



General Faculties Council
Open Session Minutes

Monday, March 20, 2017
Council Chamber
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

David Turpin	Chair, President and Vice-Chancellor, Statutory
Katherine Aitchison	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Chris Andersen	Member, Dean, Native Studies (Interim), Statutory
Susan Andrew	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Lorne Babiuk	Member, Vice-President (Research), Statutory
Marina Banister	Member, Student Nominated by Students' Union, Statutory
Howard Bashaw	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Gerald Beasley	Member, Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian, Statutory
Darcy Bemister	Member, Graduate Student, Appointed
Allen Berger	Member, Dean, Augustana, Statutory
Jeff Birchall	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Stanford Blade	Member, Dean, Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, Statutory
Cary Brown	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Sylvia Brown	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Heather Bruce	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Alicia Cappello	Member, Graduate Student, Appointed
Peter Carver	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Colin Champagne	Member, Board of Governors Representative, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Li-Kwong Cheah	Member, Academic Staff (APO), Appointed
Lisa Collins	Member, Vice-Provost and University Registrar, Statutory
Lesley Cormack	Member, Dean, Arts, Statutory
Pamela Mayne Correia	Member, Academic Staff (FSO), Appointed
André Costopoulos	Member, Vice-Provost and Dean of Students, Appointed
Steven Dew	Member, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Statutory
Joseph Doucet	Member, Dean, Business, Statutory
Francesca El Ghossein	Member, Student Nominated by Students' Union, Statutory
Duncan Elliott	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Shannon Erichsen	Member, Non-Academic Staff, Appointed
Dean Eurich	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
John Evjen	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Richard N Fedorak	Member, Dean, Medicine and Dentistry (Interim), Statutory
Sarah Ficko	Member, Board of Governors Representative, President, Graduate Students' Association
Kyle Foster	Member, Graduate Student, Appointed
Kim Frail	Member, University Library Academic Staff, Appointed
Matthew Fung	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Danny Gomez	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
John Hampson	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Lesley Harrington	Member, Statutory Academic Staff

Calvin Howard	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Adina Ilisecu	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Irehobhude Iyioha	Member, Sessional Staff Representative, Appointed
Paul Jurasz	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Maryam Kebbe	Member, Graduate Student, Appointed
Firouz Khodayari	Member, Student Nominated by GSA, Statutory
Maryse Ndilu Kiese	Member, Graduate Student, Appointed
Jon Kolo	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Reed Larsen	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Pierre Lemelin	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Monica Lillo	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Mark Loewen	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Lisa McDermott	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Laurie Mereu	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Anita Molzahn	Member, Dean, Nursing, Statutory
Colin Mulholland	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Kerry Mummery	Member, Dean, Physical Education & Recreation, Statutory
Carla Peck	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Fahim Rahman	Member, Board of Governors Representative, President, Students' Union
Leonard Ratzlaff	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Jeremy Richards	Member, Board of Governors Representative, GFC Nominee, Appointed
Carolyn Sale	Member, President of AASUA, Appointed
Andrew Sharman	Member, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations), Statutory
Carrie Smith-Prei	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Kim Solez	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Lisa Stein	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Eleni Stroulia	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Henry Su	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Jacqui Tam	Member, Vice-President (University Relations), Statutory
Amy Tse	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Benjamin Tucker	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Harley Vanselow	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Dilini Vethanayagam	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Jonathan White	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Brayden Whitlock	Member, Graduate Student, Appointed
Sheena Wilson	Member, Statutory Academic Staff
Dorothy Woodman	Member, Sessional Staff Representative, Appointed
Kue Young	Member, Dean, School of Public Health, Statutory
Denise Young	Member, St. Joseph's College Representative, Appointed
Jack Zhang	Member, Undergraduate Student, Appointed
Deborah Burshtyn (Delegate)	Member, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (Interim), Statutory

Presenter(s):

David Turpin	President and Chair, General Faculties Council
Michael Phair	Board of Governors Chair
Douglas R Stollery	Chancellor
André Costopoulos	Vice-Provost and Dean of Students
Wayne Patterson	Executive Director and Acting Associate Vice-President (Human Resources)
Andrew Sharman	Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
Stanford Blade	Dean, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences
Scott Jeffrey	Associate Dean, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences

Mark Loewen	Chair, GFC <i>ad hoc</i> Committee on Academic Governance Including Delegated Authority
Tammy Hopper	Vice-Provost (Programs)
Sarah Forgie	Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives)
Steven Dew	Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Wendy Rodgers	Deputy Provost

Staff:

Meg Brolley, GFC Secretary and Manager of GFC Services
Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary
Andrea Patrick, Scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Discussion:

An item was added to the agenda to appoint new members.

