



General Faculties Council
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, May 27, 2019
Council Chamber, 2-100 University Hall (UNH)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Statutory Members:

Ex-Officio:

David Turpin, Chair
Chris Andersen
Dale Askey
Laura Beard (delegate)
Allen Berger
Deborah Burshtyn
Katy Campbell
Lesley Cormack
André Costopoulos
Steven Dew
Joseph Doucet
Shanthi Johnson
Gitta Kulczycki
Diane Kunyk (delegate)
Frank Marsiglio
Paulin Mulatris
(delegate)
Kerry Mummery
Melissa Padfield
Andrew Sharman
Kelly Spencer
Jacqui Tam
Jennifer Tupper

Elected Faculty:

Jason Acker
Ryan Dunch
Duncan Elliott
Fay Fletcher
Michael Frishkopf
Pierre Lemelin
Lynn McMullen
Sue-Ann Mok
Shannon O'Byrne
Carolyn Sale
Marc Secanell
John Seubert
Carrie Smith

Eleni Stroulia
Ian Winship
Benjamin Tucker
Dilini Vethanayagam
Akiko Watanabe
Jonathan White

Appointed Members:

Joel Agarwal
Dylan Ashley
Katherine Binhammer
Yiming Chen
Meijun Chen
Natalie Diether
Shawn Flynn
Mohamad Jamaledine
Kevin Kane
Rajesh Kumar
Janice Kung
Jared Larsen
Habba Mahal
Milad Nazarahari
Anthony Nguyen
Alesha Reed
Amber Sayed
Lindy Schaffrick
Carrie Smith
Dhanvanth Soora
Samantha Tse
Janet Williamson
Donna Wilson
Ding Xu

REGRETS:

Ayman Adwan
W. Ted Allison
Adarsh Badesha
Matthew Barnett
Akanksha Bhatnagar
Jeff Birchall

Stanford Blade
Amlan Bose
Melinda Chisholm
Greta Cummings
Neal Davies
Piet Defraeye
David Draper
Tarek El-Bialy
Fahed Elian
Nadir Erbilgin
Shannon Erichsen
Dean Eurich
Fraser Forbes
Mary Forhan
Bill Foster
Ian Gatera
Adam Gaudry
Tahra Haddouche
Robert Haennel
Lesley Harrington
Kelly Hobson
Osman Hojanepesov
Basil Hubbard
Abigail Isaac
Peter Johnson
Simran Kaur Dhillon
Dennis Kunimoto
Jared Larsen
Eva Lemaire
Rowan Ley
Leijun Li
Mark Loewen
Susanne Luhmann
Pirkko Markula
Stephanie McKenzie
Sean McMurtry
Rojin McVea
Al Meldrum
Laurie Mereu
Pierre-Yves Mocquais

Roger Moore
Vivian Mushahw
Alice Nakamura
Anthony Nguyen
Yejide Omotoso
Paul Paton
Milad Rezvani Rad
Christina Rinaldi
Matthias Ruth
Georg Schmolzer
Richard Schulz
Kim Solez
Susan Sommerfeldt
Jorge Sousa
Lisa Stein
Bruce Sutherland
Brent Swallow
Andrei Tabirca
Shahed Taghian
Dehaghani
Amy Tse
Amanda Wakaruk
Lynne Wiltse
Erin Wright

Staff:

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

Observers:

Giovana Bianchi
Alana Krahn
Marianne Meijes
Fred Tappenden

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor, and Chair of GFC

The Chair noted that a member wished to amend the agenda by adding a motion. He explained that a 2/3 majority was required to add a motion to the agenda.

The Chair reported that the GFC Executive Committee discussed the matter extensively at their meeting of May 13, 2019, and decided not to add the motion to the May 27, 2019 GFC agenda. He noted that it was the committee's view that for the past several years GFC had been engaged in a comprehensive discussion about governance including delegations, terms of reference, membership, and committee composition. The draft terms of reference and composition of GFC were discussed at the two GFC meetings prior to the April 29th meeting and the Executive Committee believed that there was ample opportunity for issues to be raised prior to the item coming forward for approval. The Chair also noted that, as GFC is now mandated to review its terms of reference and composition every three years, it was the view of the Executive Committee that the next review of GFC composition should occur on the existing timeline. The Chair pointed to a more detailed summary in the report of the Executive Committee - Item 16 in the meeting materials.

