



TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

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AGENDA ITEM: 5

ITEM IDENTIFICATION: Faculty of Pharmacy, proposal for a Combined BSc Pharmacy / (Post Baccalaureate) PharmD program

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs has the authority to approve changes to curriculum within existing degree programs that can be accomplished with existing resources.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN: none

HIGHLIGHTS:

This proposal is for a combined BScPhm/PharmD program that is intended to meet the needs of a specific cohort of students for a limited time.

The Faculty of Pharmacy currently offers two professional programs: a four-year baccalaureate program (BScPhm) and a two-year post-baccalaureate Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) program. On May 13 2008, the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs approved significant changes to the curriculum and admission requirements for the BScPhm which is the entry to practice degree in Pharmacy. These changes are being enacted effective September 2011. Students already in progress will complete their program following the original, pre revision, curriculum. The proposed combined BScPhm/PharmD program will provide a mechanism for qualified students who are currently enrolled in the BScPhm program to complete the BScPhm program and, in addition, complete the requirements of the post-baccalaureate PharmD program through a combined program. These students will graduate with the dual credentials of BScPhm and (post-bac) PharmD. This combined program will provide these students the opportunity to develop the same advanced practice skills that graduates from the new enhanced BScPhm professional curriculum will have. This will better prepare them to respond to the drug-related needs of Ontarians and changes to the pharmacists' scope of practice that are now being implemented.

This combined program is being offered in response to demand from current BScPhm students. It is anticipated that the combined program will operate for a three to four year window. Once students in this cohort (in the classes of 1T2, 1T3, 1T4) have completed their program, the Faculty is committed to bringing forward a proposal to close this combined option. The (post-bac) PharmD program will continue to be available as an option to practicing pharmacists both during and following this interval.

The combined program has been developed in consultation with faculty from the PharmD program. The proposal received approval from the Faculty of Pharmacy Council on April 7, 2011.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

There are no new/additional financial resources at the University-level required to implement the proposed new program.

Students in the combined program will be charged the normal PharmD tuition which is significantly higher than the BScPhm tuition. In the first year of the combined program, during which they are still completing the requirements of the BSc program, students will receive the equivalent of the difference between the normal undergraduate BScPhm tuition and the (post-bac) Pharm D tuition as a bursary. In the second year of the program, students will be eligible for the normal bursaries available for (post-bac) PharmD students.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Committee on Academic Policy and Planning approve:

THE new Combined Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (BScPhm) and (post baccalaureate) Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) effective the academic year 2011-2012.