



**SUBJECT** NEW PROGRAM: MASTER OF GLOBAL SURGICAL CARE (MGSC)

**MEETING DATE** APRIL 13, 2017

Forwarded to the Board of Governors on the Recommendation of the President

**APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION**

Santa J. Ono, President and Vice-Chancellor

**DECISION REQUESTED** IT IS HEREBY REQUESTED that *the UBC Board of Governors approve tuition fees of \$27,000 for domestic students and \$45,000 for international students for the new Master of Global Surgical Care (MGSC) program, which will commence in January 2018.*

**Report Date** March 17, 2017

**Presented By** Angela Redish, Provost and Vice-President Academic *pro tem*  
Hugh Brock, Associate-Provost Academic Innovation  
Gary Redekop, interim Head, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine  
Brian Westerberg, Director Branch for International Surgical Care, Faculty of Medicine  
Robert Taylor, Branch for International Surgical Care, Faculty of Medicine

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Master of Global Surgical Care (MGSC) is a two-year, 30-credit specialized online program that aims to prepare surgical care professionals from many disciplines to address surgical challenges and contribute to finding solutions to the unmet surgical care burden of disease in low resource settings globally. The program offers a unique combination of learning experiences to provide students in health-care related disciplines with a comprehensive and innovative education, enabling them to build on their disciplinary knowledge and skills. The MGSC also offers an interdisciplinary Canadian Low Resource Settings Stream, which allows students to choose to complete the program with an intense focus on the unique issues affecting surgical care in rural and remote low resource settings in Canada. By expanding students’ knowledge of conditions, and global circumstances, that shape surgical care globally, graduates of the MGSC will become leaders in this emerging field.

The program will launch in January 2018 and the proposed tuition is \$27,000 for domestic students and \$45,000 for international students. On acceptance into the program, students will be required to pay a \$1,000 non-refundable acceptance deposit to be applied towards their first tuition instalment.

**INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES SUPPORTED**

- Learning
- Research
- Innovation
- Engagement
- International

(Internal / External)

or  Operational

**DESCRIPTION &  
RATIONALE**

The MGSC is a two-year, 30-credit program offered entirely online allowing anytime access from anywhere in the world. This flexibility enables students to continue to work, travel and volunteer in their discipline and contribute real-life, real-time examples to the asynchronous discussions within each course. It is designed to meet the growing need for professional development of students interested in focusing on the global health problem of the burden of unmet surgical care. Students will complete nine online courses, including a field practicum in a low resource setting.

The focus in the first year of the program is to provide students with a foundation in international healthcare by exploring the principles of development, indigenous experiences, ethics, program planning, monitoring & evaluation, and humanitarian disaster response. Each course brings different and complementary essential aspects, providing depth and breadth to unique subjects in global surgical care. In the second year of the program, students will deepen their understanding through a series of specialized courses. Courses on project and research methodology and on monitoring and evaluation methodology, together with a supervised field practicum will enable graduates to determine barriers, challenges and opportunities present in unmet surgical care burdens and to propose and facilitate solutions, in partnership with national host colleagues, to these burdens. Graduates will significantly contribute both as prepared participants and as leaders in the discipline.

A Graduate Certificate in Global Surgical Care (GCGSC) is currently offered by the Branch for International Surgical Care at UBC. This Graduate Certificate is comprised of SURG courses developed from 2009 to 2014 and will ladder into the Masters program.

**RATIONALE**

Consultations with stakeholders have revealed that surgical care clinicians, residents in training and health professionals from many disciplines wish to incorporate international surgical care into their careers. They actively seek out institutions offering global experiences, that allow them to pursue training and experiences to prepare them to make effective contributions in addressing the surgical care problems of underserved populations either nationally or internationally.

Global surgical care delivery projects, international partnerships focused on surgical care education and research, and global disasters either man made or natural requiring a surgical care response all highlight the opportunities and necessity for appropriately trained health professionals. Unfortunately, these opportunities can prompt unease in healthcare related professionals who are asked to provide surgical and other services for which they are ill-equipped, either

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due to deficiency in training or emotional preparedness. As a result, approaches to care, while well-intentioned, can be inappropriate and detrimental to patients.

