



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Academic Planning Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, November 13, 2013
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Martin Ferguson-Pell	Chair, Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Lorne Babiuk	Member, Vice-President (Research)
Phyllis Clark	Member, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Michael Deyholos	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Brent Epperson	Member, President of the Graduate Students' Association
Lise Gotell	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Loren Kline	Member, Academic Staff-at-large, Cross-Representative from GFC FDC
Petros Kusmu	Member, President of the Students' Union
John Law	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
D. Douglas Miller	Member, Dean Representative, Medicine and Dentistry
Larry Prochner	Member, Department Chair-at-large
Wendy Rodgers	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC

Non-Voting Members:

Ed Blackburn	Member, Faculty Member of the GFC Executive Committee
Lisa Collins	Member, Vice-Provost and University Registrar

Presenter(s):

Phyllis Clark	Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Martin Ferguson-Pell	Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Staff:

Garry Bodnar, Coordinator, GFC Academic Planning Committee
Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Kline/Rodgers

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of October 9, 2013

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Clark/Kline

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Open Session Minutes of October 9, 2013.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Acting Chair

There were no comments.

Dr Babiuk assumed the chair.

ACTION ITEMS

4. University of Alberta 2014-2015 General Tuition Fee Proposal

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Martin Ferguson-Pell, Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Acting Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee; Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

Purpose of the Proposal: To set tuition fees for the 2014-2015 academic year.

Discussion:

Aided by a PowerPoint presentation, Ms Clark prefaced her presentation by stating that tuition fees are an integral part of the University of Alberta budget, especially considering the extraordinary year of financial upheaval endured by the University. She then made note of the governance timelines of the tuition fees proposals, including presentation and approval at the December 13, 2013 Board of Governors meeting.

Ms Clark continued by explaining that the Province's Public Post-Secondary Institutions' Tuition Fees Regulations have changed throughout the last five years, noting that the process is heavily regulated in terms of how much the fees can be increased as well as how they can be used. She added that under the direction of the Ministry of Enterprise and Advanced Education (EAE), the allowable tuition fee increase for 2014-2015 is 1%. She then outlined the last five years of fee increases and discussed rates of inflation during this period.

Ms Clark explained the elements of Operating Revenue and compared this data from 2006-2007 to 2013-2014. She pointed out the decrease in Provincial Government funding for the institution from 68.1% in 2006-2007 to 59.5% in 2013-2014.

Ms Clark then outlined the proposal for the 1% increase to general tuition fees, making note of a typographical error within the distributed materials. Mr Bodnar announced this correction to members. Ms Clark outlined the proposal for the 1% increase to program differentials, course differentials, and market modifiers.

Ms Clark described the proposal for the 5% increase to general international tuition fees and outlined the proposal for the 5% increase to international program differentials, course differentials, and market modifiers.

Ms Clark highlighted comparative data from the U-15 Data Exchange (for comparable Canadian post-secondary institutions) reflecting domestic and international tuition fees across the U-15 schools, noting that the University of Alberta places lower than the U-15 mean for both.

During the extensive discussion surrounding this matter, members expressed comments and questions, including, but not limited to: clarification surrounding the "Other" category within the Operating Revenue; clarification on whether fees for domestic Master of Arts (MA) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programs recover costs for the educational experience provided; clarification surrounding the University of Alberta's ranking among U-15 schools in relation to tuition fees; a query whether the tuition fees charged are reflective of the quality of the educational experience; commentary that the slide presentation relating to the tuition fees charged by the University of Calgary only reflects the first year of tuition and that this is misleading; that the U-15 data is skewed by the schools in Ontario; commentary that there is not enough time to have a meaningful discussion about tuition within the meeting; commentary that certain figures within the presentation are not framed correctly and that conclusions should not be made in the absence of evidence-based data surrounding international tuition fees; expressed skepticism surrounding the claim that the Operating Budget only goes towards costs associated with educating students; a comment that international students would like more consultation surrounding this issue and that the proposal was presented without enough time to accommodate such consultation; a query whether services and scholarships for international students will be increasing in light of the fee increases; clarification about how the recent funding announcement has impacted budget planning; a question on whether changes can be made to the proposal as it goes through the governance process; clarification surrounding extra costs, not including salaries and benefits; commentary that adding services geared towards international students would ease the existing anger and anxiety regarding the fees increase; expressions of support for the proposals.

