



General Faculties Council
 Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, October 30, 2017
 Council Chamber, 2-100 University Hall (UNH)
 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Statutory Members:

Ex-Officio:

David Turpin, Chair
 Chris Andersen
 Allen Berger
 Lisa Collins
 Lesley Cormack
 Greta Cummings
 Kathleen DeLong
 Wendy Rodgers
 (Delegate)
 Walter Dixon
 Joseph Doucet
 Heather McCaw
 Philip Stack
 (Delegate)
 Pierre-Yves Mocquais
 Kerry Mummery
 Jonathan Schaeffer
 Andrew Sharman
 Jacqui Tam
 Jennifer Tupper
 Kue Young
 Heather Zwicker

Elected faculty:

Jason Acker
 Susan Andrew
 Jeff Birchall
 Cary Brown
 Peter Carver
 Ryan Dunch
 Duncan Elliott
 Nadir Erbilgin
 Bill Foster
 Kim Frail
 Eva Lemaire
 Pierre Lemelin
 Lisa McDermott
 Rob McMahan
 Lynn McMullen
 Al Meldrum

Roger Moore
 Carolyn Sale
 Georg Schmolzer
 Jorge Sousa
 Lisa Stein
 Eleni Stroulia
 John Seubert
 Brent Swallow
 Amy Tse
 Benjamin Tucker
 Dilini Vethanayagam
 Akiko Watanabe
 Ian Winship
Students:
 Firouz Khodayari
 Shane Scott
 Ilya Ushakov

Appointed

Members:

Solomon Amoateng
 Alizeh Ansari
 Ruben Araya
 Marina Banister
 Darcy Bemister
 Robert Bilak
 Katherine Binhammer
 Michelle Borowitz
 Heather Bruce
 Meijun Chen
 Darren Choi
 André Costopoulos
 Jonah Dunch
 Shannon Erichsen
 Shawn Flynn
 Kyle Foster
 Connor Palindat
 Maryam Kebbe
 Maryse Ndilu Kiese
 Marina Kirillovich
 Gohar Jamal

Amy Li
 Monica Lillo
 Steven Lin
 Wei Liu
 Habba Mahal
 Kyle Monda
 Sean Oliver
 Michael Sandare
 Babak Soltannia
 Andrews Tawiah
 James Thibaudeau
 Amanda Wakaruk
 Brayden Whitlock
 Janet Williamson
 Ziyu Yang
 Brandon Yip

REGRETS:

Katherine Aitchison
 Daniel Atchison
 Daniel Bilyk
 Stanford Blade
 Abigail Bridarolli
 Sylvia Brown
 Katy Campbell
 Li-Kwong Cheah
 Brandon Christensen
 David Cooper
 Neal Davies
 Pamela Mayne
 Correia
 Benjamin Denga
 Genna DiPinto
 Fraser Forbes
 Tarek El-Bialy
 Dean Eurich
 Adam Gaudry
 Murray Gingras
 Robert Haennel
 Daanish Hamid
 Lesley Harrington

Irehobhude Iyioha
 Gaganpreet Jhajj
 Mahmoud Kenawi
 Dennis Kunimoto
 Alex Kwan
 Leijun Li
 Mark Loewen
 Godfrey Man
 Vivian Mushahwar
 Aleks Nakevski
 Katelynn Nguyen
 Anthony Nguyen
 Alice Nakamura
 Smit Patel
 Paul Paton
 Carla Peck
 Leonard Ratzlaff
 Marc Secanell
 Carrie Smith-Prei
 Kim Solez
 Sarah Stahlke
 Bruce Sutherland
 Eddie Wang
 Matthew Barnett
 Delane Howie
 LJ Valencia
 Jonathan White
 Erin Wright
 Bonnie Watt

STAFF:

Meg Brolley, GFC
 Secretary
 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.

Motion: Sousa/Cormack

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes of September 25, 2017

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Cormack/Doucet

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Minutes of September 25, 2017.