This program bridges the gap between the international demand and the health professional's education to meet the learning needs of this growing cadre of students. Currently, there are no accredited graduate-level degree programs available to this cadre that focus on surgical care issues and this proposed Masters program would be unique in the world.

**BENEFITS**  
Learning, Research,  
Financial, Sustainability  
& Reputational

The MGSC is a unique and innovative program that provides UBC the opportunity to become the foremost academic leader in this emerging discipline.

The program will:

- Provide a unique link between content experts from across the global health community and graduate students to develop policy and support scalable solutions for the development of functional surgical care systems.
- Address the gap that exists between surgical need and the equitable provision of safe surgical care in low resource settings, including areas of conflict, natural disaster, and in high-income countries with regional disparities in health care (remote Indigenous communities within Canada).
- Give students the option to ladder a Graduate Certificate in Global Surgical Care (already in place) into a unique Masters degree
- Address issues of leadership, culture, and communication as a core component of global health systems, and incorporate a foundation of program planning and evaluation combined with research skills that can be directly applied to the delivery and governance of global surgical care.
- Incorporate multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary foci into the curriculum and bring together current and new knowledge from allied health professions within the field.
- Be available across Canada, and internationally using an on-line model.
- Include a field practicum, which will enable students to synthesize the knowledge gained from the coursework, transfer their knowledge to one aspect of International Surgical Care practice, and demonstrate achievement of the program objectives.
- Have flexible admission requirements to allow exceptional multidisciplinary global surgical care leaders to be accepted into the program to enhance professional collaboration in the field.
- Provide an opportunity to learn within a multidisciplinary environment with access to world leading experts in research and practical real world applications.

<p><b>RISKS</b> Financial, Operational &amp; Reputational</p>	<p>There is a financial risk of not recouping investments made in the setup and marketing of the program. We have attempted to mitigate this risk through assessments of market demand of the program. The program has been designed based on input from B.C., Canadian, and international industry leaders. The market has been assessed through a national survey of surgical residents as well as, current UBC students, and alumni.</p>
<p><b>COSTS</b> Capital &amp; Lifecycle Operating</p>	<p>The program is cost recovery.</p>
<p><b>FINANCIAL</b> Funding Sources, Impact on Liquidity</p>	<p>Proposed program tuition is \$27,000 for domestic students and \$45,000 for international students, assessed over three instalments. On acceptance into the program, students will be required to pay a \$1,000 non-refundable acceptance deposit to be applied towards their first tuition instalment.</p> <p>Tuition and fee details are included in Appendix 1.</p> <p>A scholarship/bursary program will be funded with 7.5% of program revenue, in part to attract and support candidates from low-resource settings globally (with some students getting more and some getting less, depending on merit and need). For example, an entry scholarship for eligible domestic students working in rural and remotes areas in Canada, and international students who work in low-resource settings is being considered for the MGSC program, beginning in the 2019-2020 year.</p>
<p><b>SCHEDULE</b> Implementation Timeline</p>	<p>The program is expected to launch in January 2018.</p>
<p><b>CONSULTATION</b> Relevant Units, Internal &amp; External Constituencies</p>	<p>The Branch for International Surgical Care (BISC) at UBC employed a number of strategies to create an industry-relevant program including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surveys of the current Graduate Certificate in Global Surgical Care (GCGSC) cohort (18 students, 100% response rate), revealed that 94% of current Certificate students plan to enroll in the MGSC as soon as it becomes available. The student responses included recommendations on content delivery and use of the online platform. All students surveyed were in favour of the proposed MGSC program and no concerns regarding the tuition fee were expressed. This feedback has helped us continue to refine and update our program.</li> <li>• Consultations with executives from a variety of B.C., Canadian, and internationally led organizations involved in healthcare, education, human resources, international development, and eLearning (e.g. Canadian Network for International Surgery, Canadian Red Cross, Rural Doctors' B.C., Trauma Services B.C., Vancouver Coastal Health, Emergency Management B.C., First Nations</li> </ul>

Health Authority, King's College London, and McGill University etc.), revealed a request from industry-relevant leaders for UBC to meet the need for an educational program that academically prepares graduates to credibly apply their professional skills to the low-resource, cross cultural experience.

