



General Faculties Council
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, April 30, 2018
Council Chamber, 2-100 University Hall (UNH)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Statutory Members:

Ex-Officio:

David Turpin, Chair
Chris Andersen
Deborah Burshtyn
(delegate)
Katy Campbell
Lesley Cormack
André Costopoulos
Greta Cummings
Steven Dew
Walter Dixon
Joseph Doucet
Richard Fedorak
Gitta Kulczycki
Heather McCaw
Pierre-Yves Mocquais
Paul Paton
Andrew Sharman
Jacqui Tam
Jennifer Tupper

Elected Faculty:

Cary Brown
Peter Carver
Ryan Dunch
Tarek El-Bialy
Duncan Elliott
Nadir Erbilgin
Dean Eurich
Pierre Lemelin
Mark Loewen
Lisa McDermott
Rob McMahan
Lynn McMullen
Al Meldrum
Carolyn Sale
Marc Secanell
Carrie Smith-Prei
Jorge Sousa
Lisa Stein
Eleni Stroulia
Brent Swallow

Amy Tse
Benjamin Tucker
Dilini Vethanayagam
Akiko Watanabe
Bonnie Watt
Jonathan White
Ian Winship

Students:

Babak Soltannia

Appointed Members:

Darcy Bemister
Robert Bilak
Katherine Binhammer
Linzy Bohn
Heather Bruce
Meijun Chen
David Cooper
Benjamin Denga
Jonah Dunch
Shannon Erichsen
Shawn Flynn
Kyle Foster
Kim Frail
Gautam Gaur
Osman Hojanepesov
Wei Liu
Kyle Monda
Brayden Whitlock

REGRETS:

Jason Acker
Joel Agarwal
Erin Allin
Solomon Amoateng
Susan Andrew
Alizeh Ansari
Daniel Atchison
Marina Banister
Matthew Barnett
Allen Berger
Daniel Bilyk
Jeff Birchall

Stanford Blade
Michelle Borowitz
Abigail Bridarolli
Sylvia Brown
Erica Chang
Darren Choi
Brandon Christensen
Lisa Collins
Pamela Mayne Correia
Heidi Cossey
Neal Davies
Kathleen DeLong
Genna DiPinto
Fraser Forbes
Bill Foster
Adam Gaudry
Murray Gingras
Robert Haennel
Daanish Hamid
Lesley Harrington
Connor Hastey Palindat
Delane Howie
Irehobhude Iyioha
Gohar Jamal
Gaganpreet Jhajj
Maryam Kebbe
Mahmoud Kenawi
Firouz Khodayari
Maryse Ndilu Kiese
Marina Kirillovich
Alex Kwan
Eva Lemaire
Amy Li
Leijun Li
Monica Lillo
Steven Lin
Habba Mahal
Godfrey Man
Laurie Mereu
Roger Moore
Kerry Mummery
Vivian Mushahwar
Alice Nakamura

Aleks Nakevski
Anthony Nguyen
Sean Oliver
Smit Patel
Carla Peck
Leonard Ratzlaff
Michael Sandare
Jonathan Schaeffer
Georg Schmolzer
Shane Scott
John Seubert
Kim Solez
Sarah Stahlke
Bruce Sutherland
Andrews Tawiah
James Thibaudeau
Ilya Ushakov
LJ Valencia
Amanda Wakaruk
Eddie Wang
Janet Williamson
Erin Wright
Ziyu Yang
Brandon Yip
Kue Young

Staff:

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

Observers:

Masoud Aliramezani
Tyrel Brochu
Sarah Forgie
Nathan Fung
Albert Hu
Kiann McNeil
Norma Rodenburg
Brian Stewart
Sasha van der Klein

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Dunch/Dew

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes of March 19, 2018

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Bruce/Cormack

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Minutes of March 19, 2018.

CARRIED

3. Report from the President

The Chair spoke about the controversy around the honorary degree to be awarded to David Suzuki in June. He reminded members of how honorary degrees were decided and the history behind it. Members indicated their support of the President's opinion piece published in *The Quad* and *Edmonton Journal* (copies made available to members at the meeting), noting it represented the highest values of the university and upheld free speech and academic integrity. Members also expressed concern about the impact on external relations and fundraising efforts. Members acknowledged the different opinions across campus, the province, and the country. Members also noted the professionalism of the university staff who had been responding to the many emails and phone calls from various stakeholders on this matter.

The Chair noted that the official grant letter from the government had not been received. He noted that differences between government funding and budget assumptions would normally be treated as an in-year budget variance and options would be discussed by the Board.

The Chair welcomed the Dean of Medicine and Dentistry, Richard Fedorak, who had returned from leave. He also announced the appointment of Shanthi Johnson as Dean of the School of Public Health effective July 1 and the appointment of Deborah Burshtyn as Interim Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research effective August 1.

The Chair announced Lois Harder as the new Principal of Peter Lougheed Leadership College effective July 1 and thanked Kim Campbell and Martin Ferguson-Pell for their efforts in establishing the college.

