



General Faculties Council
Executive Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, April 13, 2015
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Olive Yonge	Chair (Delegate), President
Lisa Collins	Member, Vice-Provost and University Registrar
Duncan Elliott	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Roger Epp	Member (Delegate), Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Kaori Kabata	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Anita Molzahn	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Colin More	Member, Graduate Students' Association Vice-President (Academic)
Norma Nocente	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Kathryn Orydzuk	Member, Vice-President (Academic), Students' Union
Fahim Rahman	Member, Undergraduate Student Representative, Member of GFC
Sean Robertson	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Wendy Rodgers	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Mirko van der Baan	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC

Presenter(s):

Lisa Collins	Member, Ad Hoc Working Group on GFC Discussion (and Member, GFC Executive Committee)
Colin More	Member, Ad Hoc Working Group on GFC Discussion (and Member, GFC Executive Committee)
Kerry Mummery	Dean, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation and Co-Chair, Responsibility Centred Management (RCM) Steering Committee
Fahim Rahman	Member, Ad Hoc Working Group on GFC Discussion (and Member, GFC Executive Committee)
Wendy Rodgers	Chair, GFC Nominating Committee
Olive Yonge	Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Executive Committee

Staff:

Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary and Acting Coordinator, GFC Executive Committee
Andrea Patrick, Scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Olive Yonge, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Executive Committee

Discussion:

The Chair noted that the Agenda would be reordered to accommodate the schedule of a presenter.

A member proposed the addition of two items in relation to the recurring GFC Nominating Committee update on the General Faculties Council (GFC) Agenda and the recent discussion at the March 9, 2015 meeting of GFC in regards to how the GFC Executive Committee places items on the GFC Agenda.

A member proposed the addition of an item in relation to discussion time allotment at GFC.

A member proposed the addition of an item in relation to GFC Standing Committee reports at GFC.

Motion: Rodgers/Rahman

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Agenda, as amended.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of February 23, 2015

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file

Presenter: Olive Yonge, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Executive Committee

Motion: Robertson/More

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Minutes of February 23, 2015.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair commented on a number of issues of interest to members. She thanked student representatives for their terms on the Committee. She invited members to introduce themselves.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. General Faculties Council (GFC) Discussion Period Guidelines: 'Call for Items' Process

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Olive Yonge, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Executive Committee; Lisa Collins, Member, Ad Hoc Working Group on GFC Discussion (and Member, GFC Executive Committee); Colin More, Member, Ad Hoc Working Group on GFC Discussion (and Member, GFC Executive Committee); Fahim Rahman, Member, Ad Hoc Working Group on GFC Discussion (and Member, GFC Executive Committee)

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss and agree upon a formal process to issue a call for items for the new Discussion Period at GFC.

Discussion:

Ms Collins explained to members that the Guidelines for the Discussion Period at General Faculties Council (GFC) have been distributed to members of GFC and that there needs to be further review into how topics for the Discussion Period are adjudicated.

Ms Haggarty-France noted that the first GFC meeting of the 2015-2016 academic year would also be President-Elect Turpin's first GFC meeting, and that extra caution would need to be exercised in placing the right number of items on that Agenda.

The Chair stated that a Subcommittee, comprised of members of the GFC Executive Committee, could be organized to determine items for Discussion Period at GFC.

Members, during the discussion regarding this item, expressed a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: clarification regarding the exact composition of the Subcommittee; clarification regarding the Terms of the Subcommittee; how the composition of the Subcommittee relates to the aim of the Guidelines; a suggestion to delay the call for items until September 2015; support to delay the call for items until students return to the campuses of the University; that this was a proposal from President Samarasekera and that she might want an update on the issue; a suggestion to communicate a possible delay for a call for items to GFC members.

The Chair summarized member commentary by stating that members on the Subcommittee would have a one year term. She invited members to volunteer to be on the Subcommittee. The Chair noted that this item would be brought back for further discussion.

5. Budget Update

There were no documents.