- Focus groups comprised of >15 cross disciplinary faculty members of the BISC Advisory Committee conducted from 2008-2017, revealed insights leading to the selection and development of the MGSC courses.
- UBC curriculum consultation included faculty and leadership from the First Nations House of Learning, School of Nursing, and School of Population and Public Health.

Feedback from surveys, consultations, and analysis has helped shape the format of the proposed program, in particular emphasising the need for improved surgical care in Canada's Indigenous communities, as well as the importance of fieldwork for our target student demographic.

Consultation with Alma Mater Society (AMS), Graduate Student Society (GSS), Medical Undergraduate Society (MUS), and International Students' Association (ISA) took place over the period between January 16, 2017 to February 16, 2017. A face-to-face meeting was scheduled for February 7, 2017, but no student leaders attended. The final consultation report is attached.

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## Appendix 1 – Program Tuition and Fee Assessment Details

**Program Description:** Master of Global Surgical Care (MGSC)

**Start Date of the Program:** January 2018

	Domestic	International
Program Tuition Fees	\$27,000.00	\$45,000.00
Minimum No. of Instalments	6	6
Amount per Instalment	\$4,500.00	\$7,500.00
Continuing Fees per Instalment (assessed after 6 instalments) – Note 1	\$500.00	\$500.00
Application Fees – Note 2	\$102.00	\$165.00
Supplemental Application Fees	Not applicable	Not applicable
Non-Refundable Acceptance Deposit – Note 3	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Other Faculty and Course Fees	Not applicable	Not applicable

Note 1. The rate is for the 2017 Winter session and is subject to annual increase.

Note 2. The rate is for applications received for 2018 Winter and 2019 Summer sessions and is subject to annual increases.

Note 3. The non-refundable acceptance deposit will be applied towards the first tuition instalment.

## MASTERS OF GLOBAL SURGICAL CARE STUDENT TUITION CONSULTATION REPORT

The Vice-President, Students Office, in partnership with the Faculty of Medicine, conducted a student consultation regarding the tuition proposal for the Master of Global Surgical Care (MGSC). This report outlines the consultation process and summarizes student feedback including the student representatives' submission verbatim in Appendix 2.

### Student Representative Bodies Invited to the Consultation

- Alma Mater Society (AMS)
- Graduate Student Society (GSS)
- Medical Undergraduate Society (MUS)
- International Students' Association (ISA)

### Mode of Consultation

The consultation consisted of an e-consultation and a face-to-face meeting. Student representative groups were invited to the consultation through email, and asked to distribute the invitation to their constituents as they felt appropriate. Student representative groups were also offered a face-to-face meeting to discuss the tuition proposal. A meeting with student representatives and faculty representatives was scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017, but no student leaders attended.

**Basis of Consultation:** The consultation was based on a tuition proposal and rationale document created by the Faculty. Please see Appendix 1 for the invitation and tuition rationale document.

**Timelines:** The e-consultation was conducted over the period of January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**Summary of Student Feedback:** A submission was received from the AMS. The verbatim submission is in Appendix 2.

Organization	Summary
MUS student comments	<p><b>STUDENT FINANCIAL AID:</b> "I do appreciate that there is a proposed scholarship for domestic students working in rural communities - global surgery most definitely includes the under-served rural and northern communities in Canada and I appreciate that program is acknowledging that with funding..."</p> <p><b>TUITION:</b> "...Students who are taking this course, and most likely to do global surgical work either pro-bono or with international groups that are volunteer based."</p>
AMS student submission	<p><b>TUITION COMPARATORS:</b> "...The AMS feels that the international tuition could fall closer to the tuition for UBC's MHA and King's College's MSc in Global Health, especially considering the delivery method for this program."</p> <p><b>STUDENT FINANCIAL AID:</b> "We are pleased to see a scholarship/bursary program being planned, and would hope to see follow-through on the considered entry scholarships for eligible domestic students working in rural and remote areas in Canada as well as international student working in low-resource settings."</p>

No individual student submissions were received.

## APPENDIX 1: INVITATION TO CONSULTATION AND TUITION RATIONALE DOCUMENT

Good afternoon,

There is a submission by the Faculty of Medicine to create the Master of Global Surgical Care program.