The Chair also noted that the new Vice-President (Research) Matthias Ruth would be starting on May 1 and thanked Walter Dixon for his efforts during his tenure as Interim Vice-President (Research).

The Chair noted that the University Teaching Awards Committee had completed their adjudication and congratulated the winners.

The Chair also noted that this was the final meeting for the current student members of GFC and thanked them for their service to academic governance.

ACTION ITEMS

4. New Members of GFC

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

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

Motion: Dew/Mocquais

MOTION I: TO APPOINT/REAPPOINT: The following undergraduate student representatives to serve on GFC for terms commencing May 1, 2018 and ending April 30, 2019:

Brandi Kobes, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences

Erin Allin, Faculty of Arts

Robert Bilak, Faculty of Arts

Yiming Chen, Faculty of Arts

Victoria deJong, Faculty of Arts

Mariam Hosseiny, Faculty of Arts

Mpoe Mogale, Faculty of Arts

Dustin Sandler, Faculty of Arts

Mitch Wilson, Faculty of Arts

John Hussein, Alberta School of Business

Luke Statt, Alberta School of Business

Tahra Haddouche, Campus Saint-Jean

Amlan Bose, Faculty of Engineering

Ryan Holowaty, Faculty of Engineering

Cindy Liang, Faculty of Engineering

Syed Mustafa, Faculty of Engineering

Janet Yao, Faculty of Engineering

David Chung, Faculty of Law

Albert Hu, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Nathan Sunday, Faculty of Native Studies

Abigail Bridarolli, Faculty of Nursing

Miray Aizouki, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Joel Agarwal, Faculty of Science

Tiffany Bruce, Faculty of Science

Julia Craig, Faculty of Science

Genna DiPinto, Faculty of Science

Hyejun Kim, Faculty of Science

Shuaa Rizvi, Faculty of Science

Rachel Wang, Faculty of Science

The following graduate student representatives at-large to serve on GFC for terms commencing May 1, 2018 and ending April 30, 2019:

Natalie Diether, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences
Gautam Gaur, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences

Ding Xu, Faculty of Arts

Vahid Ayan, Alberta School of Business

Bishoi Aziz, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Osman Hojanepesov, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Maryam Kebbe, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Carmel Montgomery, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Sabitha Rajaruban, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Allan (Yilun) Wu, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Saleema Allana, Faculty of Nursing

Samina Sana, School of Public Health

Andrews Tawiah, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

Taher Jafferjee, Faculty of Science

The following undergraduate student members elected by the Students' Union to the Board of Governors and appointed to GFC for a term that is concurrent with terms on the Board (May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019):

Reed Larsen, President, Students' Union
Levi Flaman, Student Appointee (Board of Governors Representative)

The following graduate student member elected by the Graduate Students' Association to the Board of Governors and appointed to GFC for a term that is concurrent with a term on the Board (May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019):

Sasha van der Klein, President, Graduate Students' Association

CARRIED

Motion: Monda/Dew

MOTION II: TO RECEIVE: The following statutory undergraduate student members nominated by the Students' Union to serve on GFC for terms beginning May 1, 2018 and ending April 30, 2019:

Akanksha Bhatnagar, Vice-President (Academic), Students' Union
Andre Bourgeois, Vice-President (Student Life), Students' Union

The following statutory graduate student member nominated by the Graduate Students' Association to serve on GFC for a term beginning May 1, 2018 and ending April 30, 2019:

Masoud Aliramezani, Vice-President (Academic), Graduate Students' Association

The following *ex officio* member, to serve on GFC for a term of office beginning May 1, 2018 and extending for

the duration of the appointment:

Matthias Ruth, Vice-President (Research)

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. Presentation: Transparent Governance Project (no documents)

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Austin Crapo; Cecilia Xiang; Christopher Walter; Gregory Gould; Julienne Belardo; Vuk Radovic; Eleni Stroulia, Professor, Faculty of Science

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLFlzZysq3g>

Discussion:

Dr Stroulia and her 4th year computer science students presented on their OpenGov project which developed an app to make governance documents more accessible to the community.

Dr Stroulia thanked the governance team for their help with the project.

Members expressed support for this initiative, indicated it was a good illustration of the university's commitment to interdisciplinary scholarship, noted its contribution to accessibility of records for both the community and GFC committee members, and asked when it would be available. Dr Stroulia noted work would continue on development of the app.

The Chair thanked the students for their time and efforts on this initiative.

6. University of Alberta response to the Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Chris Andersen, Dean, Faculty of Native Studies

Discussion:

Dean Andersen presented an overview of university activities and initiatives including: the only Faculty of Native Studies in the country, the Transition Year Program (TYP), Indigenization of the academy, inclusion in objectives in **For the Public Good**, and the establishment of ceremonial guidelines. He spoke of the university's focus on capacity building: structural changes and an emphasis on recruitment.

