

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Senate Committee on University Priorities
Memorandum

TO: Senate

FROM: John Waterhouse
Chair, SCUP
Vice President, Academic

RE: Faculty of Education:
Full Program Proposal for a Post Baccalaureate
Diploma in Counselling and Human Development
(SCUP 08-19)

DATE: June 16, 2008

At its June 11, 2008 meeting SCUP reviewed and approved the full program proposal for a Post Baccalaureate Diploma in Counselling and Human Development from the Faculty of Education.

Motion

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors, the Full Program Proposal for a Post Baccalaureate Diploma in Counselling and Human Development from the Faculty of Education.

encl.

c: D. Paterson, N. Popadiuk

Post Baccalaureate Diploma in Counselling and Human Development

Full Program Proposal

Executive Summary

Existing courses in Counselling Psychology within the Faculty of Education make-up the core components of this proposed PBD. This program is intended for teachers who wish to learn more about Counselling and for other undergraduate students preparing for graduate work in this area. The PBD is comprised exclusively of existing SFU undergraduate courses.

Credential to be awarded, including the level and category of the degree and the specific discipline or field of study

Post Baccalaureate Diploma in Counselling and Human Development

Location of program, including justification for program site (provide cc to Executive Director of that location if applicable)

Courses leading to this credential are offered on the Surrey and Burnaby campuses.

Faculty, Department(s), or School(s) offering the new degree program

Faculty of Education

Anticipated program start date

September 2008

Aims/Goals/Objectives

Currently, we encourage students who are interested in pursuing a master's degree in Counselling to take the *undergraduate minor* in counselling and human development. While this undergraduate minor is an excellent preparation for the students who have the resources to pursue the Master's in Counselling, it does not adequately meet the need for students who already have a baccalaureate level degree and/or are changing disciplines (i.e., they may have a post secondary certificate or degree, but in a different field). The proposed PBD not only supplements the current undergraduate minor, but also provides a sequenced coursework which supports workers currently in the field, strengthens the profession, and provides a credential for mature students who are switching their vocation to counselling and may, in the future, wish to return for a Master's degree.

In addition, the PBD would have the potential to provide a service for international students who come to Canada with a Bachelor's degree hoping to enter a Master's in Counselling, but are unable to do so because of the lack of relevant coursework.

The proposed counselling PBD, therefore, would fill a gap in the programs currently available to students, not only at SFU, but across BC and internationally, provide a competitive edge for students in the labour market, and complement our existing programs. Given the success of our PBDs in the Faculty of Education, in areas such as Early Childhood Education and Special Education, we are confident that a new PBD will add to the overall strength of our programming.

Admission Requirements

Applications will be reviewed by cognate faculty, the Graduate Faculty Associate, and their designates. Typically, candidates will have the following prerequisites prior to admission to the PBD:

- a) A bachelors degree with at least one introductory Psychology course, a course in human development, plus one more upper level Psychology or Sociology course
- b) A minimum 50 hours contact time of relevant experience (voluntary or paid)
- c) A written statement of career interests
- d) Admission of GPA 2.5 or equivalent.

Curriculum

In order to create a strong counselling PBD, our proposal augments and expands the required and elective courses available to provide a 30 credit program.

Core Courses:

Educ 323-3	Introduction to Counselling Theories
Educ 328-3	Theories of Career Development & Education
Educ 324-3	Foundations of Multicultural Counselling
Educ 423-4	Helping Relationships
Educ 437-4	Ethical Issues in Education

17 credits

Electives (students must take a minimum of 13 credit hours from this list):

Educ 326-3	Classroom Management and Discipline
Educ 327-3	Self, Psychology, and Education
Educ 370-4	International & Intercultural Education
Educ 322-3	Social Lives of School Children
Gero 302-3	Health Promotion & Aging
Educ 464-4	Early Childhood Education

Faculty

This proposal was developed by Dr. Natalee Popadiuk and Dr. Adam Horvath in the Faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University. There are no additional resource implications for this PBD as faculty members within the cognate area of Counselling Psychology are currently offering all these courses regularly.