In order to inform the program leads and the Board of Governors with regards to the **tuition proposal** for this program, the University is undertaking a consultative process to get your comments as student representatives, and provide an opportunity for students to provide individual comments on the tuition proposal if they wish. **Please note: the scope of this consultation process is limited to the tuition proposal.**

The consultation will consist of:

### 1. e-consultation

Please find attached a document which outline the details of the tuition proposal, including:

- an overview of the program,
- the student consultation that has happened to date,
- the tuition rationale for the program, and
- the proposed tuition.

Please share the document and this email as you see appropriate. **Comments on the tuition proposal and student submissions can be provided confidentially to: [jenna.omassi@ubc.ca](mailto:jenna.omassi@ubc.ca) (Jenna Omassi, Advisor, Vice President Students Office).**

### 2. Face to Face meeting

If requested by student representatives, we can arrange a face-to-face meeting with the program leads regarding this tuition proposal. Please advise as soon as possible if you would like us to arrange a meeting.

## THE CONSULTATION PROCESS WILL END ON FEBRUARY 16, 2016

### Confidentiality

Comments will be collected by the Vice-President Students Office, and only staff within that office will know the identity of individual students submitting comments. At no time will anyone outside of the Vice President Students Office know the identity of individual students who submit comments to this consultation. Your comments will only be used for the purposes of the tuition consultation.

Comments from individual students will be stripped of any identifying information to ensure confidentiality, but otherwise will be provided to the responsible program leads and Board of Governors verbatim.

Comments received from student organizations will be reported as coming from those organizations, and provided to the responsible faculty and Board of Governors as received. There will also be a summary report of the consultation developed for the Faculty and Board of Governors.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the process.

Thank you.

Jenna Omassi  
Advisor, Strategic Support Team  
Vice-President Students' Office  
University of British Columbia  
[jenna.omassi@ubc.ca](mailto:jenna.omassi@ubc.ca)



## NEW PROGRAM TUITION CONSULTATION

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

#### Master in Global Surgical Care

The University of British Columbia has effectively created a learning environment that fosters global citizenship. Internationalization of higher education is a challenging goal that students increasingly demand of academic institutions. The attainment of global relevance is a constantly evolving process, throughout every aspect of the three core missions of the University: research, teaching and learning, and community engagement.

*“As one of the world’s leading universities, The University of British Columbia creates an exceptional learning environment that fosters global citizenship, advances a civil and sustainable society, and supports outstanding research to serve the people of British Columbia, Canada and the world.”*

*Place and Promise: The UBC Plan, our vision statement*

The proposed Masters program will contribute to UBC’s goal of student learning and professional development by offering educational opportunities in the growing field of Global Surgical Care. We will engage the community by promoting collaboration with local and global stakeholders in the areas of academic research and hands-on fieldwork placements in low resource settings. The program will offer an exceptional learning environment for students and faculty, attracting students from around the world to learn about Global Surgical Care. Graduates of the program will be sought after Ambassadors for the program and the University.

The Masters in Global Surgical Care (MGSC) is a two-year, 30 credit specialized online program that aims to prepare surgical care professionals from many disciplines to address surgical challenges and contribute to finding solutions in low resource settings globally. It offers a unique combination of learning experiences to provide students in health-care related disciplines with a comprehensive and innovative education, enabling them to build on their disciplinary knowledge and skills. The program will expand students’ knowledge of conditions, and global circumstances, that shape surgical care internationally.

The MGSC is offered entirely online allowing anytime access from anywhere in the world. This flexibility enables students to continue to work, travel and volunteer in their discipline and contribute real-life, real-time examples to the asynchronous discussions within each course. It is designed to meet the growing need for professional development of students interested in focusing on the global health problem of the burden of unmet surgical care. Students will complete nine online courses, including a field practicum in a low resource setting.

The focus in first year of the program, is to provide students with a foundation in international healthcare by exploring the principles of development, indigenous experiences, ethics, program planning, monitoring & evaluation, and humanitarian disaster response. Each course brings different and complementary essential aspects, providing depth and breadth to unique subjects in global surgical care. Students will relate cross-functional perspectives to their current professional roles. Learning will focus on students reviewing research journal articles, viewing pre-recorded videos, completing course specific tasks and assignments as well as engaging in facilitated online discussion forums.