There was additional commentary regarding the following: that the University of Alberta is the anomaly within the U-15 tuition data, not the schools in eastern Canada; that the University of Alberta is an international institution and should not be compared to certain other U-15 schools in the west as a result; that the current fees assessed by the University of Alberta are shockingly low; that other institutions not held back by governmental regulations are increasing tuition and that increasing international tuition is the only viable, justified option at the University of Alberta; that having lower tuition fees does not cheapen the University of Alberta for students; that increasing fees for international students puts the cohort at a further disadvantage, especially considering recent increases to their costs of living; that international students should have some predictability in relation to the fees that will be imposed on them during the course of their education at the University of Alberta and that the unexpected changes are therefore burdensome; whether there could be consideration of "grandparenting" existing tuition fees; that these increases should

not be considered unexpected, according to several written sources made available to international students prior to their arrival at the University; concerns that certain U-15 institutions have similar student numbers but double the faculty members of the University of Alberta, making it difficult to compete; frustration with the Provincial Government's lack of commitment to the University of Alberta; additional expressions of support for the proposals; and that the bigger issue is why other U-15 schools charge so much in comparison to the University of Alberta's fees, but that the University of Alberta has little time or staff to consider this important issue.

A member, noting that it appeared at this point in the meeting the same issues were being raised, called 'Question' on all three tuition Motions.

Motion: Clark/Kline

(Opposed: Kusmu and Epperson)

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, recommend to the Board Finance and Property Committee that the Board of Governors approve a proposal from the University Administration for a general tuition fee increase of 1.0%, effective September 1, 2014 and as illustrated in the table below.

Undergraduate (Arts and Science) ^{a, b}	2013-14	2014-15	Change ^c	
			(\$)	(%)
Domestic (Arts and Science)	\$5,269.20	\$5,320.80	\$ 51.60	0.98%
Domestic Graduate Fees ^{a, b}	2013-14	2014-15	Change ^c	
			\$	%
Course Based Masters	\$3,708.00	\$3,744.72	\$36.72	0.99%
Thesis 919 ^d	\$2,312.80	\$2,335.92	\$ 23.12	1.0%
Thesis Based (Masters and PhD) ^{b, e}	\$2,778.00	\$2,805.72	\$ 27.72	1.0%

- (a) Values are based on a full-time per term and full-time per year.
- (b) Excludes applicable market modifier and/or program specific differential fees.
- (c) Tuition increases are applied to the fee index. As such, the effective year over year percentage change on the overall full-time program may be below 1.0 percent.
- (d) Tuition applies to thesis students who were admitted to the program of study prior to Fall 2011 and are assessed the reduced thesis rate.
- (e) Tuition applies to thesis students who were admitted to the program of study beginning in Fall 2011 or later; this is based on an annual fee assessment (including spring/summer).

CARRIED

5. University of Alberta 2014-2015 Program/Course Differential Fee and Market Modifier Fee Proposal

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Martin Ferguson-Pell, Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Acting Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee; Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

Purpose of the Proposal: To set differential/market modifier fees for the 2014-2015 academic year.

Discussion:

As Items 4, 5 and 6 were considered by GFC APC together, as recommended by Acting Chair Babiuk, discussion on this matter was included with that for Item 4. See above.