Program Consultations and Evaluation

The need for skilled counsellors both in educational and community agency settings far outstrips the availability of Master's level professionals. In many schools and agencies services are provided by persons without the necessary levels of education, and often with minimal training in the area of counselling. The individuals in these responsible positions and their employers most often desire to upgrade their qualifications, but do not have the economic resources to undertake a Master's program which may require dislocation and long absences from their career. These individuals typically have baccalaureate level training and valuable experience as teachers or lay counsellors, but little knowledge, resources or practical training to better cope with their responsibilities.

In addition, there is a significant group of people working in various government services (e.g., Citizenship & Immigration), probation, family courts, law enforcement agencies (e.g., Victim Assistance), rehabilitation services, nurses and long term care providers who are well trained in their respective fields. However, many of these people have a need to acquire a range of counselling skills essential to their current functions, but do not need a full Master's program. As Romanow pointed out in his report, the improvements needed in the Canadian Health care system call for a rapid increase in mental health professionals at all levels: "Mental health has often been described as one of the 'orphan children' of medicare. The Commission consistently heard that it is time to deal with this issue and bring mental health into the mainstream of public health care" (Romanow, 2002).

Last, but not least, with the increasing internationalization of education, and SFU's desire to provide first class learning opportunities for international students, we need to develop resources for international students who desire to upgrade their qualifications as counsellors. Currently, it is next to impossible for a student with a baccalaureate degree from a developing nation to gain entrance directly into a Canadian university into a Master's degree program. They need a "bridge" that provides them with the academic knowledge and practical skills domestic students have prior to applying for admission into a master's program. Every year, students from overseas, including countries such as India, China, and Japan apply to the Master's degree, but are rarely able to meet the minimum prerequisite expectations due to different educational systems. The PBD in Counselling and Human Development, therefore, responds to each of these three needs as described above.

Library Resources

No additional Library resources.

SFU Calendar Information

Program Requirements (From Calendar) Successful completion, within five years, of an approved program comprised of 30 credit hours of upper division or graduate work plus any necessary prerequisites is required. A minimum of 15 of the 30 credit hours must be earned in education and/or educational professional courses and a maximum of 12 may be transfer credits.

Courses taken within 10 years of starting the PBD may (with permission) be considered as part of the requirements for the diploma.

Students must maintain a 2.5 GPA on courses used for the diploma.

Courses taken during the EDUC 404 semester may not be used toward a post baccalaureate diploma.

Post Baccalaureate Diploma in Counselling and Human Development

Offers individuals employed or seeking employment in a human services or health care profession a focused introduction to the core knowledge bases involved in counselling. Intended for persons with a bachelor's degree. Designed to enhance their effectiveness in their current job or better prepare them for a future career in a helping profession.

Submitted by,

David Paterson, Ph.D.
Director – Undergraduate Programs
Faculty of Education
Simon Fraser University

Calendar Entry

Post Baccalaureate Diploma in Counselling and Human Development

Offers individuals, employed or seeking employment in a human services or health care profession, a focused introduction to the core knowledge bases involved in counselling. Coursework is designed to enhance the effectiveness of students in their current job or better prepare them for a future career in a helping profession.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the following requirements, students must also meet the requirements stated in the Program Requirement section of the "Post Baccalaureate Diploma (General)" on page XXX. (was 201).

Applications will be reviewed by cognate faculty, the Graduate Faculty Associate, and their designates. Typically, candidates will have the following prerequisites prior to admission to the PBD:

- a) A bachelors degree with at least an introductory Psychology course, a course in human development, plus one more upper level Psychology or Sociology course
- b) A minimum 50 hours contact time of relevant experience (voluntary or paid)
- c) A written statement of career interests
- d) Admission of GPA 2.5 or equivalent

Required Courses (17 credit hours)

Educ 323-3	Introduction to Counselling Theories
Educ 328-3	Theories of Career Development & Education
Educ 324-3	Foundations of Multicultural Counselling
Educ 423-4	Helping Relationships
Educ 437-4	Ethical Issues in Education

Electives (students must take a minimum of 13 credit hours from this list):

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