In the second year of the program, students will deepen their understanding through a series of specialized courses. Courses on project and research methodology and on monitoring and evaluation methodology, together with a supervised field practicum will enable graduates to determine barriers, challenges and opportunities present in unmet surgical care burdens and to propose and facilitate solutions, in partnership with national host colleagues, to these burdens. Graduates will significantly contribute both as prepared participants and as leaders in the discipline.

A Graduate Certificate in Global Surgical Care (GCGSC) is currently offered by the Branch for International Surgical Care at UBC. This Graduate Certificate is comprised of SURG courses developed from 2009 to 2014 and will ladder into the Masters program.

**Rationale for the program:**

Consultations with stakeholders have revealed that surgical care clinicians, residents in training and health professionals from many disciplines wish to incorporate international surgical care into their careers. They actively seek out institutions offering global experiences, that allow them to pursue training and experiences to prepare them to make effective contributions in addressing the surgical care problems of underserved populations either nationally or internationally.

Global surgical care delivery projects, international partnerships focused on surgical care education and research, and global disasters either man made or natural requiring a surgical care response all highlight the opportunities and necessity for appropriately trained health professionals. Unfortunately, these opportunities can prompt unease in healthcare related professionals who are asked to provide surgical and other services for which they are ill-equipped, either due to deficiency in training or emotional preparedness. As a result, approaches to care, while well-intentioned, can be inappropriate and detrimental to patients.

This Masters program bridges the gap between the international demand and the health professional's education to meet the learning needs of this growing cadre of students. Currently, there are no accredited graduate-level degree programs available to this cadre that focus on surgical care issues and this proposed Masters program would be unique in the world.

**Program Requirements: (30 credits)**

*SURG 510 (3): Surgical Care in International Health.* Students will examine the historical beginnings, the reasons for the emergence of surgical care in the public health agenda and the details of the global burden of surgical care need. They will explore the wide spectrum of volunteerism, ethics related to clinical care and research in low resource settings, guidelines for activity (projects, programs, partnerships) and the role of advocacy in global surgical care. SURG 510 has been offered since 2009 and is a core course for the Graduate Certificate in Global Surgical Care.

*SURG 512 (3): Global Disability: A Surgical Care Mandate.* Students will critique current models addressing the fact that globally; one billion people live with a disability of whom 80% live in resource-limited settings which further compounds the family and public burden. Discussion focuses on frameworks for advocacy and alleviating the global burden of surgical disability. SURG 512 has been offered since 2012 and is a core course for the Graduate Certificate in Global Surgical Care.

*SURG 514 (3): Surgical Care in Humanitarian Disaster Response.* Students will examine the current status of global activity by national and international responders to both natural and conflict-related humanitarian disasters with particular emphasis on the role of surgical care. SURG 514 has been offered since 2014 and is a core course for the Graduate Certificate in Global Surgical Care.

*SPPH 540 (3): Program Planning and Evaluation.* Students will become literate and functionally competent in program planning and evaluation, a key aspect to international surgical work. The course involves developing a program plan and an evaluation proposal for a public health program, particularly as it relates to global surgical care initiatives. SPPH 540 is a core course for the Graduate Certificate in Global Surgical Care.

*SPPH 517 (3): Clinical Research methods for Surgical Procedures.* Students will examine how approaches for surgical research differ compared to medical research. They will learn many aspects of the research process from grant writing and proposal development, to applying for ethics, data analysis and statistical methods used in surgical research. They will become literate in systematic reviews, quality improvement and assurance, as well as technology evaluation in surgical research. SPPH 517 is currently a course requirement for Masters in Population and Public Health, and a key course for surgical trainees in the program.

*SURG 518 (3): Surgical Care in Canada's Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities with Global Comparisons.* Students will critique the current and historical provision of surgical care services to indigenous communities in Canada and globally. They will draw on indigenous voices to examine challenges and opportunities confronting both the clinician and the service delivery system, embracing lessons learned from these communities. The course will promote critical thinking on, and ultimately will improve the provision of surgical care services to indigenous communities in Canada and abroad.

