



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Academic Planning Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, October 06, 2021
Zoom Virtual Meeting
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Steven Dew, Chair
Chris Andersen
Laura Beard (delegate)
Chris Beasley
Heather Bruce
Shannon Erichsen
Anas Fassih

Todd Gilchrist
Jelena Holovati
Vadim Kravchinsky
Jacqueline Leighton
Rowan Ley
Melissa Padfield
Sanhita Pal
Yan Yuan

non-voting:
Brad Hamdon
Kate Peters

REGRETS:

Sandeep Agrawal
Runjuan Liu

Staff:

Heather Richholt, Scribe

Before opening the meeting, the Chair read the following territorial acknowledgement:

The University of Alberta resides on Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis. To acknowledge the territory is to recognize the longer history of these lands and signifies our commitment to working in Good Relations with First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples as we engage in our institutional work.

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

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

Discussion:

The Chair noted that the approval of the minutes from September 22 and the Proposed Non-Credit International Support Fee would be deferred until the next meeting.

Vice-Provost and Registrar Melissa Padfield provided a brief rational for the non-credit international support fee and noted that it would be indexed to the same rate as that paid by students enrolled in for-credit programs.

Motion: Leighton/Gilchrist

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair of APC

Discussion:

In his comments, the Chair made note of the following:

- there had been no significant outbreaks of COVID-19 reported on campus;
- planning for 2022 winter term;
- vaccination policy;
- MyUAlberta app and CampusReady.

CONSENT AGENDA

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of September 22, 2021

Item was deferred.

ACTION ITEMS

4. 2022-2023 Exceptional Tuition Increase

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair of APC; Todd Gilchrist, Vice-President (University Services and Finance), and Melissa Padfield, Vice-Provost and Registrar

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee to ask approval for exceptional tuition increase proposals for Fall 2022.

Dr Dew stepped out of the Chair and Dr Holovati assumed the role.

Discussion:

Dr Dew provided some background regarding the spring 2021 communication that the Ministry of Advanced Education would consider proposals for exceptional tuition increases, the subsequent consultations and the extension of the deadline to October 2021. He spoke about the updates to proposals including comparator institution information and the general rationale for these types of tuition increases to fund program quality improvements.

During the discussion, members, presenters, and Faculty Dean proponents expressed questions and comments including but not limited to:

- details regarding increased tuition as it would affect student program and course fees;
- acknowledgements of the work done on the proposals and engagement with student leaders;
- questions about whether revenues that were collected to fund quality improvements would be used to fund program growth;
- speculation about whether current or future governments would fund quality improvements or program growth;
- the amount and quality of student consultation given tight timelines and government's October 2021 deadline;
- whether or not student groups were in favour of the proposals and felt that they had been adequately consulted;
- questions about how and why some programs were selected and others were not;
- questions about the urgency of the proposals;
- ongoing consultation with students, staff, and faculty regarding quality for the programs named in the proposal as well as for all University of Alberta programs;
- the history of extraordinary tuition increases and proposals for programs in the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Business that were approved in 2014 and then rolled back after the election of 2015;

- Faculty need for sustainable funding to improve programs and services and the challenges of relying upon variable and uncertain government support;
- a note that any approved increases would only apply to incoming students who would be aware of the tuition before they applied for the program;
- the offset of funds within each proposal to support student accessibility;
- the importance of continuous quality improvements and competitiveness to the value of past, present, and future University of Alberta credentials;
- information for applicants on the Office of the Registrar, and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research websites regarding tuition and fees;
- student resources and supports for financial aid and financial literacy;
- that auditable, annual reporting to government on the use of funds brought in by any approved extraordinary tuition increases would be required; and
- whether costs for international students in these programs would also increase.