Motion: Miller/Rodgers

(Opposed: Kusmu and Epperson)

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, recommend to the Board Finance and Property Committee that the Board of Governors approve a proposal from the University Administration for a fee increase to program differentials, course differentials, and market modifiers of 1.0%, effective September 1, 2014, for:

- a) Faculty of Law, Juris Doctor (JD) program;
- b) Faculty of Business, Master of Business Administration (MBA) program;
- c) Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, Doctor of Medicine (MD) program;
- d) Faculty of Business, Undergraduate Business courses;
- e) Faculty of Engineering, Undergraduate Engineering courses;
- f) Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Pharmacy program; and,
- g) Graduate Studies, Thesis Based

as set out in the table below.

Program Differential ^c	2013-14	2014-15	Change ^a	
			\$	%
Juris Doctor (JD) Program ^b	\$4,500.60	\$4,545.60	\$45.00	1.0%
Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program	\$591.96	\$597.84	\$5.88	0.99%
Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program ^b	\$4,500.60	\$4,545.60	\$45.00	1.0%
Market Modifier ^{c, d}	2013-14	2014-15	Change ^a	
Undergraduate Business	\$207.72	\$209.78	\$2.06	0.99%
Undergraduate Engineering	\$175.64	\$177.36	\$1.72	0.98%
Undergraduate Pharmacy	\$400.20	\$404.16	\$3.96	0.99%
Graduate, Thesis Based ^e	\$848.28	\$856.68	\$8.40	0.99%

- (a) Tuition increases are applied to the fee index. As such, the effective year over year percentage change on the overall full-time program may be below 1.0 percent.
- (b) Program Fees - values are based on a full-time per term and full-time per year.
- (c) Values listed are per course, unless otherwise stated (assumes 3 units course weight)
- (d) A grand-parenting structure applies in each case to allow for the exemption of these fees, under specific conditions, for students registered prior to September 2011.
- (e) Graduate market modifier applies only to thesis students beginning their program of study in Fall 2011 or later, and is based on an annual fee assessment (including spring/summer).

CARRIED

6. University of Alberta 2014-2015 International Tuition Fee Proposal

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Martin Ferguson-Pell, Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Acting Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee; Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

Purpose of the Proposal: To set tuition fees for the 2014-2015 academic year.

Discussion:

As Items 4, 5 and 6 were considered by GFC APC together, as recommended by Acting Chair Babiuk, discussion on this matter was included with that for Item 4. See above.

Motion: Law/Clark

(Opposed: Kusmu and Epperson)

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, recommend to the Board Finance and Property Committee that the Board of Governors approve a proposal from the University Administration for an increase to international tuition fees of 5.0%, effective September 1, 2014 and as illustrated in the table below.

General Tuition Fees:

Undergraduate (Arts and Science) ^{a, b}	2013-14	2014-15	Change ^c	
			(\$)	(%)
International, Base	\$5,269.20	\$5,320.80	\$51.60	0.98%
International, Differential	<u>\$13,441.20</u>	<u>\$14,324.40</u>	<u>\$883.20</u>	<u>6.57%</u>
Total, International	\$18,710.40	\$19,645.20	\$934.80	5.00%
Course Based Masters ^a	2013-14	2014-15	Change ^c	
			(\$)	(%)
International, Base Tuition	\$3,708.00	\$ 3,744.72	\$36.72	0.99%
International, Differential	<u>\$3,866.40</u>	<u>\$ 4,208.40</u>	<u>\$342.00</u>	<u>8.85%</u>
Total, International	\$7,574.40	\$ 7,953.12	\$378.72	5.00%
Thesis 919 ^{a, e}	2013-14	2014-15	Change ^c	
			(\$)	(%)
International, Base Tuition	\$2,312.80	\$ 2,335.92	\$23.12	1.00%
International, Differential	<u>\$2,412.24</u>	<u>\$ 2,625.36</u>	<u>\$213.12</u>	<u>8.83%</u>
Total, International	\$4,725.04	\$ 4,961.28	\$236.24	5.00%
Thesis Based Masters/PhD ^{a, b, d}	2013-14	2014-15	Change ^c	
			(\$)	(%)
International, Base Tuition	\$2,778.00	\$2,805.72	\$27.72	1.00%
Graduate Thesis Market Modifier	\$848.28	\$856.68	\$8.40	0.99%
International, Differential	<u>\$2,906.76</u>	<u>\$3,197.28</u>	<u>\$290.52</u>	<u>9.99%</u>
Total, International	\$6,533.04	\$6,859.68	\$326.64	5.00%

