



General Faculties Council
Academic Planning Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, April 23, 2014
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Carl Amrhein	Chair, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Lorne Babiuk	Member, Vice-President (Research)
Mary Persson (Delegate)	Member, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Nathan Andrews (Delegate)	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 FDC
Petros Kusmu	Member, President of the Students' Union
John Law	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
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
Bill Connor	Member, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction)

Presenter(s):

Carl Amrhein	Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee
Kathleen Brough	Portfolio Initiatives Manager, Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Mary Persson	Vice-President (Finance and Administration) (Delegate)
David Evans	Vice-Dean (Research), Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Catherine Field	Professor, Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science
Andreas Hamann	Associate Chair (Research), Department of Renewable Resources
Cheryl Harwardt	Director of Operations, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation
Kaysi Kushner	Associate Dean (Undergraduate), Faculty of Nursing
Nicolette Marshall	Program Coordinator, Recreation Services, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation
Sandy McEwan	Chair, Department of Oncology
Kerry Mummery	Dean, Physical Education and Recreation
Ian Reade	Director of Athletics, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation
Mazi Shirvani	Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Staff:

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

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Carl Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee

Motion: Kline/Gotell

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of March 12, 2014

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Carl Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee

Motion: Rodgers/Prochner

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Minutes of March 12, 2014.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

There were no comments.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Proposal for the Establishment of the Cancer Research Institute of Northern Alberta (CRINA) in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Evans, Vice-Dean (Research), Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry; Sandy McEwan, Chair, Department of Oncology; Catherine Field, Professor, Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science

Purpose of the Proposal: The purpose of the Cancer Research Institute of Northern Alberta (CRINA) is to provide the structural organization to coordinate and enhance the work of cancer researchers across the University of Alberta and the education of their trainees. Primary objectives will be to facilitate the discovery, translation, and dissemination of new knowledge in the broadly-defined area of cancer – and to increase the University of Alberta's competitive edge on the cancer funding landscape. Membership of CRINA will be open to all cancer researchers located throughout the University of Alberta and at the Cross

Cancer Institute and other hospitals. CRINA will be a unique entity in which health-care personnel and University researchers involved in discovery, translation, development, and delivery come together to understand the causes of cancer, to develop strategies to prevent cancer, and to diagnose and treat patients with cancer. CRINA provides an extraordinary opportunity to address this spectrum of diseases in a comprehensive manner, in order to measurably improve the quality and duration of life for people with cancer.

Discussion:

Dr Evans provided members with a general synopsis of the proposal, adding that this project brings together cancer researchers from across the University of Alberta and beyond. He acknowledged the hard work of many individuals in the preparation of this initiative.

Dr McEwan introduced Dr Catherine Field to members and stated that the creation of this institute would support cancer patients and their families. He reported that cancer rates are increasing and that coordinated innovation of the health care system, aligned with increased translational research efforts, will be crucial to handling the demands placed upon the system in the future. He stated that there are roughly 500 professionals at the University of Alberta undertaking endeavors related to cancer research and clinical care and that this institute would serve as a valuable connection between these individuals. He reported that a key activity of this institute will be fostering access to infrastructure and aligned communication efforts between cancer professionals.

Dr McEwan further explained that this would be a multi-Faculty institute and that Dean Douglas Miller, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, has begun discussing the establishment of funding streams in relation to this institute. He acknowledged that the establishment of an institute of this kind is long overdue and that the required infrastructure and leadership currently exist to move plans forward.

Dr Field explained that this institute would accommodate more than just members of the University of Alberta community and that the creation of a central place for cancer researchers to collaborate and communicate would be extremely beneficial.

During the discussion surrounding this proposal, members provided a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: clarification regarding the budget within the proposal; clarification regarding the approximate costs associated with recruitment to the institute; clarification surrounding how the budget will support the activities of the institute; clarification regarding the various sources of revenue available in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry; clarification on how the creation of this institute might impact access to library resources; and that the Grant Assist program is part of the current integrated approach towards collaborative research efforts.

Motion: Kline/Rodgers

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposal submitted by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry for the formal establishment of the Cancer Research Institute of Northern Alberta (CRINA), to be housed in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, as set forth in Attachment 1, to be effective upon final approval.