CARRIED

3. Report from the President

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Discussion:

The Chair provided several updates in relation to the University of Alberta budget noting that there will be an anticipated 4% reduction in the coming year and that a multi-year planning process and new budget model are in development. Planning guidelines have been presented to deans. A member enquired about the budget reduction.

In addition, the Chair reported on advocacy efforts encouraging implementation of the funding recommendations contained within the Naylor Report.

The Chair reminded members that the university is in the process of establishing a selection committee for Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian and that a call for nominations for three faculty members to serve on this committee is currently underway.

Finally, the Chair commented on preliminary plans for the joint GFC/Board of Governors Summit scheduled for January 2018 and suggested including Senate. A working group will be struck comprised of members from each body to plan the Summit.

4. New Members of GFC

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Chair, GFC

Purpose of the Proposal: To appoint, re-appoint or receive new members of General Faculties Council.

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

Motion I: Mocquais/Stroulia

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 undergraduate student representatives, to serve on GFC for terms commencing immediately and ending April 30, 2018:

Aleks Nakevski	Alberta School of Business
Brandon Yip	Alberta School of Business
Alizeh Ansari	Faculty of Education
Gohar Jamal	Faculty of Education
Amy Li	Faculty of Education
Daniel Atchison	Faculty of Engineering
Daniel Bilyk	Faculty of Engineering
Gaganpreet Jhajj	Faculty of Science
Marina Kirillovich	Faculty of Science

CARRIED

Motion II: Scott/Cormack

MOTION II: TO RECEIVE [This motion may be proposed by any member of GFC]:

The following statutory faculty member/s who has been elected/re-elected by their Faculty, to serve on GFC for a term of office commencing immediately and ending June 30, 2020:

John Seubert	Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
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CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. Peter Lougheed Leadership College (PLLC) - Next Steps

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Chair, GFC

Purpose of the Proposal: To give GFC the opportunity to reflect on the recent review of PLLC commissioned from Dr Peter Mackinnon, and the response to that review prepared by PLLC Vice-Principal Dr Martin Ferguson-Pell, and to engage in discussion about opportunities for the future evolution of PLLC and for leadership initiatives more broadly at the University of Alberta.

Discussion:

The Chair reported that there were good discussions earlier this month at both the GFC Academic Planning Committee and the GFC Executive Committee on possible next steps for the PLLC. He noted that the current Principal of the PLLC, the Right Honourable Kim Campbell, will be stepping down next year which gives the university an opportunity to inform the future direction and potential of the PLLC before the next Principal is selected.

The Chair provided a summary of the Mackinnon Report and PLLC response which were made public earlier this year. The Report included comments surrounding a strong student experience yet identified sustainability issues. He indicated that the deans have engaged in preliminary discussions about the direction of the PLLC, and the Chair invited members to provide suggestions and comments.

During the ensuing discussion, members noted that the PLLC could provide: university-wide activities and support to existing leadership programs at the university; professional development activities to graduate students; an avenue towards community engagement; and that this is an opportunity to collaborate and reduce duplication across the institution.

Members identified several concerns with the existing PLLC including lack of flexibility in the certificate program and a lack of direction to formally incorporate bilingual leadership training. A member suggested broadening admission to all undergraduate students to eliminate current admission restrictions for students in certain Faculties.

A member expressed concerns that the PLLC was non-compliant with the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Collective Agreement in regards to teaching hours.

The Chair stated that a working group would be established to plan next steps and noted that the working group would include students.

6. Executive Committee update on ad hoc recommendations

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Eleni Stroulia, Chair, GFC Executive ad hoc Transition Committee

Purpose of the Proposal: To receive the status report on the implementation of recommendations from the Report of the ad hoc Committee on Academic Governance including Delegated Authority.

Discussion:

Dr Stroulia reported to members on the status of the 48 recommendations contained within the Report of the ad hoc Committee on Academic Governance including Delegated Authority.

