

Principles for General Faculties Council Standing Committee Composition

Introduction

Governance at the University of Alberta relies upon a structure wherein the General Faculties Council has delegated many of its provincially-mandated authorities to its standing committees. As such, the composition of those standing committees is crucial to ensuring that decisions are made in an informed manner that takes into account the breadth of issues, perspectives and opinions on campus. The following principles provide a framework to create committee compositions which are reflective of the membership of GFC and appropriate to the role and mandate of those committees.

Principles

1. Standing Committees should be populated with a commitment to diversity and broad representation from across the university.
2. Wherever possible, the majority of elected members of each standing committee should be drawn from the membership of GFC to provide tangible links between GFC and its standing committees and increase engagement of the greater GFC community.
3. Wherever possible, the number of elected members of a standing committee should exceed the number of ex-officio members.
4. The voting status of ex-officio members of standing committees should be consistent with their voting status on GFC and should extend to their delegates.
5. Ex-officio members should be included in the membership of a standing committee only when their portfolio is directly relevant to the mandate and role of the standing committee.
6. Wherever possible, the Vice-Chair of a standing committee should be elected by the committee from its elected academic staff members and ideally be a member of GFC.
7. When cross-appointment of members on standing committees is appropriate, this should be outlined in the terms of reference of each committee and such members shall have voting status on both committees.

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