

Graduate Programs in the Faculty of Applied Health Sciences Review Year 1 (2022) - FAR Implementation Report (reviewed 2020/21)

Recommendation #1

Program requirements should be specific to areas of study suggesting that program governance should be at departmental level rather than through the FAHS [Faculty of Applied Health Sciences] graduate office. Departmental-level program leadership with representation on Graduate Council working in conjunction with the Dean and Associate Deans of Graduate Studies would be a more effective administrative structure.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC understands the recommendation to be referring to changes in program governance for the streams within each degree (MA, MSc, PhD) as these programs are not based in Departments. The Committee expects that the FAHS Graduate Committee, in consultation with the Associate Dean, is best-positioned to address how program requirements could become more specific to areas of study and possible changes to program governance. ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Responsible for resources:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Responsible for implementation:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Timeline:	Dean of Applied Health Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2021/22

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Complete the search and selection of Departmental-level Graduate Program Directors (GPDs) for the research-based Masters Program.	Associate Dean (AD)	C		
Action #2 Form Departmental-level Graduate Program Committees to govern the relevant research-based Master-level graduate programs.	Graduate Program Directors (GPDs)	T		

*On Target (T), Delayed (D), Complete (C), Complete and Ongoing (O)

Comments 2022:

Between December 2021-February 2022 the AD's office ran searches to fill three new GPD positions for the Departments of Kinesiology, Sport Management and Health Sciences. All searches were successful in that three well-deserving candidates were chosen. The official start date of the GPDs is July 2022, at which time governance of the research-based Master-level graduate program will begin to transition to the departmental level.

As for the Departments of Recreation and Leisure, as well as Nursing, they are working hard to increase their Masters-level research-based enrolment. Once enrolment reaches a critical mass, the AD's office will organize a search for the implementation of these departmental-based GPDs.

Recommendation #2

Review course credit unit requirements in programs to reflect availability of electives and reduce burden of Directed Study courses. If course credit units remain then offerings for research-masters courses need to be more equally distributed across departments.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Responsible for resources:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Responsible for implementation:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Timeline:	Dean of Applied Health Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2021/22

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Invite CPI to lead a Curriculum Mapping activity for the Masters research-based graduate program within 2022-2023.	AD	T		
Action #2 Work to distribute courses equally across Departments for the Masters research-based program.	AD and GPDs	T		

Comments 2022:

The AD's office is planning on organizing a Curriculum Mapping activity session Spring-Summer 2022. This activity will be critical for mapping course selections and distribution

across Departments. From this activity, the AD and GPDs will use the relevant information to move course delivery forward equitably.

Recommendation #3

Review program course offerings including Directed Study courses to ensure course requirements are balanced with faculty workload.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to review program course offerings to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The Committee recognizes that ensuring that course requirements are balanced with faculty workload lies outside of its jurisdiction and has implications with respect to the Brock University/Faculty Association Collective Agreement.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Responsible for resources:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Responsible for implementation:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Timeline:	Dean of Applied Health Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2021/22

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Invite CPI to lead a Curriculum Mapping activity for the Masters research-based graduate program within 2022-2023.	AD	T		
Action #2 Work to ensure a balanced faculty workload for the Masters research-based graduate program.	AD and GPDs	T		

Comments 2022:

The AD's office is planning on organizing a Curriculum Mapping activity session Spring-Summer 2022. This activity will be critical for mapping course selections and distribution across Departments. From this activity, the AD and GPDs will use the relevant information to move course delivery forward equitably.

Recommendation #4

Consider making courses in professional programs available to research-based masters students.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted for consideration. The Committee recognizes that a mechanism already exists for students in research-based programs to take elective courses in the professional programs on an ad hoc basis. ARC expects that the Graduate Program Directors, in consultation with the Associate Dean, are best-positioned to determine how to enhance further co-operation between the programs in this respect.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Responsible for resources:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Responsible for implementation:	FAHS Graduate Committee
Timeline:	Dean of Applied Health Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2021/22

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Meet on a yearly basis to specifically identify the courses within the course-based Master programs (i.e. MPH, MAG and MPK) that are most relevant to the Masters research-based graduate program.	AD and GPDs	T		
Action #2 Work to ensure these courses are open to graduate students enrolled in the Masters research-based graduate program.	AD and GPDs	T		

Comments 2022:

The AD meets with course-based GPDs monthly and thus has already identified a number of courses that are of interest to the research-based Master students. The course-based GPDs continue to be very open to allowing research-based Master students entry into these courses. This past year, research-based Master students interested in taking these specific courses were all provided permission to enroll.

Recommendation #5

Review enrollment numbers in courses currently offered, consider minimum enrollment limits and identify sustainability with present faculty complement (e.g., condensed / combined courses with team-teaching).

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

Responsible for approving: FAHS Graduate Committee
 Responsible for resources: FAHS Graduate Committee
 Responsible for implementation: FAHS Graduate Committee
 Timeline: Dean of Applied Health Sciences to report by the end of academic year 2021/22

Actions	Responsibility	Year One*	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Invite CPI to lead a Curriculum Mapping activity for the Masters research-based graduate program during the 2022-2023 academic year.	AD	T		
Action #2 Implement the relevant action items brought forward from the Curriculum Mapping activity.	AD and GPDs	T		

Comments 2022:

The AD's office is planning on organizing a Curriculum Mapping activity session Spring-Summer 2022. This activity will be critical for mapping course selections and distribution across departments. From this activity, the AD and GPDs will use the information to move forward regarding course offerings, enrollment numbers, team teaching, hybrid teaching options etc.

Recommendation #6

Implement action on Truth and Reconciliation as part of priorities toward a culture of inclusivity, accessibility, reconciliation, and decolonization.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to be consistent with current initiatives across the University to move towards a culture of inclusivity, accessibility, reconciliation and decolonization. The Committee understands that a directive to the programs on this issue is not within its jurisdiction while recognizing that support is clearly indicated by all parties.

Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted.