



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Academic Planning Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Steven Dew	Chair, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Lorne Babiuk	Member, Vice-President (Research)
Phyllis Clark	Member, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Sarah Ficko	Member, President (Graduate Students' Association)
Florence Glanfield	Member, Department Chair at-large
Manpreet Grewal	Member, Undergraduate Student at-Large
Loren Kline	Member, Academic (A1.0) Staff-at-large
Fahim Rahman	Member, President (Students' Union), UA Students' Union
Steve Patten	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Eleni Stroulia	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Brayden Whitlock	Member, Graduate Student-at-Large

Non-Voting Members:

Lisa Collins	Member, Vice-Provost and University Registrar
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Staff:

Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary and Acting Committee Coordinator, GFC Academic Planning Committee
Andrea Patrick, Scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Kline/Babiuk

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda.
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CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of April 20, 2016

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Kline/Clark

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Minutes of April 20, 2016.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair reported on the University's response to the Fort McMurray disaster noting that 1000 evacuees were being housed at Lister Hall and that the Butterdome will be used as a central distribution point for 35,000 evacuees to collect provincially funded disaster relief debit cards. He reported that the Office of the Registrar is accommodating applicants from high school students not able to take final examinations. As well, it was noted that a disaster relief bursary was approved by the GFC Undergraduate Awards and Scholarship Committee. The Chair thanked members for their efforts in assisting these members of the community.

Ms Ficko informed members that the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research is still accepting donations towards this effort. As well, Mr Rahman noted that discussions are taking place to offer discounted food for evacuees at Room at the Top (RATT).

The Chair reported that Mr Douglas Stollery was selected as the new Chancellor for the University of Alberta Senate.

The Chair provided members with an update in regards to the University's applications for infrastructure funding available through the Federal Budget 2016.

Finally, on the issue of GFC's review of its delegated authorities, the Chair noted that the GFC Secretary had submitted a report to the Academic Governance Working Group on the Committee's discussion on its delegated authorities from GFC. University Secretary Marion Haggarty-France added that this issue evolves continuously and that the Academic Governance Working Group have worked tirelessly towards the May 30, 2016 meeting of GFC.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Institutional Strategic Plan - For the Public Good

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC)

Purpose of the Proposal: In consultation with the University of Alberta, the President and Provost & Vice-President (Academic) have developed a plan to guide the overall decision-making and governance process of the university for the next decade. The plan reaffirms the institutional vision and mission and establishes five strategic goals.

Discussion:

The Chair indicated that the committee was considering the document for a recommendation to General Faculties Council (GFC) for approval. He stated that following GFC, it would be considered at the Board of Governors meeting of June 17, 2016 for final approval.

He reported that, following the approval, planning would continue to implement the goals outlined within it. He explained that a Senior Administrator Retreat would occur in August where specific objectives, responsibilities, budget and accountabilities would be discussed.

Members provided several comments in relation to the document. A member sought clarification of the identification of quality graduate supervision within the document and the placement of post-doctoral fellows within the document. In response, Dr Anne Bailey reported that the ISP Advisory Committee was strategic about the placement of this cohort within the document. Members also discussed removal of language surrounding "all campuses", and the placement of the territorial statements within the document.

On the issue of the references to Indigenous people, a member pointed out that there are still people within the community without formal status. The Chair, in response, noted that this is an important consideration and that the ISP Advisory Committee would review this further.

Motion: Patten/Rahman

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend to General Faculties Council the approval of the Institutional Strategic Plan: For the Public Good, as set forth in Attachment 1 to be effective upon approval, and empower administration to make any editorial changes to the plan, as needed, as long as the changes do not have the force of policy.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. Draft University of Alberta 2015-16 Annual Report to Government of Alberta

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Mary Persson, Associate Vice President (Audit and Analysis); Logan Mardhani-Bayne, Initiatives Manager (Audit and Analysis)

Purpose of the Proposal: To provide GFC APC with a copy of the draft Annual Report for information and discussion. The Annual Report is a requirement of the Government of Alberta. It is prepared in accordance with provincial guidelines and reports on the University's Comprehensive Institutional Plan and accomplishments during the period of April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016.

Discussion:

The Chair advised that the Annual Report is a key accountability document provided to the Provincial Government.

Ms Persson reported that this document frames the narrative going forward and that the Board of Governors Audit Committee would consider the financial and audit elements. Mr Mardhani-Bayne indicated that the report was prepared under strict guidelines from the Provincial Government and noted that the financial elements would be added to the Report later along with some changes to the design and layout.

During the ensuing discussion, a member enquired about the source of data used within the document and how the presentation of the data may interrupt the readability of the document. Members also provided comments on format, professional development initiatives for graduate students, the inclusion of Olds College within the Report, and data on the demand for undergraduate community placement opportunities.

Finally, members offered commendation on the Report and thanked the presenters for an interesting Report.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. Update on the Budget

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC); Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

The Chair reported that the University received a 2% increase within the Provincial Budget 2016 and that this was what had been planned for within the Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP). He also noted that the disaster relief efforts for Fort McMurray may impact the financial climate of the Province.

Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Clark reported that her office is currently finalizing year-end close for financial statements.

7. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

8. Items Approved by GFC Academic Planning Committee by e-mail Ballots

There were no items.

9. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

10. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.