She reported that eight recommendations are complete, and that these related to the 'Principles' documents approved by GFC in April 2017. Six recommendations in relation to early consultation, GFC meeting frequency, Board relations, and orientation, have all been implemented. She noted that 25 recommendations are in progress.

A member questioned why graduate students are not represented on all GFC standing committees and enquired about how standing committee composition was determined. It was clarified that the ad hoc Committee had outlined key principles within the Principles for General Faculties Council Membership Composition document approved by GFC in April 2017, and that additionally, all GFC standing committees had been tasked with reviewing membership to ensure that it remains appropriate.

The Chair confirmed that amendments to GFC standing committee terms of reference would require final approval by GFC.

ACTION ITEMS

7. Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research: Proposed Revisions to existing Supervision and Examinations Policy

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Heather Zwicker, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Deborah Burshtyn, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Purpose of the Proposal: The revisions are intended to clarify the policies, elaborate on procedures, and improve policies. The impact will be to have greater clarity for students, faculty and staff in the administration and conduct and outcomes of examinations in thesis-based programs.

Discussion:

Dr Burshtyn reported that the proposal contains two changes in relation to who can chair candidacy and doctoral examinations, and conflict resolutions between students and supervisors. She summarized the process used to develop this proposal.

Motion: Mocquais/Zwicker

THAT General Faculties Council approve the proposed revisions to existing Supervision and Examinations policy, as recommended by the GFC Executive Committee and the GFC Academic Standards Committee, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect July 1, 2018.

CARRIED

8. Report of the GFC Committee on the Learning Environment (CLE) on Teaching and Learning and Teaching Evaluation and the Use of Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) as an Evaluation Tool

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Sarah Forgie, Chair, GFC Committee on the Learning Environment; Norma Nocente, Associate Director, Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL); L Francisco Vargas, Research Coordinator

Purpose of the Proposal: The GFC Committee on the Learning Environment (CLE) was requested by GFC to report on research into the use of student rating mechanisms of instruction in university courses. This report fulfills this request.

Discussion:

The Chair reported that full discussion on this proposal was deferred at the last meeting due to limited time. He added that GFC Policy Manual Section 111 notes that teaching evaluation will be multifaceted and that multifaceted evaluation will include the use of USRIs. He also noted that USRIs are just one of many tools used to assess teaching performance and that tools such as this continue to be questioned at all universities.

Further, the Chair pointed out the complexities inherent in the evaluation of teaching, noting the many legislative pieces surrounding it including the *Post-Secondary Learning Act's* delegation to GFC to make recommendations to the Board with respect to promotions and tenure, as well as contents of the AASUA Collective Agreement.

Dr Forgie noted that CLE had engaged the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) in preparing the report, and that the team had interviewed chairs, conducted a literature review, and referenced previous reports on the use of USRIs at the university as part of their initiative.

Dr Forgie indicated that CLE is looking for direction from GFC, as outlined in the recommendations, to continue investigating ways evaluation can be improved towards the betterment of teaching and learning at the university.

In speaking against the motion, a member expressed concern that the issue of bias had not been adequately addressed within the report, and that until the issue was resolved, personnel decisions could not be made using the tool. GFC CLE should instead be directed to report back to GFC on new evaluation mechanisms and that this could be discussed at a late winter/spring meeting of GFC.

A member, speaking in favour of the motion, noted that the academy had been reviewing the issue for years with no resolution and that resolution was needed. A member also added support for the motion and stated that the USRI is the only way students can provide feedback, although multifaceted methods should be reviewed as well. A member expressed support for the usage of USRIs in improving teaching.

A member noted that informed, scholarly discussions are important on contentious issues and that the report's recommendations provide the right direction for constructive resolution.

Motion: Stroulia/Souza

THAT General Faculties Council Receive the CLE Report on Teaching and Learning and Teaching Evaluation and the Use of the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) as an Evaluation Tool as set forth in Attachment 2, and Endorse the Recommendations of the Committee as set forth in Attachment 1, and as recommended by the GFC Executive Committee.

