

The following Motion and attendant Final Document were approved by the GFC Undergraduate Awards and Scholarship Committee (UASC) by means of an e-mail vote conducted on May 29, 2012.

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Agenda Title: **Alberta Premier's Silver Medal for Approval (E-Mail)**

APPROVED MOTION: THAT the GFC Undergraduate Awards and Scholarship Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council the Alberta Premier's Silver Medal, as set out in Attachment 2, to be effective upon approval.

Final Item: E-Mail Vote

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**OUTLINE OF ISSUE**

Agenda Title: **Alberta Premier’s Silver Medal for Approval (E-Mail)**

**Motion:** THAT the GFC Undergraduate Awards and Scholarship Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council the Alberta Premier’s Silver Medal, as set out in Attachment 2, to be effective upon approval.

**Item**

Action Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion/Advice <input type="checkbox"/> Information
Proposed by	Student Awards Office
Presenter	Heather Dyck
Subject	New Undergraduate Student Awards and Scholarships for Approval (June 12, 2012)

**Details**

Responsibility	Office of the Registrar
The Purpose of the Proposal is (please be specific)	<p>To approve new undergraduate award, the Alberta Premier’s Silver Medal.</p> <p>Background and Rationale: At present, the three graduating undergraduate students at the University of Alberta with the highest overall academic standing across all the Faculties are awarded a Governor General’s Silver Medal at Spring Convocation. Each faculty can nominate one student. The selection of these students from across all the Faculties is challenging in that all the nominees are excellent students.</p> <p>The nominees from the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, and the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences add an additional level of complexity in the selection process. Degrees in Law, Medicine and Pharmacy are considered undergraduate degrees. In many cases, the nominees from these Faculties already hold one undergraduate degree. It is not unusual for at least one of these nominees to have won a Governor General’s Silver Medal for their first undergraduate degree. This raises an issue of fairness with regards to the nominees, and to ensuring that the University is able to properly recognize its outstanding students.</p> <p>In 2011, The Office of the Registrar and Student Awards established the Governor General Advisory Committee (GGAC) with a mandate to make recommendations which would resolve the issue. First, it was recommended that no student should be allowed to win more than one Governor General’s Silver Medal. Therefore, if the best student in Law, Medicine or Pharmacy had won this medal previously, these Faculties would be prevented from nominating their best student. In order to address this unreasonable outcome, the GGAC recommended the creation of a new and equally prestigious medal called the Alberta Premier’s Silver Medal. This medal will be awarded annually to the best graduating student from Law, Medicine, and Dentistry, or Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. The cost of designing the medal and the annual cost for producing the medal will be borne by the University of Alberta.</p> <p>Provost Carl Amrhein presented this proposal to Premier Alison Redford</p>

**FINAL E-MAIL VOTE**

	who has agreed that she is in support of the University moving forward on this initiative. The University just received this confirmation, and as such, we require email approval of this medal in order to proceed with awarding this Spring. There is urgency in obtaining approval for this new award, as the intent is for the inaugural presentation of this award to be made at Spring Convocation 2012.
The Impact of the Proposal is	N/A
Replaces/Revises (eg, policies, resolutions)	N/A
Timeline/Implementation Date	Upon final approval
Estimated Cost	N/A
Sources of Funding	University of Alberta (Registrar's Office)
Notes	The GFC Executive Committee requested that the GFC UASC provide for information a copy of the undergraduate awards approved by GFC UASC (EXEC April 8, 2002, Minute 97).

**Alignment/Compliance**

Alignment with Guiding Documents	<i>Dare to Discover- Talented People</i> "1. Attract outstanding students from Alberta, Canada, and the world[.]" [...] "4. Improve access for rural, Aboriginal, and non-traditional students through partnerships with colleges and by linkages with high schools across the province and improve affordability by enhancing bursaries and scholarships."
Compliance with Legislation, Policy and/or Procedure Relevant to the Proposal (please <u>quote</u> legislation and include identifying section numbers)	1. Post-Secondary Learning Act (PSLA): The Post-Secondary Learning Act (PSLA) (Section 2(1)(m)) indicates that General Faculties Council (GFC) has the authority to "make rules and regulations respecting academic awards."  2. GFC Undergraduate Awards and Scholarship Committee (Mandate): "GFC UASC has delegated authority from GFC to: 1. approve new undergraduate awards[.] [...]"

**Routing (Include meeting dates)**

Consultative Route (parties who have seen the proposal and in what capacity)	Pat Schultz, Associate Registrar, Office of the Registrar Perry Thorbourne, Assistant Registrar, Student Awards Office Michelle Bukmeier, Supervisor, Student Awards Office Heather Dyck, Development Coordinator, Student Awards Office
Approval Route (Governance) (including meeting dates)	GFC UASC, EMAIL VOTE distributed May 29, 2012 GFC Executive Committee (for information) General Faculties Council (for information)
Final Approver	GFC Undergraduate Awards and Scholarship Committee

**Attachments**

1. Attachment 1 (page 1)
2. Attachment 2 (pages 1)

*Prepared by:* Heather Dyck, Development Coordinator, Student Awards Office, heather.dyck@ualberta.ca

**New Undergraduate Awards and Scholarship for Approval**

1. Alberta Premier's Silver Medal

**Alberta Premier's Silver Medal**

**Field of Study:** Law, Medicine and Dentistry, or Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Value:** Silver Medal

**Number:** 1

**Conditions:** Awarded to the undergraduate student who achieves the highest academic standing throughout his or her undergraduate degree in the Faculty of Law, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, or Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Recipient will be chosen from a list of nominees (one nominee per Faculty) submitted by the Faculties of Law, Medicine and Dentistry, and Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Selection based on academic standing and academic excellence.

**Application:** By nomination from student's faculty with selection completed by a committee in May of each year

**Donor Descriptions:** University of Alberta