Motion: Padfield/Dew

THAT the Board Finance and Property Committee, on the recommendation of the GFC Academic Planning Committee, recommend that the Board of Governors approve the following proposed exceptional tuition increases, to take effect for the Fall 2022 term for incoming students only, and pending approval of the Minister of Advanced Education:

Program Name	UofA Approved Tuition 2021-22	Fall 2022 Proposed Extra-ordinary increase	Proposed UofA 2022- 23 Tuition
Undergraduate programs			
BComm (Business) (30 credits with 2 options)	\$8,012.48	\$1,761.76	\$9,774.24
BSc Eng (Engineering) (72 FI)	\$7,309.44	\$1,789.82	\$9,099.36
JD (Law)32credits	\$11,701.48	\$3,393.36	\$15,094.84
Radiation Therapy BSc (Medicine)(30 credits)	\$6,091.20	\$1,218.00	\$7,309.20
Medical Laboratory Science BSc (Medicine) (30 credits)	\$6,091.20	\$1,034.30	\$7,125.60
DDS (Dentistry)	\$23,109.16	\$9,243.60	\$32,352.76
APDDS (Dentistry)	\$57,093.40	\$9,243.60	\$66,337.00
PharmD (Pharmacy) (32 credits)	\$11,431.68	\$5,029.12	\$16,460.80
Graduate programs			
MBA - Business	\$14,380.80	\$10,243.20	\$24,624.00

MEng - Engineering	\$7,345.20	\$1,688.40	\$9,033.60
Master - Counselling Psychology-Course (Education)	\$4,286.88	\$4,286.88	\$8,573.76
Master - Counselling Psychology-Thesis (Education)	\$4,192.80	\$4,380.96	\$8,573.76
CARRIED opposed (C Beasley, R Ley)			

**Because tuition is assigned by the course, and not at the program level, there may be a difference of pennies for some increases.*

Dr Holovati stepped out of the Chair and Dr Dew resumed the role.

5. Proposed Non-Credit International Support Fee

Item was deferred.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. Future of Continuing Professional Education

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Wendy Rodgers, Deputy Provost and Interim Dean of the Faculty of Extension

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss future planning around CPE and microcredential programming at the University of Alberta.

Discussion:

Dr Rodgers spoke about the history and future of continuing professional education (CPE) at the University of Alberta and made note of the following points:

- CPE programs had been the purview of the Faculty of Extension but in collaboration with other Faculties who provided content;
- to date the CPE experience was relatively separate from the rest of the University;
- the need to change the administrative structure of CPE so that learners would have access to on campus services;
- opportunities to expand CPE and provide a contact-point to encourage deeper public engagement with the University; and
- opportunities to offer more support to Faculties who wished to expand their CPE programming.

There was no discussion.

7. Budget Update - standing item (no documents)

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair of APC; Todd Gilchrist, Vice-President (University Services and Finance)

Discussion:

Mr Gilchrist provided an update on budget planning and noted the unknowns related to government funding including plans for the Capital Maintenance and Renewal Program (CMR), which would replace the previous

Infrastructure Maintenance Program Grant (IMP), and performance based funding through Institutional Management Agreements (IMAs).

A member asked about how the University was responding to the current IMA of work integrated learning. The Chair noted that there was work underway to clean up the programs that were listed in the government database but that had no student enrolment and the 3-year plan to become 100% compliant.

8. Question Period

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair of APC

Discussion:

A member asked about academic restructuring and who was accountable for ensuring that the Faculty leaders were moved back into the classroom. The Chair noted that the Academic Leaders Task Group was expected to deliver its report within two weeks and that it would include an analysis, recommendations and options for the Faculties. He further noted that the Provost, the Faculty Deans, and the College Deans were accountable for the restructuring.

A member asked about exam accommodations for students with disabilities and whether the Service Excellence Transformation (SET) has resulted in less support for students. The Chair, and the Deputy Provost, Wendy Rodgers noted that the pandemic had added to the demands for student and instructor support but that this was a high priority for the Dean of Students and that the Academic Success Centre was growing to expand services.

CLOSING SESSION

9. Adjournment

- Next Meeting of APC: October 20, 2021
- Next Meeting of GFC: October 25, 2021

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.