



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Executive Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, March 04, 2019
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

David Turpin, Chair
Masoud Aliramezani
Steven Dew
Duncan Elliott
Bill Foster
Reed Larsen (delegate)
Sean McMurtry
Eleni Stroulia

Regrets:
Akanksha Bhatnagar
Lesley Cormack
Mary Forhan
Al Meldrum
Melissa Padfield
Nathan Sunday
Brent Swallow

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

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Foster/McMurtry

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

The Chair thanked Eleni Stroulia, Chair of the Executive Transition Committee, for the comprehensive update to GFC the previous week on the status of the recommendations of the *ad hoc* Committee on Academic Governance Including Delegated Authority.

The Chair noted that the Board of Governors would meet the following week and that the Board Finance and Property Committee's recommendation to approve the budget and fees was on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Dew/Aliramezani

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of February 11, 2019

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Open Session Minutes of February 11, 2019.

CARRIED

4. Proposed Revisions to Standing Committee Terms of Reference - GFC Academic Standards Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

THAT the GFC Executive Committee recommend that General Faculties Council approve the proposed changes to the GFC Academic Standards Committee Terms of Reference as recommended by the GFC Academic Standards Committee, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect July 1, 2019.

CARRIED

EARLY CONSULTATION

5. Draft Teaching Policy

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Sarah Forgie, Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives) and Chair of GFC Committee on the Learning Environment (CLE)

Dr Forgie explained that CLE had been asked to look at GFC Policy 111, and the draft Teaching Policy was the first piece to come forward. She noted that a draft Teaching Evaluation Policy suite would follow at a later date. Dr Forgie outlined the considerations of CLE in this process including language consistent with measurable outcomes and the university's commitment to teaching excellence.

Discussion:

Members expressed several comments and questions, including but not limited to: the importance of graduate attributes; the definition of "teacher" as it relates to the profession and to the act of teaching; the definitions of scholar and scholarship; the development of procedures related to this policy; the responsibilities at various levels of the Department, Faculty, and University; and the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research's work on learning outcomes.

6. Proposed Revisions to Standing Committee Terms of Reference - GFC Academic Planning Committee including a name change to the GFC Academic and Research Planning Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair of GFC Academic Planning Committee

Discussion:

Dr Dew noted the changes that were made in the proposed terms of reference including an emphasis on research and APC's responsibilities regarding International, Indigenous, and Information Technology policies and initiatives. He noted that there were some areas of program approvals that would require further work.

Members asked questions about the role of academic governance in research policy, the advisory role of the University Research Policy Committee, and APC's responsibility regarding budget matters.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. Proposed Terms of Reference - General Faculties Council Composition

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Eleni Stroulia, Chair GFC Executive Transition Committee; Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary

Dr Stroulia noted that the recommendation of the *ad hoc* committee to reduce the size of GFC was meant to increase the engagement of GFC but that, due to many of the change made over the last two year, this may not necessarily be an issue any longer.

Ms Haggarty-France pointed to the self-governing nature of GFC and noted that the additions to the membership were made at a time when they made sense to GFC. She noted that the task before GFC was to examine the membership in the current context. Ms Haggarty-France suggested representation for Post-Doctoral Fellows, who were recently identified in the *Post-Secondary Learning Act* (PSLA), as well as the Principal of St Stephen's College, an affiliate college of the university.

Discussion:

Members expressed several comments and questions, including but not limited to: student representation and how the numbers are determined; the ideal size for a university governing body such as GFC; the experience student representatives gain by serving on GFC; how the items on the agenda will lead to self-selection/attendance at GFC; the statutory members legislated in the PSLA; the replenishment of GFC, and the engagement of GFC members, including on GFC standing committees.

ACTION ITEMS

8. Draft Agenda for the Next Meeting of General Faculties Council

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: McMurtry/Stroulia

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the Agenda for the March 18, 2019 meeting of General Faculties Council, as set forth in Attachment 1.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

10. Items Approved by the GFC Executive Committee by email ballots

There were no items.

11. Information Items Forwarded to GFC Executive Committee between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

12. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.