AGENDA ITEM NO: 12.6

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
REPORT FOR INFORMATION

PRESENTED BY: Ryan Brook, vice-chair, academic programs committee
DATE OF MEETING: February 20, 2020
SUBJECT: Deletion of the Postgraduate Diploma in Biochemistry
COUNCIL ACTION: For Information Only

SUMMARY:
At its January 29, 2020 meeting, the academic programs committee approved the following motions:

- That the Academic Programs Committee approve deletion of the biochemistry field of study for the Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) program, effective May 2020.

This deletion is related to the creation of the new fields of study in biomedical sciences that were reported at the January 16, 2020 meeting of University Council. With the deletion of the biochemistry field of study for the Master of Science (MSc) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programs, the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies also seeks to deletion the PGD option.

There are currently no students enrolled in the PDG in Biochemistry and there have not been any students in the program in approximately 20 years. CGPS and the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology have determined that they do not wish to preserve the option to offer a PGD program in Biochemistry in the future and will continue to focus their efforts and resources on the well-subscribed M.Sc. and PhD programs.

There will be no courses deleted as part of this termination nor will there be any impact on faculty resources.

The academic programs committee reviewed the proposal at its January 30, 2020 meeting and agreed with the rationale for the termination, and appreciated the efforts of CGPS and the sponsoring unit to ensure that moribund programs are removed from the University Catalogue.

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Report Form for Program Termination – Biochemistry field of specialization for the Postgraduate Diploma (PGD)
Program(s) to be deleted: Biochemistry field of specialization for the Postgraduate Diploma (PGD)

Effective date of termination: May 1, 2020

1. List reasons for termination and describe the background leading to this decision.
The Biochemistry field of specialization was replaced with Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology for graduate programming. While formal approval was secured for master’s and PhD programming, the PGD program was an oversight. There have not been any students in approximately 20 years.

2. Technical information.

2.1 Courses offered in the program and faculty resources required for these courses.
No impact. There have not been any students in approximately 20 years.

2.2 Other resources (staff, technology, physical resources, etc) used for this program.
No impact. There have not been any students in approximately 20 years.

2.3 Courses to be deleted, if any.
None.

2.4 Number of students presently enrolled.
Zero

2.5 Number of students enrolled and graduated over the last five years.
Zero

3. Impact of the termination.

Internal

3.1 What if any impact will this termination have on undergraduate and graduate students? How will they be advised to complete their programs?
No impact. There have not been any students in approximately 20 years.

3.2 What impact will this termination have on faculty and teaching assignments?
No impact. There have not been any students in approximately 20 years.

3.3 Will this termination affect other programs, departments or colleges?
No.
3.4 If courses are also to be deleted, will these deletions affect any other programs?
N/A

3.5 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop a program to replace this one?
Not anticipated.

3.6 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop courses to replace the ones deleted?
Not applicable.

3.7 Describe any impact on research projects.
Not applicable.

3.8 Will this deletion affect resource areas such as library resources, physical facilities, and information technology?
No.

3.9 Describe the budgetary implications of this deletion.
Minor “in kind” costs associated with student information system updates and edits to the program catalogue.

External

3.10 Describe any external impact (e.g. university reputation, accreditation, other institutions, high schools, community organizations, professional bodies).
None.

3.11 Is it likely or appropriate that another educational institution will offer this program if it is deleted at the University of Saskatchewan?
Not in Saskatchewan.

Other

3.12 Are there any other relevant impacts or considerations?
No.

3.13 Please provide any statements or opinions received about this termination.
All relevant information was provided at the December 18, 2019 APC meeting.

(Optional)

4. Additional information. Programs which have not undergone recent formal reviews should provide additional relevant information about quality, demand, efficiency, unique features, and relevance to the province.
All relevant information was provided at the December 18, 2019 APC meeting.