

Two-Year Progress Report

Taxation (MTax, Graduate Diploma)

June 2022

Background

A review of the Master of Taxation (MTax) and Graduate Diploma (Taxation) was conducted in 2019 by two arm's-length reviewers, supported by an internal reviewer. They reviewed the self-study documentation and conducted a site visit in September 2019. The site visit included meetings with the Vice-President, Academic and Provost; Associate Vice-President, Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Affairs; Dean of Arts; Director of the School of Accounting and Finance; Program Director; Faculty members and current students in the program.

The external reviewers, Drs. Timothy Rupert and Pascale Lapointe-Antunes, assessed the MTax program positively, and identified no major problems. The reviewers were very impressed with the set of pedagogical tools used to develop professional skills essential to tax practice; the work opportunities for coop and full-time employment; and the program's high-quality reputation.

Enrollment over the past two years

	Grad
2021-2022 (CURRENT YR)	49
2020-2021 (LAST YR)	49

Progress on Implementation Plan

Recommendations

1. Investigate a deposit for new admitted students to add more certainty to the admission process

Status: In-progress

Details:

This initiative was previously declined by senior management at the University. However, the Associate Vice-President, Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs expressed support for the initiative during the External Reviewer's site visit. As such, the Program Director is working with the AVPGSPA to gain his assistance in championing the escalation of this issue within the senior ranks of the University's administration.

Late summer 2021 the AVPGSPA was in touch with the Vice-President Academic & Provost, who is going to connect with the Vice-President Administration and Finance. Discussions have been ongoing and remain with the AVPGSPA who continues to work on the issue.

We will continue to pursue the escalation of this issue.

2. Monitoring program withdrawals to gain a complete understanding of potential patterns

Status: Completed

Details:

The program continues to monitor withdrawals and undertake a detailed review annually. Implementation is complete and process is operational. To date, personal circumstances is the primary reason students withdraw (i.e., health, covid, family circumstances).

3. Document program procedures and processes more formally.

Status: Completed

Details:

Implementation is complete and process is operational with files updated on an ongoing basis.

4. Explore opportunities to expand the offerings of the program to include lifelong learning initiatives.

Status: Completed

Details:

Planning work for this recommendation was underway and initiated prior to the site visit. Exploratory discussions on expanding the program through new initiatives was a priority for the program.

A major program revision that allows real-time virtual delivery of the MTax program for part-time students while mirroring the in-person class experience was escalated through the approval process. This initiative expands the reach of the MTax program and directly delivers on this recommendation. Senate Graduate and Research Council approval was received on December 13, 2021, with Senate approval received in January 2022.

Updated Implementation Plan

	Recommendations	Proposed Actions	Responsibility for Leading and Resourcing (if applicable) the Actions	Timeline for addressing Recommendations
1.	Investigate the use of a deposit for admitted students to add more certainty to the admissions process	This initiative was previously declined by senior management at the University. However, the Associate Vice-President, Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs expressed support for the initiative during the External Reviewer’s site visit. As such, the Program Director is working with the AVPGSPA to gain his assistance in championing the escalation of this issue within the senior ranks of the University’s administration.	Program Director in collaboration with the Associate Vice-President, Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs	Final decisions are still pending on this initiative, which means the earliest opportunity is now Fall 2022. The more likely implementation is Fall 2023 given that decisions are unlikely to occur later in 2022.

2.	Monitor program withdrawals more closely to gain a more complete understanding of potential patterns.	The program continues to monitor the withdrawals and undertake a detailed review annually. Implementation is complete and process is operational.	Program Director	Completed
3.	Document program procedures and processes more formally	The program continues to identify and document. Implementation is complete and process is operational.	Program Director	Completed
4.	Explore opportunities to expand the offerings of the program to include lifelong learning initiatives.	<p>Planning work for this was underway and initiated prior to the site visit. Exploratory discussions on expanding the program through new initiatives was a priority for the program.</p> <p>A major program change that allows real-time virtual delivery of the MTax program for part-time students while mirroring the in-person class experience expands opportunities that would not otherwise be feasible. This initiative is complete with the approval of Senate in January 2022.</p>	Program Director	Completed

The Department Chair/Director, in consultation with the Dean of the Faculty shall be responsible for monitoring the Implementation Plan.

Date of next program review: _____ **2025- 2026**
Date

Signatures of Approval:

Chair/Director Date
21/10/2022

AFIW Administrative Dean/Head (For AFIW programs only) Date

Faculty Dean Date

Note: AFIW programs fall under the Faculty of ARTS; however, the Dean does not have fiscal control nor authority over staffing and administration of the program.

Associate Vice-President, Academic Date
(For undergraduate and augmented programs)

Jeffrey M. Coakle

August 17, 2022

Associate Vice-President, Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs Date
(For graduate and augmented programs)