



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Committee on the Learning Environment
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, March 04, 2020
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

John Nychka, Chair
Dale Askey
Radim Barta
Akanksha Bhatnagar (delegate)
Ivan Fair
Bora Kim
Jane Lee (delegate)
Pascal Lupien

Mike MacGregor
Brian Maraj
Janice Miller-Young
Milad Nazarahari
Yimmie Sonuga
Amber Sayed
Jennifer Tupper
Mani Vaidyanathan
Janet Williamson

REGRETS:

Cathy Adams
Joel Agarwal
Norma Rodenburg
Victoria Ruetalo
Amber Sayed
Christine Wiesenthal

Staff:

Heather Richholt, Assistant
Secretary to GFC

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): John Nychka, Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives), Chair GFC Committee on the Learning Environment (CLE)

Motion: Maraj/MacGregor

THAT the GFC Committee on the Learning Environment approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of February 5, 2020

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): John Nychka, Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives), Chair CLE

Discussion:

A member suggested that some changes be made to the draft minutes. The Chair asked that they be revised and returned for approval at the next committee meeting.

3. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

-Capacity Building for Decision Making

Presenter(s): John Nychka, Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives), Chair CLE

Discussion:

The Chair spoke about the recent changes to the committee Terms of Reference that had come into effect on January 1, 2020. He noted the addition of delegated authority from General Faculties Council and the responsibility that the committee now held.

The Chair also mentioned the budget and concerns regarding the cuts to the Campus Alberta Grant and the implementation of Performance Based Funding.

The Chair noted that the Covid-19 Public Health Response Team (PHRT) was preparing for potential interruption of teaching and delivery of programs.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Mapping of the Five Dimensions of the Framework for Effective Teaching onto a Current USRI

Presenter(s): John Nychka, Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives), Chair CLE; Janice Miller-Young, Academic Director, Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL); Cheryl Poth, Associate Director, Education, CTL

Discussion:

Members participated in breakout sessions.

5. Review of Standard USRI Questions

Presenter(s): John Nychka, Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives), Chair CLE; Janice Miller-Young, Academic Director, CTL; Cheryl Poth, Associate Director, Education, CTL

Discussion:

Members participated in breakout sessions.

6. Question Period

Presenter(s): John Nychka, Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives), Chair CLE

There were no questions.

7. Updates

A. Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

Presenter(s): Janice Miller-Young, Academic Director, CTL

Discussion:

Dr Miller-Young noted that proposals for the Festival of Teaching and Learning (April 30 and May 1, 2020) were currently under review and that there were many more proposals than had been received in previous years.

B. Information Technology

Presenter(s): Mike MacGregor, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Information Services & Technology)

Discussion:

Dr MacGregor noted that with the threat of a global pandemic, Information Technology was working on how to use the learning management system for exams and assessments. He also mentioned that the Ethics Framework for Student Learning Analytics was complete and that he was now working on an implementation plan.

C. Library and Museums

Presenter(s): Dale Askey, Vice-Provost (Library and Museums) and Chief Librarian

Discussion:

Dr Askey noted that the winners of the Images of Research Competition would be announced at the end of March. He also encouraged members to visit the incredible Mactaggart Art Collection, currently on display at the Telus International Centre.

D. General Faculties Council

Presenter(s): Yimmie Sonuga, GFC Secretary

Discussion:

Members noted that the Students' Union and GFC election packages for undergraduate students were available and that the results of the Graduate Students' Association elections were posted.

INFORMATION REPORTS

8. Items Approved by the Committee by E-Mail Ballots (non-debatable)

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 3:57 p.m.