

General Faculties Council
Joint Session Academic Planning Committee (APC) / Facilities Development Committee (FDC)
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, November 15, 2023
South Academic Building (SAB) 2-31
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES APC:

Verna Yiu (Chair)
Heather Bruce
Sandeep Agrawal
Bishoi Aziz
Chetan Dave
Christian Fotang
Todd Gilchrist
Tammy Hopper

Vadim Kravchinsky
Adrian Lam
Ola Mabrouk
Heather Seyl Miyashita
Norma Rodenburg
Kent Rondeau
Chris Sprysak

Staff
Faiza Billo
Non-Voting Members:
Kate Peters
John Lemieux
Regrets
Zengtao Chen
Aminah Robinson Fayek

ATTENDEES FDC:

Kathryn Todd (Chair)
Andrew Sharman
Pedro Almeida
Jesse Luyendyk
Shari Pisa
Nathan Perez
Kyle Foster

Heather Bruce
Non-Voting Members:
Kate Peters
Ashley Bhatia
Tony Hodge
John Lemieux

Staff
Faiza Billo
Regrets
Ahmed Bouferguene
Dan Romanyk
Tiffany Kung

OPENING SESSION

Before calling the meeting to order, the Chair acknowledged that the University of Alberta resides on Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Verna Yiu, Chair, Academic Planning Committee (APC), Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the agenda.
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CARRIED

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

Presenter(s): Verna Yiu, Chair, APC, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Discussion: V Yiu welcomed members to a special joint session meeting of the GFC APC and the GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC). She thanked members of FDC for making time to attend the

meeting and acknowledged the presence of the chair of FDC, K Todd. After a round of introductions, the Chair made the following comments:

- Results of the Faculty and Staff Engagement Survey and a forthcoming People Strategy;
- The Budget Model Presentations to GFC; and
- Recognition of *Braiding Past, Present and Future, the University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Plan* by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

CONSENT AGENDA

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.
The motion for the consent agenda was moved and seconded

3. Approval of the FDC Open Session Minutes of March 16, 2023

THAT the GFC Facilities Development Committee approve the open session minutes of October 4, 2023 CARRIED

4. Approval of the APC Open Session Minutes of November 1, 2023

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the open session minutes of November 1, 2023 CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

5. Integrated Asset Management Strategy Refresh (IAMS)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.
Presenter(s): Andrew Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)

Discussion: A Sharman spoke to the context for the development of revisions to the Integrated Asset Management Strategy, noting the changes in government regulation, the recently approved University of Alberta Strategic Plans *Shape, Forward with Purpose*, and *Braiding Past, Present and Future*; and the forthcoming Asset Management Master Plan (AMMP). He committed to bringing back the AMMP for consultation.

Members discussed:

- The land-holdings of the University and the need to ensure stable revenue sources;
- Whether faculty housing was contemplated as a recruitment and retention strategy for academic staff;
- The utility of the redlined document and a request that this be provided when the AMMP is eventually presented to GFC;
- Whether there was a commercialization place for space not needed for teaching and research;
- How space optimization fits in the IAMS and the AMMP;
- The urgency of the need for strategy on assets in the University;
- The relevancy of statistics pertaining to space usage in the University, especially teaching space, to decision making on facilities;
- That the Office of the Registrar track the information on classroom usage; and
- How the IAMS will support the University's commitment to improving accessibility;

J Lemieux provided an overview of the motions and clarified how each committee's decision reflected their authority as set out in their terms of reference.

Members asked what might be in scope of recommendations and A Sharman provided clarification about the scope of the IAMS and the AMMP.

The following motion was moved and seconded for consideration by the Facilities Development Committee.

WHEREAS, among other things, the Facilities Development Committee (the "**FDC**") is responsible for making recommendations to the Academic Planning Committee (the "**APC**") concerning policy matters with respect to:

1. comprehensive facilities development planning;
2. planning and use of physical facilities including parking facilities and transportation; and
3. use of land owned or leased by the university,

AND WHEREAS the General Faculties Council, on recommendation by both the FDC and the APC, recommended that the Board of Governors approve "Taking Care of our Campuses for the Future: An Integrated Asset Management Strategy (2019 – 2035)" ("**IAMS**"),

AND WHEREAS the FDC has reviewed certain revisions to the IAMS as prepared by the Office of the Vice-President, Facilities & Operations (the "**Revised IAMS**"),

IT WAS RESOLVED:

THAT the Revised IAMS proceed to be considered by the APC without recommendations by the FDC. CARRIED

Immediately following the passing of the foregoing resolution, the following motion was moved and seconded for consideration by the Academic Planning Committee.

