

**Vancouver Senate Admissions Committee**

**MINUTES OF 12 OCTOBER 2022**

**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Via zoom**

- Attendance:** Prof. Carol Jaeger (Joint Faculties Representative, Faculty of Applied Science, Chair)  
Dr. Sandra Brown (Associate Dean, Academic, Faculty of Land and Food Systems)  
Dr. James Charbonneau (Associate Dean, Faculty of Science)  
Dr. Joanne Fox (Faculty of Science – Joint Faculties Representative)  
Prof. Bhushan Gopaluni (Vice-Provost and AVP, Faculty Planning *pro tem*)  
Mr. Brendan Morey (Assistant Dean, Student Administration & Awards, Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies)  
Dr. Laura Moss (Associate Dean, Students, Faculty of Arts)  
Mr. Sam Saini (Associate Registrar, Undergraduate Admissions and Student Recruitment & Advising, Enrolment Services)  
Ericia Salzberg (Senior Associate Dean, Students, Faculty of Commerce & Business Administration)  
Dr. Shahin Shirzad (Assistant Dean, Admissions, Faculty of Medicine)
- Regrets:** Sam Kenston (Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies – Student Senator)  
Dr. Claudia Krebs (Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee)  
Bachviet Nguyen (Faculty of Medicine – Student Senator)  
Dr. Sandra Jarvis-Selinger (Associate Dean, Academic, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences)  
Dr. Savvas Nicolaou (Joint Faculties Representative, Faculty of Medicine)  
Dr. Steven Pelech (Faculty of Medicine Representative)  
Dr. Ingrid Price (Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Representative)  
Dr. Kate Ross (Associate Vice-President and Registrar, Enrolment Services)  
Ms. Angela Zhao (Convocation Senator)
- Guests:** Joseph Anthony (Associate Dean, Health Professions, Physical Therapy)  
Blake Dobie (Student Services Manager, Midwifery Program)

**Secretariat:** A. Breen and B. Menard

**ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Approved by consent.

### ITEM 3: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 21 SEPTEMBER 2022

The Chair called for a motion as follows:

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| <i>J. Fox</i><br><i>S. Brown</i> | } | <i>That the Minutes of 21 September 2022 be approved as presented.</i> |
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Approved

### ITEM 4: BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 21 SEPTEMBER 2022

None.

### ITEM 5: BACHELOR OF MIDWIFERY DISTRIBUTED PROGRAM – FRASER COHORT (approval)

The Chair invited Dr. Anthony to present the proposal for the expansion of the Bachelor of Midwifery program. In April 2022, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training approved funding for an additional 8 students at the Lark Educational Site in Surrey along with additional faculty and staff to support the program. UBC is the only source of midwifery education in BC and the additional seats will help meet increasing demand for maternity care in the Fraser Health region.

Dr. Anthony noted that there is a shortage of midwives in BC. The ministries of Advanced Education and Health have asked the University to increase the number of seats in the program. This follows an increase of 4 seats in April 2022. The additional seats are proposed to be added to the current distributed cohort program in the Fraser Health region (Surrey, BC). There will be no changes to admission requirements for the program. It was clarified that unlike other healthcare programs, a student's program location is not determined at the point of admission; students are surveyed in their first year in the program and asked to rank their site preferences. Dr. Anthony noted that the increase in seats is from 24 to 32 and not from 24 to 28 as per the motion on the agenda.

To ensure sufficient clarity regarding the distributed model and site placement, the proposed Calendar entry was revised to read as follows:

#### **Introduction**

The Midwifery Program prepares students to provide primary care for women and their families through pregnancy and up to the third month after birth.

Midwives, although independent practitioners, work as part of the health care team. The four-year program combines broad-based knowledge and understanding in the humanities, and the social and bio-medical sciences.

### **Distributed Option in Midwifery Education**

The **Midwifery Education Program** offers a distributed program involving a cohort of students at geographically separated sites. **Students in the Island Cohort will be located in Victoria, BC, and students in the Fraser Cohort will be located in Surrey. Classrooms are provided at each site with classes additionally broadcast by teleconferencing for students attending clinical placements at a distance. Admissions, academic progression, academic regulations, degree requirements, and costs are the same regardless of cohort location.**

Further information about program delivery and location for each cohort may be found on the [Midwifery program's admissions website](#).

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### **Post-Acceptance Requirements**

Upon acceptance each student will receive a letter asking them to confirm their seat in the program. They will sign a form acknowledging the fact that they will need to relocate for one or more terms, at their own expense, in order to fulfill clinical requirements.