Members discussed: the creation of the Vice-Provost, Indigenous Initiatives position; how individuals could become involved; the importance of collaboration across Faculties and departments; progress on student and staff recruitment; student supports; the importance of communicating current efforts; incorporating Indigenous knowledge into existing scholarship; developing new courses, including experiential learning opportunities; and the low profile of the TRC calls to action in francophone institutions outside of Quebec.

Dean Andersen thanked members for their comments and extended an invitation to all to participate in initiatives and activities.

7. Bill 27: Conflicts of Interest Amendment Act - Updated Draft Employee Code of Conduct

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Brad Hamdon, General Counsel

Discussion:

Mr Hamdon provided an overview of the documents. He indicated that the documents had been submitted to the Ethics Commissioner to meet the April 30 deadline, and noted that he would continue to receive feedback and a revised version would be presented through governance for approval in the next academic year. He noted that much of the content was brought in from approved policy documents and that the gap in the acceptance of gifts was new content.

Members discussed: consultation with AASUA, conflict of interest, and family relationships,

The Chair noted that, after receipt of feedback from the Ethics Commissioner, the process to make changes would occur through the normal governance system. He encouraged members to send their feedback to Mr Hamdon.

8. SLOWPOKE Decommissioning - Update (no documents)

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Andrew Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)

Discussion:

Mr Sharman updated GFC on the decommissioning of the SLOWPOKE nuclear reactor. He noted that all materials had been removed from campus, the core had been filled with concrete, and the west courtyard had been returned to its original condition. The university will conduct a community consultation once the license to abandon is received.

ACTION ITEMS

9. School of Public Health termination of the Post Graduate Diploma in Health Promotion

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Deborah Burshtyn, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Jeff Johnson, Professor, School of Public Health

Purpose of the Proposal: To terminate the Post Graduate Diploma in Health Promotion

Discussion:

There was no discussion

Motion: Anderson/Dew

THAT General Faculties Council, as recommended by the GFC Academic Planning Committee, recommend that the Board of Governors approve the termination of the Post Graduate Diploma in Health Promotion offered through the School of Public Health, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies & Research, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to be effective upon approval.

CARRIED

10. Terms of Reference for a new free-standing GFC Nominating Committee and the Disbandment of the GFC Replenishment Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

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

Purpose of the Proposal: To approve the terms of reference for a new free-standing GFC Nominating Committee and the plan to transition from the current to the new committee structure. To disband the GFC Replenishment Committee on June 30, 2018, once the new GFC Nominating Committee is approved.

Discussion:

Dr White referred to the recommendations of the ad hoc Committee on Academic Governance including Delegated Authority and the proposed terms of reference and timeline for changes to the Nominating Committee and Replenishment Committee. He also noted that there would be positions available on both the Executive and Nominating Committees and encouraged those interested to put their names forward.

Motion: White/Sharman

THAT General Faculties Council approves the terms of reference for a free-standing GFC Nominating Committee as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect July 1, 2018, and approve the accompanying transition plan, as set forth in Attachment 2, to take effect May 1 until June 30, 2018

CARRIED

Motion: White/Sharman

THAT General Faculties Council approves the disbandment of the GFC Replenishment Committee, effective June 30, 2018

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

11. Question Period

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

11.1 Question from GFC member Ryan Dunch regarding Duty to Accommodate and university policies.
and

11.1 Response from the Dean of Students

11.2 Question from GFC member Ilya Ushakov regarding budget allocation.
and

11.2 Response from the Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

11.3 Question from GFC member Ilya Ushakov regarding the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) and the Academic Price Index (API).
and

11.3 Response from the President

11.4 Question from GFC member Marina Banister regarding international undergraduate student tuition.
and

11.4 Response from the President

11.5 Question from GFC member Marina Banister regarding the budget.
and

11.5 Response from the President

11.6 Question from GFC member Shane Scott regarding remote access to GFC and standing committee

meetings.

and

11.6 Response from the President, the University Secretary, and the GFC Secretary

11.7 Question from GFC member Shane Scott regarding support for the Peter Lougheed Leadership College (PLLC).

and

11.7 Response from the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Discussion:

During the question period, members expressed several comments and questions, including but not limited to: the anticipated date for receiving the government's official grant letter; the benefits of the Peter Lougheed Leadership College and the government's funding commitment to the college; the structural deficit and restrictions on spending surplus funds; the duty to accommodate and perceived requirement for students to apply for grants before receiving accommodations; the cost of student support and education for domestic and international students.

INFORMATION REPORTS

12. Report of the GFC Executive Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

13. Report of the GFC Academic Planning Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

14. Report of the GFC Academic Standards Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

15. Report of the GFC Undergraduate Awards and Scholarship Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

16. Report of the GFC University Teaching Awards Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

17. GFC Nominations and Elections

Apply Now! Staff Committee Applications deadline is April 30, 2018

- [Get Involved! How to Participate in Governance](#)
- [Anticipated Vacancies on 2018-19 GFC Committees](#)
(New Staff Memberships commence July 1, 2018)

18. Report of the Board of Governors

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

19. Information Items

A. Annual Report on Graduate Enrolment

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

20. Information Forwarded to GFC Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

21. Adjournment

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