Presenter: Olive Yonge, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Executive Committee; Kerry Mummery, Co-Chair, Responsibility Centred Management (RCM) Steering Committee

Purpose of the Proposal: For discussion/information.

Discussion:

Dr Mummery provided members with a brief overview of the University of Alberta's attempts to formally review a transition to an institutional incentive-based budgetary model. He explained that there are currently a number of working groups across the institution reviewing this model and that they will produce a joint report once individual deliberations have been concluded. He reported that there would be campus forums planned for fall 2015. He stated the working groups have been keeping President-Elect Turpin apprised of their activities and findings.

Ms Collins provided members with an update in regards to her participation on the working groups.

Dr Mummery noted that other Canadian post-secondary institutions have taken the appropriate time to ensure effective implementation and he added that each model seems to be unique to each institution.

During the discussion in regards to this topic, members expressed a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: clarification about related discussions at Deans' Council; whether there is an official process for determining the non-financial value of programs at the University of Alberta; clarification regarding how allocation will be directed; whether there are comparator institutions; whether the working group report will be available publicly; clarification on how funding might be allocated within Faculties.

The Chair provided members with an update in regards to the recent announcement of the 2015-16 Provincial Budget, and its expected impact on the University of Alberta.

6. Call for a Selection Committee for the University of Alberta Chancellor

There were no documents.

Presenter: Wendy Rodgers, Chair, GFC Nominating Committee

Purpose of the Proposal: For discussion/information.

Discussion:

Dr Rodgers proposed that this specific Call for GFC members be added to the next GFC Agenda under the GFC Nominating Committee recurring item. She noted that she would not need to speak to the item at the meeting.

Ms Haggarty-France reminded members that the Chancellor would be in attendance at GFC on June 1, 2015.

7. Discussion at General Faculties Council (GFC) In Relation to the Role of the GFC Executive Committee

There were no documents.

Presenter: Wendy Rodgers, Member, GFC Executive Committee

Purpose of the Proposal: For discussion/information.

Discussion:

Dr Rodgers reminded members about the discussion at the March 9, 2015 meeting of GFC, in relation to a question raised during Question Period about the Peter Lougheed Leadership College, and that there were other points made on that occasion about the processes and delegated authorities of the GFC Executive Committee.

Members, during the ensuing discussion surrounding this topic, provided a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: that there have been similar discussions at recent GFC meetings; that the concern seems to relate to GFC's ability to participate in unilateral decision-making and that there is a lack of understanding about process; whether there are documents available illustrating the delegations of authority from GFC to its Standing Committees; that Administration's decision to define the Peter Lougheed Leadership College as an administrative unit was a lost opportunity to have GFC participate in the establishment of the program; that the GFC Executive Committee is open and accommodating to possible GFC Agenda items; that there does not seem to be an easy mechanism to add an Agenda item to GFC; that there are several factors used to determine the appropriateness of potential Agenda items; discussion surrounding the procedures around approval of the GFC Agenda at GFC; that these issues relate to lack of understanding of GFC's procedural rules as well as discontent over the budget and student residences; that Governance 101 is an effective way to explain GFC and that the Governance 101 presentation could be updated to reflect delegations of authority; that new members of GFC may find the rules difficult to understand; that Governance 101 could be redeveloped specifically for GFC members; whether the GFC Executive Committee should present something about these issues to GFC, in order to help educate them on procedures; that the Students' Union (SU) Council includes verbal

updates from its Subcommittees and that introducing a similar verbal update from each GFC Standing Committee might assist with keeping members informed; that GFC members could be contacted via email in regards to the activities of the GFC Standing Committees; a suggestion for this item to be presented at the June 1, 2015 GFC meeting; support for an educational session; that the educational session could include the themes of new Council Chamber, history, and new President; a suggestion to discuss the Peter Lougheed Leadership College; that members do not feel that their feedback is provided in an early, impactful manner; that graduate student members of GFC were not pleased about the time allotment for discussion items at the March 9, 2015 GFC meeting and clarification regarding how the differing items could be weighted appropriately.

8. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

9. Items Approved by the GFC Executive 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 3:35 p.m.