CARRIED

5. Proposed Athletics and Recreation Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee Increase for Fall/Winter 2014-2015

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Kerry Mummery, Dean, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation; Cheryl Harwardt, Director of Operations, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation; Ian Reade, Director of Athletics, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation; Nicolette Marshall, Program Coordinator, Recreation Services, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation

Purpose of the Proposal: To increase the Athletics and Recreation Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee by \$16.38 per full-time student per term and by \$8.19 per part-time student per term, effective Fall/Winter 2014-2015. The current approved fee, as well as the new proposed increase, are noted below:

2014-15 Athletics and Recreation Fee (Current)	Proposed Increase	New 2014-15 Athletics and Recreation Fee
Fall/Winter Full-time: \$65.62 per term	\$16.38 per term	\$82.00 per term
Fall/Winter Part-time: \$32.81 per term	\$8.19 per term	\$41.00 per term
Spring/Summer: \$32.81 per term	\$8.19 per term	\$41.00 per term

The increase in the Athletics and Recreation Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee revenue contribution to the Operations, Recreation Services, and Athletics Units in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation will enable each unit to continue to provide services to the students. These units in return will be able to successfully meet their mandates to serve students and enhance student life.

Discussion:

Dr Mummery introduced himself and fellow presenters to members and explained that, as an ‘integrated’ Faculty, the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, under the direction of the Dean, comprises academics, athletics, recreation services, and operations collectively as an academic Faculty, all of which is a unique model within Canada. He noted that Recreation Services provides award-winning programming across the campuses of the University of Alberta and that Operations manages the numerous related facilities.

Dr Mummery emphasized that the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation is the most successful entity of its kind in the country, as evidenced by the numerous recent national and international championships of its teams.

Dr Mummery explained that, as described in the proposal, for the first time in 18 years, an increase of the Athletics and Recreation Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee would be necessary in order to maintain current operations and programming offered by the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation. He stated that during the development of this proposal there was extensive consultation between the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation and the Students’ Union (SU) and the Graduate Students’ Association (GSA), resulting in their respective endorsements.

During the discussion surrounding this proposal, members expressed a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: a summary of the SU’s involvement surrounding the evolution of this proposal; keen acknowledgement of the consultation process surrounding this fee increase proposal; that the GSA supports this fee increase, with certain conditions; an expression of concern that the proposed fee increase may, in fact, be too low; that this had been a contentious issue at Students’ Council and that students expressed a sentiment that there are too many existing fees; clarification regarding participation rates of inter-sessional and summer students; that some graduate students would oppose any increase in fees but that the right balance had been struck in this proposal; and that this proposal represents good collaboration and consultation.

Motion: Rodgers/Persson

THAT:

In order to maintain the integrated model in which the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation offers Athletics and Recreation services to the broader University of Alberta community; and

Consistent with the practices of comparable post-secondary institutions across Canada;

The GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Governors the approval of an increase to the existing Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee for Athletics and Recreation of \$16.38 per full-time student per term and \$8.19 per part-time student per term, with such increase to take effect for Fall/Winter 2014-15.

CARRIED

6. University of Alberta (Department of Renewable Resources, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research): Transatlantic Master's Programs Leading to Dual Degrees in Forestry and Environmental Management (TRANSFOR-M) Proposal (Renewal)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Mazi Shirvani, Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Andreas Hamann, Associate Chair (Research), Department of Renewable Resources

Purpose of the Proposal: To offer a dual degree option (based on the existing University of Alberta Master of Science (MSc) and Master of Forestry (MF) programs offered in the Department of Renewable Resources) through an agreement referred to as the Transatlantic Master's Programs Leading to Dual Degrees in Forestry and Environmental Management (TRANSFOR-M) and to contribute to the internationalization of University of Alberta MSc and MF programs through collaboration with Canadian and European Union (EU) partner institutions.

Discussion:

Dr Shirvani explained that this proposal relates to the renewal of a shared credential agreement, the 'Transatlantic Master's Programs Leading to [Overlapping] Dual Degrees in Forestry and Environmental Management' (TRANSFOR-M). He reported that the students involved in this program have provided positive feedback with regard to their experiences within it.

Dr Hamann provided members with a hand-out regarding the details of the TRANSFOR-M program, including sources and uses of funding, success indicators, research endeavors, and recent awards. He, too, commented on the success of this program to date and, upon questioning from members, clarified certain aspects of the agreement previously struck to allow for collaboration between EU and Canadian post-secondary institutions.

During the discussion surrounding this proposal, members provided a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: clarification regarding the renewal process; and clarification surrounding the issue of equalizing student workloads between the Canadian and European institutions.

Motion: Rodgers/Kline

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed renewal of the 'Transatlantic Master's Programs Leading to [Overlapping] Dual Degrees in Forestry and Environmental Management' (TRANSFOR-M), as submitted by the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon final approval.