Motion: Dew/Babiuk

THAT General Faculties Council approve the addition of New Members to the agenda.

CARRIED

Motion: Cormack/Molzahn

THAT General Faculties Council approve the agenda, as amended.
--

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes of January 30, 2017

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Dew/Loewen

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Minutes of January 30, 2017.

CARRIED

3. Report from the President

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin

Discussion:

The Chair welcomed special guests Chancellor Douglas R Stollery and Board of Governors Chair Michael Phair to the meeting.

Following brief remarks from Mr Stollery and Mr Phair, the Chair reported on the Provincial Budget, which included a 2% increase to the Campus Alberta grant. He noted that, although this is good news given the

current economic climate, it will result in institutional cuts due to other factors. He acknowledged the inclusion of funding to retrofit the iconic Dentistry/Pharmacy building, and student mental health. The Chair reported that the Federal Budget could contain investments towards innovation but no exact details were known.

The Chair reported further on: recent travel to Mexico to explore educational partnerships, the addition of new members of the Board of Governors, and the appointment of the next dean of Education, Dr Jennifer Tupper.

Finally, the Chair offered congratulations to student members of GFC on the recent Students' Union (SU) and Graduate Students' Association (GSA) elections.

ACTION ITEMS

4. New Members of GFC

[Note: A motion to appoint may be proposed only by a statutory member of GFC. A motion to receive may be proposed by any member of GFC.]

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): David Turpin

Purpose of the Proposal: To appoint new members of General Faculties Council.

Discussion:

The Chair announced two names for consideration.

Motion: Dew/Babiuk

MOTION I: TO APPOINT/RE-APPOINT [This motion may be proposed only by statutory members of GFC – VPs, Deans, statutory students or elected faculty members] The following sessional staff members, for a term ending June 30, 2017:

Dorothy Woodman, Faculty of Arts
Irehobhude Iyioha, Faculty of Law

CARRIED

EARLY CONSULTATION

5. Learning Outcomes

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Sarah Forgie; Tammy Hopper

Purpose of the Proposal: To engage GFC in a preliminary discussion surrounding learning outcomes prior to an institutional retreat scheduled for May 2017.

Discussion:

The Chair reported that although the topic of learning outcomes is not a new, it has become increasingly relevant as governments review ways to tie funding to institutional outcomes. He invited members to discuss this issue at an early stage, ahead of the establishment of an academy-wide approach to learning outcomes.

Deputy Provost Wendy Rodgers noted that the Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC) requests learning outcomes as part of their reviews and that professional programs are already accustomed to identifying and utilizing learning outcomes. Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives) Sarah Forgie explained that a meeting to discuss program-level outcomes has been scheduled for May.

During the discussion, members discussed the definition of program-level outcomes, specifically how learning outcomes differ from competencies, and several deans shared their experiences around learning outcomes at this university as well as at other institutions. A member indicated that it would be better for the university to establish learning outcomes rather than having them imposed by government. On the issue of which indicators would be used, grades versus assessments, Dr Forgie noted that this issue is still being determined, as different studies offer differing conclusions about which indicators are best. A member enquired about whether these measures could be used to improve employability for graduates of the university.

Members discussed how establishing learning outcomes might differ from program to program, and it was emphasized that a comprehensive review of this topic was still necessary before determining an institutional approach.

The Chair thanked members for their comments.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. GFC ad hoc Committee on Academic Governance including Delegated Authority - Update

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Mark Loewen

Purpose of the Proposal: To provide an update to GFC on the activities of the GFC *ad hoc* Committee on Academic Governance including Delegated Authority.

Discussion:

Dr Loewen provided an update on the *ad hoc* committee's recent activities. He noted that final items are being reviewed to ensure alignment with the established governance principles and that the final recommendations form a cohesive package which will come forward to GFC in April 2017.