- (a) Values are based on a full-time per term and full-time per year.
- (b) Excludes applicable market modifier and/or program specific differential fees, except for the graduate thesis market modifier, which is included above.
- (c) Tuition increases are applied to the fee index. As such, the effective year over year percentage change on the overall full-time program may be below 1.0/5.0 percent.
- (d) Tuition applies to thesis students who were admitted to the program of study prior to Fall 2011 and are assessed the reduced thesis rate.

- (e) Tuition applies to thesis students who were admitted to the program of study beginning in Fall 2011 or later; this is based on an annual fee assessment (including spring/summer).

Program Differential and Market Modifier Fees:

Program Differential ^a	2013-14	2014-15	Change	
			\$	%
Juris Doctor (JD), base ^b	\$4,500.60	\$4,545.60	\$ 45.00	1.00%
Juris Doctor (JD), IDF on base ^b	<u>\$4,694.12</u>	<u>\$5,108.84</u>	<u>\$ 414.72</u>	<u>8.83%</u>
Total International JD Program Fee ^b	\$9,194.72	\$9,654.44	\$ 459.72	5.00%
Master of Business Administration, Base	\$591.96	\$597.84	\$5.88	0.99%
MBA, IDF on Base	<u>\$617.40</u>	<u>\$671.88</u>	<u>\$54.48</u>	<u>8.82%</u>
Total International MBA Program Fee	\$1,209.36	\$1,269.72	\$60.36	5.00%
Market Modifier ^a	2013-14	2014-15	Change	
			(\$)	(%)
Business, Base Market Modifier	\$207.72	\$209.78	\$2.06	0.99%
Business, IDF on Market Modifier	<u>\$529.84</u>	<u>\$564.64</u>	<u>\$34.80</u>	<u>6.57%</u>
Total, International	\$737.56	\$774.42	\$36.86	5.00%
Engineering, Base Market Modifier	\$175.64	\$177.36	\$1.72	0.98%
Engineering, IDF on Market Modifier	<u>\$448.04</u>	<u>\$477.48</u>	<u>\$29.44</u>	<u>6.57%</u>
Total, International	\$623.68	\$654.84	\$31.16	5.00%
Pharmacy, Base Market Modifier	\$400.20	\$404.16	\$3.96	0.99%
Pharmacy, IDF Market Modifier	<u>\$1,020.84</u>	<u>\$1,087.92</u>	<u>\$67.08</u>	<u>6.57%</u>
Total, International	\$1,421.04	\$1,492.08	\$71.04	5.00%

- (a) Values listed are per course, unless otherwise stated (assumes 3 units course weight).
 (b) Program Fees - values are based on a full-time per term and full-time per year.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. Question Period

Dr Ferguson-Pell reassumed the chair.

A member requested an update regarding the denial of the Master of Arts (MA) in Women's and Gender Studies from the Ministry of Enterprise and Advanced Education (EAE).

A member enquired about the use of a slide in the annual budget presentation reflecting only the first year of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) tuition at the University of Calgary and requested clarification surrounding the appropriate length of graduate education.

A member requested information compiled by the Vice-President (Finance and Administration) relating to the cost of living and graduate students.

A member requested that a slide be included in the annual budget presentation reflecting the operating budgets of the other U-15 schools.

A member requested an offline discussion regarding the proposed international student tuition increase.

INFORMATION REPORTS

8. Items Approved by the GFC Academic Planning Committee by E-Mail Ballots

There were no items.

9. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

10. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:35 pm.