All undergraduate students admitted to the Midwifery Program in the Faculty of Medicine will have their vaccination records reviewed to determine their risk for communicable diseases.

Upon acceptance, **in accordance with provincial health standards**, each student must submit **evidence of immunizations** (Tetanus/Diphtheria-Toxoid, Polio, MMR, Hepatitis B, **COVID-19**) and a negative TB skin test (if the skin test is positive, a chest x-ray is required) **to the Student Health Service**. Students who have not demonstrated immunity to any of these conditions prior to entry should arrange to complete the immunization(s) through UBC Student Health Services as soon as possible after matriculation. Students who do not comply with the immunization requirements by the start of Term 2 of Year 1 will not be able to participate in required educational training, nor any clinical placements, thereby jeopardizing their ability to graduate from the program.

Undergraduate midwifery students who continue to fail to sero-convert will be tested for the presence of Hepatitis B antigen by the Student Health Service. Students who demonstrate Hepatitis B infectivity may be required to complete a modified course of training and may pursue their studies only as long as their continued involvement does not pose a health or safety hazard to themselves or others, and as long as they are able to meet the core requirements for a Midwifery degree at UBC.

Counselling resources are available to any Midwifery Undergraduate student identified as Hepatitis B positive.

The Chair called for a motion as follows:

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| J. Fox.<br>B. Gopaluni | } | <i>That the Committee approve and recommend to Senate for approval the Bachelor of Midwifery Distributed Program – Fraser Cohort and an amendment to the previously adopted enrolment targets for the Bachelor of Midwifery for the 2023 academic year from 24 to 32.</i> |
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Approved

#### ITEM 6: MASTER OF SCIENCE IN GENETIC COUNSELLING – REVISED ENROLMENT TARGETS (approval)

The Chair invited Dr. Anthony to present the proposal to increase the number of seats in the Master of Science in Genetic Counselling program. The UBC Genetic Counselling program (MScGC) is the only entry-to-practice genetic counselling program in British Columbia. The additional seats will serve to meet the long-standing shortage of Genetic Counsellors in BC and across North America arising from multiple factors, including increasing clinical need for genetics and genomics across all areas of health care, and the increased need for genetic counsellors in private industry and research domains.

It was noted that there has been a move to listing all English language proficiency and GRE requirements centrally in the Faculty of Graduate and Post-Doctoral Studies section of the Calendar, rather than for each individual program. As such, the Calendar entry was revised to read as follows:

#### ***Genetic Counselling***

##### **Program Overview**

The Department of Medical Genetics, through the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies offers a two-year graduate program leading to an M.Sc. degree in Genetic Counselling. The Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling. Graduates of the program will be eligible to apply for "Active Candidate" status for both the American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC) and the **Canadian Board of Genetic Counselling (CBGC)** certification exams.

**The Master of Science in Genetic Counselling offers a distributed program of study where selected students will spend a portion of their degree in geographically separate sites outside of the Vancouver area. Students will be selected for the Vancouver cohort and distributed cohort program options through the Genetic Counseling Admissions Match through National Matching Services (NMS).**

Detailed program information is provided on the [program website](#).

## Master of Science

### Admission Requirements

**Candidates must meet minimum entry requirements established by Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.**

The Selection Committee evaluates applicants' life experiences, communication skills, and academic transcripts.

The following are **required** for admission:

- **confirmed registration for the Genetic Counseling Admissions Match through National Matching Services (NMS)**
- a minimum of a B.Sc. or equivalent degree
- previous coursework that included a strong genetics component, **including at least one course in molecular genetics**
- previous coursework that included biochemistry and basic statistics
- previous coursework in clinical embryology. The University of Cincinnati offers an excellent online clinical embryology course and provides a grade and certificate of completion that would need to be submitted in the application process
- a minimum of 3 months of one-on-one counselling experience prior to entering the program (either paid or volunteer) in a setting such as a distress line, peer counselling, hospice, rape relief centre, etc. **This experience must include a formal training process prior to beginning the counselling experience.**
- **Applicants from a university outside Canada in which English is not the primary language of instruction must present evidence of English language proficiency. Tests must have been taken within the last 24 months at the time of submission of your application. Required minimum English language proficiency scores for admission to the program can be found [here](#).**
- personal interview with the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee evaluates all applications and offers interviews based on merit. Consideration is given to transcripts, knowledge of profession, communication and relevant experience. **Fulfillment of the minimum requirements does not guarantee an interview.**

