



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Campus Law Review Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Thursday, September 27, 2012
3-07, South Academic Building
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Steven Penney	(Elected from at-large) Staff Member and appointed by GFC Executive Committee
Deborah Eerkes	Discipline Officer
Cheryl Luchkow (Delegate)	Vice-Provost and Dean of Students
Dima Utgoff	Director of Residence Services
Jayson MacLean	Student OmbudService
Brent Epperson	Graduate Students' Association
Kaibree Drake	Residences
Saadiq Sumar	Students' Union Executive
Lise Gotell	Academic Staff
Elaine Geddes	Academic Staff
Adrienne Wright	Staff from A1.0, A2.0 and/or B1.0
Jess Ann Gordon	Student at-large
Gabrielle Saurette	Student at-large

Non-Voting Members:

Iva Spence	Appeals Coordinator
Garry Bodnar	Director of GFC Services and Secretary to GFC

Presenters:

Deborah Eerkes	Director, Office of Student Judicial Affairs
Marion Haggarty-France	University Secretary
Steven Penney	Chair, GFC Campus Law Review Committee
Dima Utgoff	Director, Residence Services

Staff:

Garry Bodnar	Coordinator, GFC Campus Law Review Committee
Marion Haggarty-France	University Secretary
Emily Paulsen	Scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Items 5 and 6 were reordered to better provide context for members around the proposed changes to the Residence Community Standards Policy, as set out in Item 5.

Motion: Eerkes/MacLean

THAT the GFC Campus Law Review Committee approve the Agenda as reordered.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of May 24, 2012

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Gotell/Geddes

THAT the GFC Campus Law Review Committee approve the Minutes of May 24, 2012.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair commented on a request he had received from Mr Saadiq Sumar regarding a possible discussion at today's GFC CLRC meeting with regard to the changes that had been made recently to the 'House Rules' of the Lister Centre. Professor Penney noted that, because of an existing Board delegation around the compilation and subsequent revision of the individual residences' 'House Rules' to the University's Residence Services and the individual residence student associations, discussion with regard to such rules (or changes thereof) does not fall under the purview of GFC CLRC and is thereby deemed an inappropriate item for addition to this meeting's agenda.

Mr Sumar commented that he was still of the opinion the 'House Rules' are enshrined within the Residence Community Standards and that these rules should fall under the jurisdiction of this committee. The Chair noted his dissent with this opinion for the reasons he had previously outlined.

4. Kick-off

Presenter: Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary

Purpose of the Proposal: To provide new and continuing members of GFC CLRC with an (annual) orientation to the legislative and administrative frameworks in which this standing committee of General Faculties Council (GFC) will operate during the Academic Year 2012-2013.

Discussion:

Ms Haggarty-France informed members that there are orientation materials available on the University Governance website specific to GFC CLRC, including the Committee's Terms of Reference. She noted that the Governance 101 sessions she conducts are periodically available and encouraged newer members to partake so that they can be as informed about the governance process as possible. Mr Michael Peterson, the new Appeals and Compliance Officer, and Ms Andrea Patrick, the new Assistant Secretary to GFC, were introduced to members as new colleagues of University Governance.

ACTION ITEMS

5. Residence Community Standards Policy Proposed Changes

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenters: Deborah Eerkes, Director, Office of Student Judicial Affairs; Dima Utgoff, Director, Residence Services

Purpose of the Proposal: To update the Residence Community Standards Policy to enact the recommendations of the Residence Community Standards Review Committee (RCSRC).

Discussion:

Ms Eerkes outlined the varying proposed changes to the existing Residence Community Standards Policy for members, highlighting: the elimination of the Residence Agreement Administrator position; the reduction in size of the Restorative Team; the replacement of the term “informal resolution” with that of “community resolution;” eliminating the need to investigate when all parties to a dispute are in agreement as to the presented facts; adding a pre-conference meeting in the policy, as it is a useful current practice; and adding to the policy the need to build or rebuild trust as an important part of the process.

During the ensuing discussion, a member voiced concern that providing the two subsections within the definition of “community resolution” could become confusing, recommending that they be separated into two separate terms. There was also clarification with respect to the qualifier “where available” in regard to the student representation on the Restorative Team. Further, members discussed issues around the need to work with international students generally on institutional disciplinary codes and models and for a general increase in education both externally and internally to promote residences. Ms Eerkes responded to each concern expressed in turn.

Members deemed the changes as substantive rather than editorial and, therefore, chose Motion B as presented in the material before them to recommend the item forward to the GFC Executive Committee.

Motion: Eerkes/Utgoff

THAT the GFC Campus Law Review Committee recommend to the GFC Executive Committee proposed changes to the existing Residence Community Standards Policy, as submitted by the Offices of the Dean of Students, Residence Services, and Student Judicial Affairs (OSJA) and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon final approval.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. Annual Report of the Residence Community Standards Review Committee (RCSRC)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Dima Utgoff, Director, Residence Services

Purpose of the Proposal: Report on the first annual review of the Restorative Justice Program as per Section C.4 of University of Alberta Residence Community Standards Policy.

Discussion:

Mr Utgoff provided a brief overview of the process regarding both the production and the findings of this

report. At the time the current Restorative Justice model was implemented last year, a committee was created to ensure its proper implementation and to review the initiative one year after implementation, after two years, and then periodically at the discretion of GFC CLRC. This report, he noted, is the result of this committee's first year review. A number of issues were generated, including: a need for more training and oversight; formalization of the training team; creating a better model for running a restorative justice meeting; streamlining the investigation process; changing the definition of "informal resolution" to "community resolution;" and a need to produce more detailed statistics.

There were no questions or comments.

7. Chart of Proposed Changes to Appeal Regulations

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary

Purpose of the Proposal: Information and sharing.

Discussion:

Ms Haggarty-France explained to members that, as of last year, various stakeholders who were working separately on changes to appeal regulations had been drawn together to share resources and to create a more efficient means by which proposals for change could be crafted and eventually submitted for formal consideration. She added that any suggestions for further improvements would be welcome.

8. Question Period

A member noted that in the future it would be beneficial to provide explanation regarding those circumstances in which two possible Motions (as seen in Item 5 of this agenda) were presented to members.

INFORMATION REPORTS

9. Items Approved by the GFC Campus Law Review Committee by E-Mail Ballots

There were no items.

10. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

11. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:30 am.