WHEREAS, among other things, the Academic Planning Committee (the "**APC**") is responsible for considering institution wide implications to the university's longer term facilities development, including making recommendations to the Board of Governors (the "**Board**") on policy matters regarding:

1. the planning and use of physical facilities;
 2. the use of land owned or leased by the university; and
 3. standards, systems and procedures for planning and designing physical facilities,
- in each such instance informed by advice from the Facilities Development Committee (the "**FDC**"),

AND WHEREAS the APC is also responsible to make recommendations to the Board on matters regarding planning and use of physical facilities where these facilities are deemed to have significant academic or research implications, or financial impact on the university, likewise informed by advice from the FDC,

AND WHEREAS the General Faculties Council, on recommendation by both the FDC and the APC, recommended that the Board of Governors approve "Taking Care of our Campuses for the Future: An Integrated Asset Management Strategy (2019 – 2035)" ("**IAMS**"),

IT WAS RESOLVED:

THAT the Revised IAMS proceed to be considered by the Board without recommendations by the APC.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. Process Update on the development of the EDI Action Plan

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Carrie Smith, Vice-Provost (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion)

Discussion: C. Smith reminded members about the 2019-2022 Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity (EDI) Action Plan and the accompanying (2023) report, *Stories from the Field Reporting on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Action*. She spoke to goals for an integrated process to develop an EDI Action Plan. She noted that the EDI Leads Network will be co-creating the plan. She described three phases of engagement, the operating principles, and asked APC to advise on other issues that should be considered while carrying out the process.

Members discussed:

- The United Conservative Party's resolution that public post-secondary institutions should dismantle EDI offices and the impact of these policy statements within the University community;
- A request for resources and case-studies to support promising practices across the University and a question of whether other university's tools might be borrowed;
- The false dichotomy between "EDI" and "Excellence" and how to ensure that these ideas are not used to oppress or exclude;
- A suggestion that diversity of thought be foregrounded in the plan to ensure that members of the community with different perspectives can see themselves in the document; and
- The need for consideration of student leaves of absence, deferrals, accommodations and still others in the Plan.

7. Student Experience Action Plan

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Melissa Padfield, Deputy Provost (Students and Enrolment); Sarah Wolgemuth, Assistant Dean (Student Life)

Discussion: M Padfield noted the alignment between the Student Experience Action Plan (SEAP) and the EDI Action Plan and other action plans including the Strategic Plan for Research and Innovation (SPRI). She provided an overview of the next steps towards the launch of SEAP. She emphasized the ongoing engagement and continued work to co-create the plan and explained the premise of living implementation supported by a SEAP Support Team.

B Aziz described the role of the Graduate Student Association as a co-creator of the SEAP and their perceived responsibility for priorities, especially the need to create a sense of community and belonging through student engagement opportunities.

Members asked:

- about the kinds of facilities that incoming students may be looking to access and how SEAP could align with the AMMP;

- how SEAP will support the University's work to navigate program delivery, especially as enrollment increases; and
- about plans for the University to collaborate with student associations on student events.

8. Growth Strategy

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Verna Yiu, Chair, APC, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Melissa Padfield, Deputy Provost (Students and Enrolment);

Discussion: M Padfield described plans for growth including those that rely on government funding and those that rely on increased international enrolment. She noted the importance of planning for enrollment and thanked R Nagel for her support as academic lead for the International Pathways Program.

Members discussed:

- The potential gaps in services and supports for international graduate students and students in course-based degrees and the need to consider how these challenges will be addressed;
- Differences student profiles in course-based master's and graduate certificates and the need for work-integrated learning and career advising services;
- How to grow domestic enrolment and the constraints in public funding; and
- How course-based master's will increase revenues considering the costs of developing and delivering them.

9. Tuition Briefing

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Verna Yiu, Chair, APC, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Melissa Padfield, Deputy Provost (Students and Enrolment);

Discussion: V Yiu outlined the consultation process for the tuition proposal. M Padfield noted that the University is restricted to a 2% cap on tuition increases and that this was the planned increase for the 2024-2025 academic year. She reminded members that international student tuitions that were grandfathered when the cohort-based international tuition rate was introduced in 2019 were coming to an end and that any remaining students will fall in the same rate as other international students.

There was no discussion.

10. Budget Update (standing item)

Presenter(s): Verna Yiu, Chair, APC, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Todd Gilchrist, Vice-President (University Services and Finance)

Discussion: V Yiu noted that there were no updates to the budget updates provided on November 1st, and that there had been budget model 2.0 presentations for Chairs, GFC Members, and the broader University community.

Members asked about:

- Availability of a briefing package and an Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) document on budget model 2.0;
- The timing of government decision making for budgets and the strategies being used to communicate with the Ministry to get a sense of what may happen; and

- Concerted efforts to advocate for the University.

11. Question Period

Presenter(s): Verna Yiu, Chair, APC, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Discussion: There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

12. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

- Annual MNIF Report
- Quality Assurance (QA) Suite of Activities: 2022-2023 Excerpted QA Reports from the Augustana Faculty; Faculty of Education; Faculties of Education and Science; and the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

CLOSING SESSION

13. Adjournment

- Next Meeting of APC: December 6, 2023
- Next Meeting of GFC: November 20, 2023