The following are **recommended** for admission:

- coursework in developmental biology, human anatomy/physiology, and psychology/counselling
- knowledge of the profession and, if possible, experience in a clinical genetics unit (which may be obtained through volunteer work, a work study position or a directed study project)

### Program Requirements

The M.Sc. is a non-thesis program. Students are required to complete 34 credits of graduate coursework in human, molecular, and clinical genetics, counselling techniques, and

bioethics. The required courses also encompass practical experience through clinical and laboratory rotations. Graduation requirements include successful completion of a comprehensive examination. Students attend and participate in educational sessions offered by the Department of Medical Genetics and other departments within the hospital and University. All applicants who accept an offer are required to consent to a Criminal Record Check. **Students are expected to follow the screening expectations and recommended immunizations of Health Care Organization workers as set out in Health Care Organization policy, including complying with all applicable Provincial Health Orders pertaining to mandatory vaccines.**

In response to a question regarding whether, given the magnitude of shortages currently seen in the healthcare industry, a modest increase of 2 additional seats was sufficient to meet demand, it was noted that one of the limiting considerations is preceptor clinical placement; enrolment could theoretically be increased but it is a challenge to find suitable supervisory placements.

It was noted that the proposed Calendar entry includes changes to admission requirements, which was not reflected in the proposed motion for approval. The Committee consented to a friendly amendment and the Chair called for a revised motion as follows:

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|--------------------------------|---|---|
| <i>S. Brown<br/>S. Shirzad</i> | } | <i>That the Committee approve and recommend to Senate for approval <b>admission changes and</b> an amendment to the previously adopted enrolment targets for the Master of Science in Genetic Counselling for the 2023 academic year from 6 to 8.</i> |
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Approved

#### ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 8: NEXT MEETING – 12 OCTOBER 2022, 10:00AM-12:00PM via ZOOM

ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT

ITEM 10: CATEGORY 2 CHANGES (circulated for email approval)

The following proposals were approved by email:

- Student Mobility Agreement: Erasmus University Rotterdam (Expansion)
- Student Mobility Agreement: Sungkyunkwan University (Expansion)
- Student Mobility Agreement: Chulalongkorn University (Renewal)
- Student Mobility Agreement: Global Supply Chain and Logistics Management (Joint Exchange Program)-UBC/Copenhagen Business School/Chinese University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen (Renewal)
- Student Mobility Agreement: Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Renewal)

- f. Student Mobility Agreement: Koch University (Renewal)
- g. Student Mobility Agreement: Lancaster University (Renewal)
- h. Student Mobility Agreement: National University of Singapore | Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (specific to UBC MPPGA program) (Renewal)
- i. Student Mobility Agreement: National University of Singapore (Renewal)
- j. Student Mobility Agreement: Sciences Po Lyon (Renewal)
- k. Student Mobility Agreement: Singapore Management University (Renewal)
- l. Student Mobility Agreement: Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (Renewal)
- m. Student Mobility Agreement: University of Edinburgh (Renewal)
- n. Student Mobility Agreement: University of Glasgow (Renewal)
- o. Student Mobility Agreement: Universidad de Granada (Renewal)
- p. Student Mobility Agreement: University of Mannheim (Renewal)
- q. Student Mobility Agreement: University of Tokyo (Renewal)
- r. Student Mobility Agreement: University of Washington (Renewal)
- s. Student Mobility Agreement: Waseda University (Renewal)
- u. Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies – Changes in English Language Proficiency Standards and GRE Requirements

For Item 10t Student Mobility Agreement: Zhejiang University (Renewal), Dr Moss noted that she has not had an opportunity to review the proposal and that the letter of support from the faculty was quite dated. The proposal will be resubmitted for approval. It was noted that for renewals, the responsible office should consult with participating faculties to confirm whether there is continued support for agreement. Future renewal proposals should include updated letters from participating faculties and some information on how many students have participated in the exchange.

Committee members stated that it would be helpful for Go Global to provide statistic on how many UBC students have participated in a given exchange, and how many students from the partner institution have come to UBC. The Committee asked that at some point in the future, Go Global to provide a general update on student mobility agreements broadly, including how many are in place and active, student participation rates, benefit to students etc. If the VPI prepares an annual report on the agreements, it can be shared with the Committee.

#### ITEM 11: STUDENT APPEAL

The Committee considered one student appeal, which was dismissed.