Motion: Sale/Kane

THAT the following motion be added to the Agenda:

THAT, with the exception of the academic faculty, which has statutory seats, every constituency of the academic staff designated to the Association of Academic Staff by the Board of Governors shall have at least one appointed seat for the constituency on the General Faculties Council. The Academic Teaching Staff (ATS) shall have 5 appointed seats.

DEFEATED

Motion: Agarwal/Sharman

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Report from the President - Update on Clean Air Strategy

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor

The Chair noted with sadness the passing of Margaret-Ann Armour, an important member of the University community and ambassador for the advancement of women in the sciences.

The Chair reported that he had recently attended the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) Conference in Ireland. WUN is a group of 23 international research-intensive universities spanning 13 countries and 6 continents. He indicated that the annual conference included updates on WUN research projects, policy discussions, as well as other initiatives. The Chair invited his fellow attendees, Joel Agarwal, Students' Union Vice-President (Academic), and André Costopoulos, Vice-Provost and Dean of Students, to share some thoughts about the sessions they attended on topics such as work integrated learning and student mental health.

The Chair spoke about the new session of the provincial government and the previous week's throne speech with a stated focus on policies designed to create jobs and economic diversification. He noted that the provincial budget was expected in the fall so the university would proceed with the budget approved by the Board of Governors in March and address any changes as necessary.

The Chair noted two recent awards: Dennis Hall was named a Killam Research Fellow for his work in organic chemistry; and Hongbo Zeng was awarded the E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellowship for his work in chemical engineering.

Andrew Leitch, Director, ERM Programs (Risk Management Services), gave an update on the Clean Air Strategy noting the working group's progress and that a draft strategy would be ready to present to GFC in the fall.

Steve Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), updated GFC on the new, program based, tuition model for international students which would provide them with predictable tuition starting with fall 2020 admissions. He noted that this would not impact domestic students and spoke to how internal transfers would be handled. Dr Dew noted that the GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC) had recently recommended approval of the model to the Board.

Gitta Kulczycki, Vice-President (Finance and Administration) spoke about the audited financial statements which were approved by the Board that morning and commented on Faculty carry-forwards, new investment strategy for non-endowed funds, and tuition revenue.

The Chair reminded members that replenishment of GFC committees was underway. He noted that the new terms of reference for these committees called for additional GFC members to serve. He encouraged all GFC members to consider serving on a GFC committee.

The Chair noted that this was the final GFC meeting for staff members whose terms expired on June 30, and thanked those members for their service to academic governance. He also welcomed student members who began their terms on May 1.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda Mover and Seconder: Dew/Padfield

3. Approval of the Minutes of April 29, 2019

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Minutes of April 29, 2019.

CARRIED

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.

TO RECEIVE:

The following ex officio member, to serve on GFC for a term beginning July 1, 2019 and extending for the duration of the appointment:

Brooke Milne, Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

The following statutory faculty member/s who have been elected/re-elected by their Faculty, to serve on GFC for term of office beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2021:

Cathy Adams, Faculty of Education
Paul Gareau, Faculty of Native Studies

CARRIED

5. Revision to the Terms of Reference for the GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Purpose of the Proposal: To approve revised Terms of Reference for the GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee (SCPC)

THAT General Faculties Council approve the proposed revision to the GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee Terms of Reference as recommended by the GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee and the GFC Executive Committee and as set forth in attachment 1, to take effect upon approval.

CARRIED

6. Proposed Termination of the Bachelor of Physical Education specializations in (1) Cultural and Managerial Study of Sport and Leisure and (2) Activity and Nutrition, Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Purpose of the Proposal: Approval of the proposed termination of the Bachelor of Physical Education specializations in (1) Cultural and Managerial Study of Sport and Leisure and (2) Activity and Nutrition

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve the termination of the Bachelor of Physical Education specializations in (1) Cultural and Managerial Study of Sport and Leisure and (2) Activity and Nutrition, as recommended by the GFC Academic Planning Committee, to take effect upon final approval.

