

June 25, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Anne D'Alleva, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs



RE: Program Closure: Graduate Certificate in Addiction Sciences

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees approve the closure of the Graduate Certificate in Addiction Sciences.

BACKGROUND:

The Graduate Certificate in Addiction Science was approved by the Board of Trustees in April 2017. It was developed from funding awarded in August 2016 by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism as an R25 grant. The courses were designed to promote basic, clinical, epidemiological and policy research on alcohol and other substances by a wide array of health professionals, including current practitioners or researchers and those in training for health professions. The certificate curriculum centred on the theme of alcohol and addiction studies, designed to educate scientists, educators, service providers, and others about how to conduct scientific research on alcohol and other drug use disorders.

The program was led by Professor Thomas Babor in the School of Medicine. The Department of Public Health Sciences recognized that with the retirement of Dr. Thomas Babor there would no longer be appropriate faculty with the expertise required to administer and deliver content. Admission to the program was suspended in 2022. There are currently no students in the program, and there have been no completions since 2022. The program will be fully terminated with immediate effect.