*SURG 542 (3): Directed Study in Global Surgical Care.* Students will carry out an exhaustive search of the world literature, on a global surgical care topic. Topics will be chosen by the student in the specialty discipline in consultation with a faculty advisor to support in-depth learning of the current state of knowledge in that topic and to explore knowledge deficits that need to be addressed. This course will promote knowledge acquisition and critical thinking for the student and contribute significantly to the education of peers and to UBC's Global Surgical Care knowledge repository.

*SURG 560 (6): Global Surgical Care Field Practicum.* Students will complete an on-site field placement "grounding" their knowledge and skills attained in the other courses of the program. It will enable students to synthesize the knowledge gained from the coursework, transfer their knowledge to one aspect of International Surgical Care practice, and demonstrate achievement of the Masters program learning objectives. A high level written report will be the main evaluated component and could well provide the basis for a publication or for a major conference presentation.

*Electives (3):* Students will submit electives for approval to the Program Director.

#### CONSULTATION DURING THE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The Branch for International Surgical Care (BISC) at UBC employed a number of strategies to create an industry-relevant program including:

- Surveys of the current Graduate Certificate in Global Surgical Care (GCGSC) cohort (18 students, 100% response rate), revealed that 94% of current Certificate students plan to enroll in the MGSC as soon as it becomes available. The student responses included recommendations on content delivery and use of the online platform. All students surveyed were in favour of the proposed MGSC program and no concerns regarding the tuition fee were expressed. This feedback has helped us continue to refine and update our program.

- Consultations with executives from a variety of B.C., Canadian, and internationally led organizations involved in healthcare, education, human resources, international development, and eLearning (e.g. Canadian Network for International Surgery, Canadian Red Cross, King's College London, and McGill University etc.), revealed a request from industry-relevant leaders for UBC to meet the need for an educational program that academically prepares graduates to credibly apply their professional skills to the low-resource, cross cultural experience.
- Focus groups comprised of >15 cross disciplinary members of the BISC Advisory Committee conducted from 2008-2016, revealed insights leading to the selection and development of the MGSC courses.

Feedback from surveys, consultations, and analysis has helped shape the format of the proposed program, in particular emphasising the need for improved surgical care in Canada's Indigenous communities, as well as, the importance of fieldwork for our target student demographic.

#### **TUITION AND FEES RATIONALE**

The proposed tuition fees are based on the costs to deliver this new Masters. The MGSC is designed to run as a cost recovery program, covering all administration, program management, and instructional costs, plus development and delivery of the online learning platform, which is vital to the accessibility of the program. The support of leaders within the discipline – not only in terms of practicum placements and research supervision, but also through program development and teaching – promises students a rewarding professional education and career opportunities after graduation. Due to the highly specialized nature of the program, and given the reality of our respective faculty's workload (they are currently working in their respective areas of expertise and travel frequently), the courses will be team taught and capped at 20 students. This allows for effective teaching and facilitation if and when faculty are called away (humanitarian disasters etc.). Finally, the tuition will also annually generate some funding for financial aid purposes.

A scholarship/bursary program will be funded with 7.5% of program revenue, in part to attract and support candidates from low-resource settings globally (with some students getting more and some getting less, depending on merit and need). For example, an entry scholarship for eligible domestic students working in rural and remotes areas in Canada, and international students who work in low-resource settings is being considered for the MGSC program, beginning in the 2018/2019 year.

#### **Costs of comparable programs:**

The UBC Master of Global Surgical Care (MGSC) is a highly specialized niche program and one of a kind globally. The MGSC will be a fully online course based program open to allied health professionals. The proposed program tuition for this 24 month program is \$27,000 for domestic students and \$45,000 for international students, a continuing student fee of \$1,500 per academic year will apply to students who exceed the anticipated two year completion time.

Since UBC's Master of Global Surgical Care will be a very niche program within the current market, it is difficult to benchmark. Using internal comparators is a reasonable approach as prospective students of the program will have internal references that are consistent in terms of tuition and, across the board, are reflective of the overall value for a similar degree at UBC.

We have included UBC's Master of Health Administration (MHA) and the new Master of Health and Leadership Policy (MHLP) in Seniors Care as comparators as the job outcomes of these programs may be similar for some allied health professions looking to advance their careers in health administration. The

2017/18 forecasted domestic program tuition is \$28.5k (MHA) and \$28.1k (MHLP) and the international program tuition is forecasted to be \$33.9k (MHA) and \$48.8k (MHLP).