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

7. Proposed University of Alberta International Strategic Plan

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost, Programs; Cen Huang, Executive Director, International Relations and Recruitment

Purpose of the Proposal: To present the University of Alberta International Strategic Plan for discussion and recommendation to General Faculties Council.

Dr Dew explained that the overarching Institutional Strategic Plan, *For the Public Good*, was supported by more specific strategy documents such as the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Strategic Plan and the proposed International Strategic Plan. He noted that a reporting schedule and a companion document regarding implementation would come forward in the fall.

Discussion:

Members discussed providing support for international students with pre-existing mental health concerns, increasing access to work integrated learning experiences, and teaching the history of Canada's Indigenous Peoples to international students.

Motion: Dew/Cormack

THAT General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve the proposed University of Alberta International Strategic Plan, as recommended by the GFC Academic Planning Committee and the GFC Executive Committee, as proposed by the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and as contained in Attachment 1, to be effective upon final approval.

CARRIED

8. Taking Care of our Campuses for the Future: An Integrated Asset Management Strategy (2019-2035)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

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

Purpose of the Proposal: The University's executive leadership, the General Faculties Council, and the Board of Governors have all had the opportunity to review, comment, and provide revisions to the guiding principles upon which the Integrated Asset Management Strategy was developed. The General Faculties Council is being asked to endorse the strategy, which will steer infrastructure decisions across all campuses for the foreseeable future.

Mr Sharman presented the strategy and explained how the university planned to best use and maintain its assets. He spoke about the need to balance demand and resources in the current landscape and to help ensure viability for years to come.

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

Motion: Sharman/Doucet

THAT the General Faculties Council, as recommended by the GFC Facilities Development Committee and the GFC Academic Planning Committee, recommend that the Board of Governors approve the Integrated Asset Management Strategy, as proposed by the Office of the Vice-President (Facilities and Operations) and as set forth in Attachment 1, as the basis for future infrastructure decisions across all campuses.

CARRIED

EARLY CONSULTATION

9. Recruitment Policy Review

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Wendy Rodgers, Deputy Provost

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before General Faculties Council to seek early input to inform a forthcoming review of the Recruitment Policy and associated procedures.

Dr Rodgers asked for early feedback on embedding Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity (EDI) principles into the university's Recruitment Policy and Procedures. She noted that draft changes were expected to come forward in the fall. Members were invited to submit feedback to Dr Rodgers directly.

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

10. Early consultation on development of a statement on freedom of expression (no documents)

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Wendy Rodgers, Deputy Provost; Brad Hamdon, General Counsel

Dr Dew noted that this was one of the priorities of the new provincial government and asked members for input on the development of a statement of freedom of speech for the university. Dr Rodgers indicated that a working group had been formed which included members of the GFC Executive Committee and that extensive consultation would occur. Mr Hamdon spoke about the Chicago principles developed in the US and the Canadian legislative regime. The Chair noted that the 2018 Joint Summit had focused on this topic.

Discussion:

Members engaged in a robust discussion regarding freedom of speech including the autonomy of the University, discussions and engagement with experts, best practices from other post-secondary institutions, how a GFC approved task force could be engaged in the process, impact of political issues, how this issue could be addressed as an academic intellectual exercise, and the importance of developing a statement representative of the university's unique position.

11. A Protection of Minors Policy for the University of Alberta

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Rob Munro, Acting Associate Vice-President, Risk Management Services; Andrew Leitch, Director, ERM Programs, Risk Management Services

Purpose of the Proposal: The purpose of this item is to advise and seek feedback from GFC on administration's proposed policy to help protect minor participants in university programs.

Mr Munro and Mr Letich provided an overview of a policy under development to address minors attending university programming on campus and asked for feedback. Members were encouraged to contact Mr Munro and Mr Leitch to submit further comments.

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

12. Final Report of the Campuses and Facilities Safety and Security Working Group

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): James Allen, Associate Vice-President, Operations and Management; Rob Munro, Acting Associate Vice-President, Risk Management Services

Purpose of the Proposal: The purpose of this item is to present the working group's final report and to advise on progress to date and next steps.

Mr Allen and Mr Munro presented the report and spoke about how the university was addressing the recommendations and continuing to monitor safety on all the University of Alberta's campuses.