CARRIED

7. Proposed Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Nursing - Post RN (Registered Nurse) Degree Program Termination

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Kaysi Kushner, Associate Dean (Undergraduate), Faculty of Nursing

Purpose of the Proposal: To terminate the Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Nursing - Post RN (Registered Nursing) degree program. Admissions/transfer to this program have been suspended since September 1, 2011.

Discussion:

Dr Kushner made note of a change to the implementation date of this proposal, due to the need to accommodate a very small number of remaining students within the program during the Fall Term, 2014. She stated that new effective date of this proposal would be January 1, 2015.

There was no further discussion.

Motion: Rodgers/Kline

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend to General Faculties Council the proposal for termination of the Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Nursing - Post RN (Registered Nurse) Degree Program, as submitted by the Faculty of Nursing and set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect January 1, 2015.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Use of the Term "College" at the University of Alberta

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Carl Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee; Kathleen Brough, Portfolio Initiatives Manager, Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Purpose of the Proposal: For discussion/information.

Discussion:

Dr Amrhein explained that the goal of the document provided to members in support of this item is to define the word "college" as an administrative unit at the University of Alberta, and he described the history behind the usage of the word from an institutional perspective. He cautioned members not to relate this discussion to the developing Peter Lougheed Leadership Initiative.

Ms Brough explained that certain additional suggested revisions to this document received recently have not yet been made.

At this point in the meeting, Dr Amrhein passed the Chair to Vice-Provost Bill Connor so that he could participate freely in the discussion.

During the discussion in relation to this item, members provided a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: clarification regarding the future direction of this document; a suggestion that the Board of Governors should consider this proposed definition for formal approval; that creating a college as an administrative unit does not supersede the delegated authority of other governing bodies at the institution over related, but separate, academic matters; that vetting more proposals of this nature through the Board of Governors could set a problematic precedent; that the business behind the creation of colleges is important to the institution and, therefore, requires the approval of the academy; that vetting the establishment of the definition through governance allows for more widespread collaboration and a better strategic direction overall; whether there could be a separation between the establishment of a definition for the word 'college' from the establishment of specific content of a college; whether colleges will offer credit courses or certificates; that the language within the document is vague and that this contributes to the confusion inherent within the related discussion; that the creation of this document was intended to gather consultation around the establishment of a term without an official definition; that, when an organizational entity is created currently, it is handled administratively and then routed through governance, if required and when appropriate; that more organizational entities of types different from those currently in place at the University are going to be created, as part of continuing to build the institution for the future, and that this paper is being presented to acclimate members to the emergence of such activities; that the concerns surrounding the creation of a college relate more to the consultation and approval processes rather than the scope of the definition; and that this conversation is productive.

The discussion continued, with members making the following points: that one of the challenges within this discussion is the lack of a formal Motion linked to this document; the expressed opinion that there is an elusive element to this discussion; that there are already a wide variety of existing definitions of the term 'college' used elsewhere; that use of the term 'college' might impede constructive dialogue on this issue and that other terms could, instead, be deployed; that discussions held at various governance committees on issues such as these serve an impactful, valuable purpose; that defining the term 'college' does not interfere with any of the existing approval processes at the University of Alberta; that the academy currently uses the term 'school' in a variety of ways and that an official definition for this does not exist; that any program which offers courses for credit or credit certificates require formal approval through governance; clarification surrounding the approval process of a college if the college does not initially offer courses for credit or certificates for credit; a suggestion to bring this conversation to General Faculties Council (GFC) and, again, to GFC APC; clarification regarding the consequences of the Administration approving a college that later fails to find support in the wider University community; and that the term should clearly outline what a college is, as opposed to what it is not.

Dr Amrhein re-assumed the chair. He noted that, given the discussion, he would take this matter back and take under advisement members' comments on this issue.

9. Budget Update

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Carl Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee; Mary Persson, Vice-President (Finance and Administration) (Delegate)

Purpose of the Proposal: For discussion/information.

Discussion:

Dr Amrhein provided a brief update to members with regard to the Faculty budget letters for 2014-2015, noting that they would be forwarded in the very near future to each of the Deans. He reported that

meetings are being scheduled with the Ministry of Innovation and Advanced Education (IAE) on the topics of enrolment and Campus Alberta.

10. Question Period

A member enquired about the status of market modifiers as well as international student tuition.

A member enquired about the status of additional funding for graduate students.

A member enquired about the timeline of the establishment of a definition of the word 'college' as well as the development of specific colleges.

INFORMATION REPORTS

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

There were no items.

12. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

13. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:10 pm.