A member asked how transparency around governance has been improved and University Secretary Marion Haggarty-France noted that several new measures were initiated during the Academic Governance Working Group review last year including an opt-in email list for the distribution of all standing committee meeting materials, archival of all meeting material (including discussion items and information reports), the inclusion of regular reports from GFC standing committees on every GFC agenda, and an improved website.

The Chair thanked Dr Loewen for the update.

7. SLOWPOKE Decommissioning - Update

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Andrew Sharman

Purpose of the Proposal: To inform GFC of the plans to decommission SLOWPOKE.

Discussion:

Vice-President (Facilities and Operations) reported that a response to a formal application requesting to decommission SLOWPOKE should be received by July and that there will be some activity around the Dentistry/Pharmacy building in the interim.

There was no further discussion.

8. Scholarly Writing Supports at the University of Alberta Working Group (2016-2017) Final Report and Recommendations to the Provost

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Wendy Rodgers; André Costopoulos

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss the Scholarly Writing Supports (SWS) Working Group Final Report.

Discussion:

Deputy Provost Wendy Rodgers, and Vice-Provost and Dean of Students André Costopoulos, provided members with a summary of the SWS Working Group's review of the current landscape of scholarly writing support at the institution and recommendations towards enhancement, optimization and coordination all parts of writing support.

Dr Rodgers reported that there is a general lack of awareness of the broad scope of writing support at the university and it is important to coordinate what exists and make it more visible. A digital hub linking students to writing supports is being developed to help connect these services to those who may require it.

Dr Costopolous reported that the recommendations include a reinvigoration of the University Writing Committee and the central coordination of scholarly writing supports by the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) to ensure that all supports adhere to established principles.

During the discussion, a member thanked the presenters for the report and indicated optimism at the clearer role of the University Writing Committee.

ACTION ITEMS

9. Proposal for the Termination of the Bachelor of Science Agriculture - Range and Pasture Management Major, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Stanford Blade; Scott Jeffrey

Purpose of the Proposal: Approval of the (proposed) Termination of the BSc Agriculture - Range and Pasture Management Major in the Faculty of ALES.

Discussion:

Dean Blade reported that admissions to this major were suspended for Fall 2012 and that no current students will be impacted as the last Range and Pasture Management student graduated in 2015.

Dr Jeffrey noted that students interested in this area can enroll in the BSc Environmental and Conservation Sciences - Wildlife and Rangeland Management major, which is an excellent alternative for students interested in rangeland management.

There was no further discussion.

Motion: Blade/Bruce

THAT General Faculties Council, on the recommendation of GFC Academic Planning Committee, recommend that the Board of Governors approve the termination of the Bachelor of Science Agriculture, Range and Pasture Management Major as set forth in Attachment 1, and as proposed by the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, to take effect upon final approval.

CARRIED

10. Sexual Violence Policy and Procedure

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): André Costopoulos; Wayne Patterson

Purpose of the Proposal: To recommend approval of the Sexual Violence Policy and Procedure and related information documents.

Discussion:

Vice-Provost and Dean of Students André Costopoulos noted that this policy provides an institutional statement that sexual violence will not be tolerated, survivors will receive support, and that due process will be maintained at the University of Alberta. He also noted that a critical component of the proposal is a focus on education and training in this area.

During the discussion, Dean Costopoulos indicated that the definitions within the policy and procedures underwent extensive consultation and revisions during their development, and ultimately represent enforceable definitions also reflective of institutional values.

The Chair thanked Dr Costopoulos and Mr Patterson for their work on this policy.

Motion: Costopoulos/Dew

THAT General Faculties Council, on the recommendation of the GFC Academic Planning Committee, recommend that the Board of Governors approve the Sexual Violence Policy and Procedure, as set forth in Attachments 1-5, to take effect upon final approval.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

11. Question Period

10.1 Q Question for GFC member Dilini Vethanayagam regarding the University's definition of Scholarship and

10.1 R Response from the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

INFORMATION REPORTS

12. Report of the GFC Executive Committee
13. Report of the GFC Academic Planning Committee
14. Report of the GFC Academic Standards Committee
15. Report of the GFC Replenishment Committee
16. Report of the GFC Nominating Committee

(The current list of membership vacancies may be viewed at:
<http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/GeneralFacultiesCouncil/NominatingCommittee.aspx>)

17. Information Forwarded to GFC Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

18. Information Items

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

19. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.