Although, not a true comparator due to different curriculum, accessibility, eligibility requirements and job outcomes of the programs, we have also considered King's College's MSc in Global Health in the UK as a comparator to the UBC MGSC. It is the only alternative to learners wishing to gain academic knowledge within the discipline of global surgical care; however, it is worth noting that this program is advertised as having a 12 month duration, whereas UBC's MGSC is designed to be completed in 24 months. In \$CDN, this program's 2017/18 forecasted tuition is \$18.3k for domestic students and \$38.6k for international students.

Overall, the proposed program tuition for this 24 month program of \$27,000 for domestic students and \$45,000 for international students appears to be in line with the few comparators available.

#### **PROPOSED TUITION AND FEES**

The proposed program tuition for this 24-month program is \$27,000 for domestic students and \$45,000 for international students, a continuing student fee of \$1,500 per academic year will apply to students who exceed the anticipated two year completion time.

## APPENDIX 2: STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

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There were verbatim comments from the MUS.

- Quite a few residents who would be greatly interested in this graduate program.
- There has been a recent increase in interest in global surgery, and residents and medical students feel that I think it is crucial to equip professionals with an understanding of global surgical care components and the skills to help rather than harm the receiving communities in a sustainable way. The importance being on sustainability rather than volunteer tourism care.
- The Lancet Commission on Global surgery has recently highlighted the current deficits and major global surgical burden and therefore the timing of this graduate program is great.
- The proposed curriculum and credit structure seems reasonable and in line with other similar programs offered.
- The tuition is a bit high for domestic masters, but on the other hand, it is quite comparable to similar programs, and much more affordable than Harvard's new Global Health Delivery Master's program (40,000 USD per year).
- I do appreciate that there is a proposed scholarship for domestic students working in rural communities - global surgery most definitely includes the under-served rural and northern communities in Canada and I appreciate that program is acknowledging that with funding - and I hope they follow through with that.
- My one other concern is that students who are taking this course, and most likely to do global surgical work either pro-bono or with international groups that are volunteer based. I do think it's a large burden on future and newly trained surgeons (who I do appreciate are only part of the target population) to take on additional debt early in their careers, so that is worth mentioning.

There was a submission from the AMS.



**Submission to the UBC Board of Governors Regarding the Proposed New Tuition for the Master in Global Surgical Care (MGSC)**

**On Behalf of  
Alma Mater Society of UBC Vancouver  
February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Dear Board of Governors,

This submission is being made on behalf of the Alma Mater society (AMS) of UBC Vancouver in response to the request for feedback from the Vice-Presidents Students Office sent to these groups on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 for the proposed tuition for the Master in Global Surgical Care.

The tuition for this new 24-month program is set to be \$27,000 for domestic students and \$45,000 for international students, with an additional \$1500 continuing fee per additional academic year for students who exceed the 24-month completion time.

The AMS acknowledges that benchmarking for this program served to be difficult, as it is very niche and unique within North America. The use of internal programs for comparators in this case is reasonable in this case. We note that the international tuition for the MGSC exceeds that of the MHA at UBC and of the MSc in Global Health at King's College in the UK – the AMS feels that the international tuition could fall closer to the tuition for UBC's MHA and King's College's MSc in Global Health, especially considering the delivery method for this program.

We are pleased to see a scholarship/bursary program being planned, and would hope to see follow-through on the considered entry scholarships for eligible domestic students working in rural and remote areas in Canada as well as international student working in low-resource settings.

The AMS would like to recognize that many in the field of global surgical care often work in a volunteer-based context, and thus the graduates of this program may be making less income than the Faculty may have anticipated. It is our hope that consideration of this is factored in when finalizing any scholarships, bursaries, or awards for students in this new program, as well as when finalizing the portion of program revenue that will go towards such scholarships, awards, or bursaries.

Considering the above and that the MGSC is an online course-based program, the AMS feels both international and domestic tuition, but in particular international, is quite high and sees room for lower tuition.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Samantha So'.

**Samantha So**

Vice President Academic and University Affairs  
AMS Student Society of UBC Vancouver  
vpacademic@ams.ubc.ca