Discussion:

Members discussed relationships with the University Hospital and Transit security, discussions with the Edmonton Police Services (EPS), how to ensure engagement of the whole community, inclusion of all

campuses, number and demographic of survey respondents, benchmarks, and the importance of communication and education about safety and security. The Chair thanked the presenters for the efforts made by their teams on this issue.

13 Housing for Students Who Parent Consultation - Final Report

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Andrew Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations); Katherine Huising, Associate Vice-President, Ancillary Services

Purpose of the Proposal: In follow up to the recommendations from University administration, and partnered with the 2020 closure of the Michener Park residence, this report is being brought forward to inform the committee of the findings related to the consultation related to housing needs for students who parent.

Mr Sharman and Ms Huising spoke about the consultations reported and noted respondent concerns regarding the loss of community, affordable housing, childcare, and access to transit.

Discussion:

Members discussed how the University could address the concerns raised; efforts by the Dean of Students and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR) to support students who parent; the childcare concerns of students, post-doctoral fellows and staff members; that supports needed by graduate students were different than those offered by residence services; and the creation of family friendly spaces on campus.

14. PhD Learning Outcomes

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Deborah Burshtyn, Interim Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee to provide an update on work presently underway to develop a system to support U of A PhD programs in explicitly articulating their learning outcomes.

Dr Burshtyn presented work on defining minimum learning outcomes for PhD students.

Discussion:

Members discussed alignment with the Alberta Credentials Framework; the importance of communicating clear outcomes for both students and supervisors; the ability for departments to have additional outcomes specific to their programs which should also be clearly defined and communicated; original research and creative work; duty to accommodate; and the role of supervisory committees. A member noted that graduate students had been involved in the project since the beginning and were very supportive of the initiative.

15. Question Period

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

15.1 Question from GFC Elected Faculty Member Carolyn Sale regarding composition of GFC approved by GFC on April 29, 2019.

15.2 Response. The Chair gave a verbal response noting that GFC had discussed composition on a number of occasions in advance of the vote and that there had been no requests to add further to the membership proposed. He further noted that there were no AASUA nominated positions on GFC, but that GFC includes elected faculty members and some appointed members who were also AASUA members. He indicated that AASUA is structured as a bargaining union whereas GFC is structured as an academic collegium of academics and students. He further noted that, due to the legislative changes that made AASUA a bargaining union, some

members of GFC were no longer AASUA members such as the President and the Deans. The Chair spoke to the specific discussions around adding St Stephen's College and a post-doctoral fellow as key elements of the changed composition, and that the reorganization of the APO/FSO/MaPS representation preserved the ability of the MaPS group to continue to participate. He further noted the current vacancies for those seats as well as the ATS seats.

Dr Sale responded that she wanted to ensure these items were flagged and reiterated that representation from all groups within academic staff should be robust and inclusive. She further noted the lack of discussion on these categories and that APOs and FSOs perform completely different functions.

Discussion:

Members discussed and commented on the following: the increasing reliance on non-continuing academic staff who are not represented in the governing bodies in general and whether the interpretation of the elected 'full-time members of the academic staff' referred to in the PSLA should be reviewed; the newly approved terms of reference for Arts Faculty Council which now included all career status academic staff plus six non-career status academic staff, and that this illustrates a transition for these groups; that key areas of composition were raised at the March GFC including MaPS representation and how committee composition does not include all staff categories; the Transition Committee worked in accordance with the ad hoc recommendations that called for a reduction in the size of GFC so took a conservative approach to membership; the need to allow time for changes such as a new COSA to take effect before making further changes; the importance of revisiting the composition of GFC and its committees on a regular basis; and the need to value the perspectives of a full spectrum of academics to ensure the health and vibrancy of the community and university.

The Chair concluded that the discussion provided a great example of what GFC does, illustrated why early consultation matters, and emphasized why and how engagement of all members was essential.

INFORMATION REPORTS

16. Report of the GFC Executive Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

17. Report of the GFC Academic Planning Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

18. Report of the GFC Academic Standards Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

A. May 3, 2019 Report

B. GFC Members on the Joint Committee for the Selection of Chancellor

C. Call for Nominations for GFC Committees

19. GFC Nominations and Elections

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

20. Report of the Board of Governors

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

21. Information Items

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

A. Centres and Institutes Annual Report

22. Information Forwarded to GFC Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

23. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.