



General Faculties Council
 Executive Committee
 Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, September 09, 2019
 Council Chamber, 2-100 University Hall (UNH)
 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:
 David Turpin, Chair
 Joel Agarwal
 Dylan Ashley
 Steven Dew
 Duncan Elliott
 Mary Forhan

Pierre-Yves Mocquais
 Roger Moore
 Melissa Padfield
 Eleni Stroulia

non-voting:
 Meg Brolley
 Marion Haggarty-France

REGRETS:
 Adarsh Badesha
 Bill Foster
 Sean McMurtry

Staff:
 Heather Richholt, scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Agarwal/Mocquais

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the agenda.

CARRIED

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)- Federal Update- Provincial Update- Update Presidential Search

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor, and Chair of GFC Executive Committee; Carrie Smith, Vice-Chair of the Presidential Search Committee

Discussion:

The Chair invited Carrie Smith, the Vice-Chair of the Presidential Search Committee, to give an update on the Presidential Search. Dr Smith gave an overview of the consultations to date and indicated that consultation would continue over the coming months. She noted that the committee would participate in EDI and unconscious bias training and that the new Board Chair, Kate Chisholm, would chair upcoming meetings.

A member asked about timelines; Ms Haggarty-France noted that they hoped to be ready to make an announcement in March 2020.

The Chair then gave a presentation regarding the MacKinnon Report on Alberta's Finances and the implications for the University of Alberta. The Chair pointed out what we know: that Alberta faces financial challenges, the university is comparatively well funded, our peer institutions perform well with fewer resources, and that we will need to make changes. He further explained that the university had many fundamentals already in place including strong faculty, good facilities, growing research success, high demand programs, and very strong future demand. He noted that financial, administrative, and collaborative measures taken to date had laid the groundwork for success under future uncertainty.

Members discussed comparisons of government funding between provinces, university tuition, the costs of delivering diverse programs, and student financial aid.

3. Welcome and Committee Member Development and Orientation

Presenter(s): Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary; Meg Brolley, GFC Secretary

Discussion:

Ms Haggarty-France and Ms Brolley gave a presentation on the structure of academic governance at the University of Alberta. They spoke about recent changes to processes stemming from the recommendations of the ad hoc Committee on Academic Governance Including Delegated Authority. They also covered the mandate and role of the Executive Committee, recent agenda topics, and meeting logistics. Ms Haggarty-France and Ms Brolley highlighted the importance of early consultation which allows opportunities for members to engage in early and meaningful debate on important issues. They explained that by participating, members can contribute to the content of significant proposals and shape the direction of policy on matters of significant academic importance or interest before items proceed through the regular approval pathways.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda Mover and Seconder: Mocquais/Moore

4. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of June 10, 2019

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Open Session Minutes of June 10, 2019.

CARRIED

5. Proposed New Course Designator of FOLK (Folklore) in the Faculty of Arts

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Purpose of the Proposal: To introduce a course designator (FOLK) for the folklore courses taught currently taught under the designator MLCS in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies.

THAT GFC Executive Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, a new course designator for Folklore Studies courses, FOLK, as submitted by the Faculty of Arts, effective Fall 2020.

CARRIED

6. Proposed New Course Designators of ARTE and LITT in Faculte Saint-Jean

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Purpose of the Proposal: To create new course designations ARTE (Arts) and LITT (Littérature), in Faculté Saint-Jean, for the 2020-2021 University academic year.

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the new course designators of ARTE (Arts) and LITT (Littérature) in Faculté Saint-Jean, to take effect for Fall Term 2020.

CARRIED

7. Proposed Increases to Minimum English Language Proficiency Entrance Requirements for Graduate Program, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

THAT GFC Executive Committee recommend that General Faculties Council approve the proposed increases to the minimum English Language Proficiency scores, as recommended by the GFC Academic Planning Committee and the GFC Academic Standards Committee, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, and as set forth in Attachment 1, for implementation for Fall 2020 admissions and to be published in the 2020-2021 Calendar.

