduate programs in Kinesiology, as set out in **Appendix 2**, effective September 1, 2013.

Background:

The aquatics milestone has been a requirement of the Kinesiology Undergraduate Program for many years. In the past, students were required to take a team sport, an individual sport, a racquet sport, and aquatics. As the program evolved from Physical Activity to Kinesiology, all of the other activity requirements were dropped with the exception of aquatics. Currently, it is the only physical activity in the program that is mandatory and, unlike the other milestones (i.e., CPR), it is the only one that is graded. While aquatics activities will still be offered as part of the curriculum, they will no longer be mandatory.

4. **Huron University College: Introduction of a Minor in Communicating Cultures**

Recommended: That a Minor in Communicating Cultures be introduced at Huron University College, as set out in **Appendix 3**, effective September 1, 2013.

Background:

The module centres on studies of human communications as conditioned by cultural context. It allows studies of texts (manuscript, printed, oral, pictorial, filmic, audio, etc.) in their contexts. “Cultures” can be national/regional, but also disciplinary or mediated (print culture, business culture, film culture). Interdisciplinary in its approach, the module will draw on existing strengths at Huron in intercultural communications and semiotics through personnel and courses in Global Studies, Japanese, Chinese, French, English, Religious Studies, Philosophy, History, Writing, and Political Science.

The structural components of the module are: 1.0 foundational course in “texts and contexts” (through courses on Perspectives on Reading and Perspectives on Communication), 1.0 course in “literary/linguistic/communications theory,” 1.0 course in “applications/communications-acts” and 1.0 course in “cultural narratives.”

5. **School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: Revisions to the Master of Nursing (MN) Program**

Recommended: That effective September 1, 2013, the fields "Advanced Nursing Practice" and "Advanced Primary Health Care Nursing Practice" be added to the Master of Nursing (MN) program,

that students currently enrolled in the MN program be allowed to take courses and graduate under the current model, and

that the current MN option be discontinued effective August 31, 2015.

Background:

Western currently has two Master's degree programs in Nursing. The MScN academic degree is thesis based and prepares graduates for research and advanced practice. The MN program is course based, leads to a professional degree and prepares nurses for careers in advanced nursing practice.
The current MN program contains core courses and Advanced Practice courses (**see Table in Appendix 4**). The Advanced Practice courses also include those that currently comprise the Ontario Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (PHCNP) Program offered through the Council of Ontario University Programs in Nursing (COUPN) Consortium.

Graduates of the MN degree who complete the PHCNP program courses are eligible to write the Canadian Nurses Association Nurse Practitioner Registration Exam. Prior to 2009, PHCNP courses were at the post-baccalaureate certificate level. In 2009, these courses were upgraded to the graduate level, but continued to be managed through the undergraduate level of the Registrar's Office.

All students applying for the MN since 2009 were required to apply for a Leave of Absence to complete the PHCNP courses, for which they receive advanced standing towards the MN program. The proposed change would allow for a field of study and course plan that are regulated and the entire program would be offered through the Graduate Studies office in Nursing. This would also accurately reflect the requirements of the Advanced Practice field.

Following the introduction of the modification, students would be enrolled as graduate students while taking the COUPN Consortium PHCNP program courses. The courses that comprise the PHCNP Program **(see Table**) have been recognised as graduate-level courses by COUPN with respect to requirements and content. It has been determined that Western is the only institution within the COUPN PHCNP program consortium of nine universities that does not currently house these courses in the graduate category. This proposed change would allow for a field reflective of the content and courses, to be offered at the level at which the courses are recognised. The PHCNP program consortium completed a successful IQAP review in October of 2012. One of the few recommendations resulting from the review was that the PHCNP courses be spread out over two years with master's courses rather than having a core master's course year followed by a PHCNP program year. Having the students registered at the graduate level for both years of the MN program would facilitate compliance with this recommendation at Western.

Tuition costs would increase as the students would be registered and charged for all studies at the graduate level. This change will not require any substantive changes to the curriculum, program milestones, admission requirements, program goals, or physical or human resources.

FOR INFORMATION

6. **Faculty of Arts and Humanities: Addition of "Digital Humanities" and "Medieval Studies" to the List of Breadth Requirements for Graduation**

The new module and course designation "Digital Humanities" were approved by SCAPA and Senate in June 2012 (see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/senate/minutes/2012/m1206sen.pdf). Similarly, "Medieval Studies" was approved as a new module and a course designation in April 2012 (see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/senate/minutes/2012/m1204sen.pdf).

Although the intention was to add both of these areas to the list of breadth requirements for graduation, this was not stated specifically in the agenda items for SCAPA and Senate. Thus, the policy on "Breadth Requirements for Bachelor Degrees" was not revised to include these areas (http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/regn/registration_progression.pdf in the Academic Calendar).

To correct this issue, the Registrar's Office has now updated the Calendar to include both Digital Humanities and Medieval Studies as Category "B" breadth requirements in the policy on "Breadth Requirements for Bachelor Degrees." The policy will be updated to reflect these additions in the Academic Handbook after the Senate meeting in March.

7. **Revisions to the Policy on Academic Transcripts**

Amendments have been made to the policy on Academic Transcripts to delete references to the policy change made in 2010 regarding graduate student transcripts, the Office of the Registrar's location, and the cost of transcripts. Revisions to the policy are set out in **Appendix 5**.

8. **Report of the Subcommittee on Teaching Awards**

The Report of the Subcommittee on Teaching Awards is attached as **Appendix 6.**

9. **New Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries**

SCAPA has approved on behalf of the Senate, for recommendation to the Board of Governors through the President & Vice-Chancellor, the Terms of Reference for the new scholarships, awards and bursaries, as set out in **Appendix 7.**