CARRIED

9. Proposed Revisions to Standing Committee Terms of Reference GFC Campus Law Review Committee (CLRC) including a name change to GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee (SCPC)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Steven Penney, Chair, GFC Campus Law Review Committee (CLRC)

Purpose of the Proposal: To approve the revised terms of reference for the GFC Campus Law Review Committee, including a name change to the GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee.

Discussion:

Professor Penney provided members with a summary of the proposed amendments to the committee name and terms of reference. He reported that although the ad hoc Committee did not identify any major issues with the committee, several items were being amended to reflect the GFC-approved Principles for Standing Committee Composition, the removal of outdated items from the terms of reference, and the recommendation that the chair possess legal training.

Professor Penney indicated that CLRC had engaged in several discussions about changing the committee name to better reflect its mandate and that this name change forms part of the proposed changes.

A member sought clarification about membership composition.

Motion: Cormack/Doucet

THAT General Faculties Council approve the proposed changes to the GFC Campus Law Review Terms of Reference including a name change to GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee (SCPC) as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval.

CARRIED

10. Proposed Revisions to Standing Committee Terms of Reference - GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Wendy Rodgers, Chair, Facilities Development Committee (FDC)

Purpose of the Proposal: To approve the revised terms of reference for the GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC).

Discussion:

Dr Rodgers reported that the proposed changes to the committee terms of reference were intended to bring FDC into alignment with the GFC Principles for Standing Committee Composition and that as the ad hoc Committee had not identified any other major issues within FDC's terms of reference, mandate or delegated authority from GFC, the other changes were minor. These changes included reference to the Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) and in the inclusion of an extended 'Definitions' section to the terms of reference.

During the discussion, members enquired about the lack of certain membership categories within the composition, including an elected graduate student member and members from Campus Saint-Jean and Augustana Faculty.

Motion: Sharman/DeLong

THAT General Faculties Council approve the proposed changes to the GFC Facilities Development Committee Terms of Reference as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval.

CARRIED

11. Changes to the Admission of Aboriginal Students Calendar Section and updates to Faculty sections

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Chris Andersen, Dean, Faculty of Native Studies; Lisa Collins, Vice-Provost and University Registrar

Purpose of the Proposal: In order to achieve consistency across Faculties, relevant Calendar sections are being updated to indicate that proof of Aboriginal identity will be required.

Discussion:

Ms Collins provided a summary of the proposed changes which include a requirement to prove Aboriginal identity in cases where places are reserved for Aboriginal students, eligibility requirements for Métis identity, the removal of the statutory declaration as proof of identity, and an updated appeals mechanism. She reported that there was extensive consultation surrounding the proposed changes.

Dean Andersen commented on the shift from Aboriginal ancestry to Aboriginal identity and the importance of a connection to the community.

Motion: Collins/Andersen

THAT General Faculties Council approve the proposed changes to the calendar sections related to the admission of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students as set forth in Attachments 1 and 2, and as recommended by the GFC Academic Planning Committee and the GFC Academic Standards Committee, to take effect in 2018/19.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

12. Question Period

12.1Q Question from GFC member Kyle Monda regarding safety and security in the Fine Arts Building and

12.1R Responses to Questions Submitted by GFC Member regarding safety and security in the Fine Arts Building

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Chair, GFC

Discussion:

Mr Monda posed several additional questions in relation to whether the building audit documents were available; locker break-ins; OneCard access; CCTV upgrades; communication from the Dean of Arts on security issues and the expected timeline for a security plan for the Fine Arts Building.

There were no additional questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

13. Report of the GFC Executive Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

14. Report of the GFC Academic Planning Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

15. Report of the GFC Academic Standards Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

16. Report of the GFC Nominating Committee (Current list of vacancies)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

17. Information Forwarded to GFC Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

18. Information Reports

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

- 2018-2019 Academic Schedule
- Waiver of Advertising Requirements Report to GFC
- Report of Undergraduate Student Financial Support

CLOSING SESSION

19. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.