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

8. Changes to Dean Selection Committee - Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic); John Spence, Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation

Discussion:

Dr Spence noted that the Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation had a large number of athletics staff members as well as a large number of faculty members and that changes were needed to ensure appropriate representation.

Dr Dew pointed to the large variation in numbers of members on the selection committees across Faculties. The composition of the selection committee was amended to accurately reflect staff categories.

Mover and Seconder: Mocquais/Stroulia

THAT the GFC Executive Committee, acting under delegated authority from the Board of Governors and the General Faculties Council, approve the proposed changes to the composition of the Selection Committee for the Dean of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation, as submitted by the Office of the Provost and as set forth in Attachment 1, as amended, to take effect upon final approval.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. A. University of Alberta Students' Union (SU) Executive Goals 2019-2020B. Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Board Strategic Work Plan 2019-2020

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Akanksha Bhatnagar, President, Students' Union; Fahed Elian, President, Graduate Students' Association

Discussion:

Ms Bhatnagar gave an overview of the SU Executive's Goals for 2019-2020.

Mr Elian presented the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan for 2019-2020.

There were no questions.

10. Draft Principles on Free Expression at the University of Alberta

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Wendy Rodgers, Deputy Provost

Discussion:

Dr Rodgers introduced the draft principles and requested feedback from the committee.

Members discussed the Minister's letter, the Canadian legal framework regarding free speech and how it differed from the American system, and the challenge of balancing potentially upsetting material with available supports and conditions of approval of events.

Dr Rodgers outlined the plan for further consultation and the required timelines. Dr Rodgers also noted that members could provide additional feedback through the Provost's website.

11. Faculty and Staff Engagement Survey 2019

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Wayne Patterson, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Human Resources); Jennifer Tupper, Dean, Faculty of Education

Discussion:

Mr Patterson outlined the upcoming survey and its alignment with *For the Public Good*, and explained that it would give the university a baseline to use for determining staff engagement in the future.

Dr Tupper noted that the Faculty of Education had used a pilot survey and that they received qualitative and quantitative feedback in each of the areas covered in the survey.

Mr Patterson noted that the surveys would be confidential and anonymous and were to be provided by a third party vendor.

Members asked where the data would be stored and were assured that it would be stored in Canada. Members discussed sharing of data with other Departments, how data could be actioned, and pulse surveys and follow ups.

12. Consultation on Nomination of Chancellor

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Derek Roy Brenneis, Executive Officer, University of Alberta Senate

Discussion:

Mr Roy Brenneis explained that the current Chancellor's term would end in June 2020 and that a joint Nomination Committee had been struck; he noted that three GFC members were serving on the committee. Mr Roy Brenneis outlined the Chancellor's duties and attributes and asked for input from the community.

Members asked if the attributes changed over time and suggested bilingualism would be an asset. The Chair encouraged members to think about this and to share their ideas through the Senate website.

13. GFC/Board/Senate Joint Summit 2020 (no documents)

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

Discussion:

The Chair noted that the third joint Summit was scheduled for January 2020 and asked members to suggest ideas for the topic.

Members suggested the following ideas:

- Values based decision making in times of uncertainty
- Collaborating as a community in a competitive environment
- What makes it valuable to have a physical campus
- How to reinforce the role of the U15 to give Canada a post-secondary vision
- Performance based funding
- Impact measures and indicators to include more alternative metrics and qualitative measures, UK and Australia experiences

14. Question Period (no documents)

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

Discussion:

A member asked about high school application processes related to applicants with Advanced Placement courses. The Interim Registrar noted that a new application system would be launched for the next application cycle and that she would follow up with the member individually on this question.

ACTION ITEMS

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

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

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

Discussion:

A member asked about the method of filling student vacancies on GFC and Mr Agrawal noted that discussions were occurring to find the best way to address this.

Motion: Dew/Padfield

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the Agenda for the September 23, 2019 meeting of General Faculties Council, as set forth in attachment 1.

CARRIED

INFORMATION REPORTS

16. Items Approved by the GFC Executive Committee by email ballots: Changes to procedures for selection of Department Chairs, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

17. Information Items Forwarded to GFC Executive Committee between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

18. Adjournment

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