



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Executive Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, March 05, 2018
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

David Turpin, Chair
Sylvia Brown
Lisa Collins
Lesley Cormack
Steven Dew
Firouz Khodayari
Al Meldrum

Shane Scott
Brent Swallow
Jonathan White

REGRETS:
Eleni Stroulia
Bill Foster

STAFF:

Meg Brolley, GFC Secretary
Marion Haggarty-France,
University Secretary
Heather Richholt, Scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Item 6: Free Standing Nominating Committee was added to the agenda.

Motion: Dew/Cormack

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Agenda as amended.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of February 12, 2018

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Swallow/Meldrum

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Minutes of March 5, 2018.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair gave an update on the federal budget. He noted that the budget provides an increased level of unfettered tri-council funding and a new fund for interdisciplinary initiatives.

The Chair mentioned the recent announcements to the change to university status for Red Deer College, Grande Prairie Regional College, and Alberta College of Art and Design. He noted that he had spoken with the Presidents of these institutions and offered to provide advice on the development of programs.

The Chair noted that the budget, capital plan and tuition were approved by the Board Finance and Property Committee on February 27th and would be considered at the Board meeting on March 16th.

The Chair invited Brad Hamdon, University Counsel, to update the committee on Bill 27. Mr Hamdon gave the committee an overview of the changes to the Conflicts of Interest Act and how they are relevant to the university's Code of Conduct. He noted that his team is working with existing university policies to prepare a draft for this committee to view in early April so that it can be submitted to the Provincial Ethics Commissioner by April 30, 2018. Mr Hamdon noted that the university's revised and approved policies must be posted by May 1, 2019.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Proposal from the Faculty of Nursing to add Consolidated Final Exams for: NURS 116, 124, 211, 216A/B, 220, 224, 311, 334, and 344

Presenter(s): Greta Cummings, Dean, Faculty of Nursing

Purpose of the Proposal: All undergraduate Nursing Programs will begin new curriculums in Fall 2018. Many of the new courses have multiple lecture sections which would have final exams on different days if following the University Exam Planner. Several of these courses also have a minimum grade requirement for students to proceed in their program. For these courses, it would be helpful to hold the exam as early in the exam schedule as possible to allow for adjustments in registration for future terms, and some of the consolidated exams take place early in the exam schedule. A consolidated final exam for all students is seen as a solution in terms of ensuring fairness and consistency in the examination process. From a Faculty perspective, a consolidated exam is fiscally responsible in that the professors have only one exam to proctor instead of multiple exams.

Discussion:

Dean Cummings confirmed that there was good consultation with students about this change and that the exams would be held during the regular exam schedule.

Motion: Cormack/Dew

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the addition of Consolidated Final Examinations for NURS 116, 124, 211, 216A/B, 220, 224, 311, 334, and 344, as submitted by the Faculty of Nursing, to take effect 2018-2019.

CARRIED

EARLY CONSULTATION

5. The Cannabis Act and the University of Alberta

Presenter(s): Andrew Leitch, Director, ERM Programs, Risk Management Services; Kevin Friese, Assistant Dean, Health and Wellness, Office of the Dean of Students

Purpose of the Proposal: To gather feedback from members of General Faculties Council concerning the university's policy response to pending cannabis legalization.

Discussion:

The presenters asked the committee for feedback on the draft questions presented in the documents: were these the right questions and what other questions should be asked.

Members asked what the presenters will do with the information they get from various stakeholders. Presenters responded that the community opinions would inform the process going forward.

Members discussed: smoking policies; how impairment is handled; the issues of consumables as well as smoking and vaping; who would participate in the survey; age of use and implications to summer camps and

other public events on campus; using a likert scale for survey questions; developing policies that are not cannabis specific but could be applied to other substances; enforcement; and consultations with the city.

Members were informed that University Human Resources is now working on a policy around impairment. Members were informed that the Student Code of Conduct does not address impairment but does address disruption and creating unsafe conditions.

6. Free Standing Nominating Committee

Presenter(s): Jonathan White, Chair, GFC Nominating Committee

Discussion:

Dr White gave a brief overview of the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference for the Nominating Committee (NC). He noted that it is proposed that NC and the Executive Committee would be replenished the same way other standing committees are. Dr White will be presenting an update about NC to GFC on March 19 and will be seeking GFC approval for the updated Terms of Reference on April 30.

ACTION ITEMS

7. Draft Agenda for the Next Meeting of General Faculties Council

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, Chair, GFC Executive Committee

Purpose of the Proposal: To approve the next Agenda for General Faculties Council (GFC).

Discussion:

Members asked if there would be an update on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. The Chair replied that an update will be on the agenda for April or May. The Chair suggested that a discussion on Housing for Students who Parent be added to the agenda.

Members noted that the last GFC meeting was quite short and discussed strategies to ensure continued engagement of members.

Motion: Dew/Cormack

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the Agenda, as amended, for the March 19, 2018 meeting of General Faculties Council.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

9. Items Approved by the GFC Executive Committee by email ballots - no items to date

There were no items.

10. Information Items Forwarded to GFC Executive Committee between Meetings - no items to date

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

11. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm