



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Academic Planning Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, January 13, 2016
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Steven Dew	Chair, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Lorne Babiuk	Member, Vice-President (Research)
Scott Campbell	Member, Undergraduate Student at-Large
Phyllis Clark	Member, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Nadir Erbilgin	Member, Academic (A1.0) Staff-at-large
Navneet Khinda	Member, President (Students' Union)
Pierre-Yves Mocuquais	Member, Dean Representative
Colin More	Member, President (Graduate Students' Association)
Steve Patten	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC

Presenter(s):

Melissa Casey	Assistant Registrar (Liaison and Recruitment), Office of the Registrar
Randy Goebel	Associate Vice-President (Academic & Research)
Steven Dew	Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC APC

Staff:

Meg Brolley, 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.

Motion: Erbilgin/Patten

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of December 9, 2015

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: More/Erbilgin

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Open Session Minutes of December 9, 2015.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair welcomed members to the first meeting of 2016 and reported that the Board had approved the renewal of Allen Berger as Dean of Augustana Faculty. Dr Dew noted that as government is reviewing its consultation process and the scope of the comprehensive Adult Learning System review, and he would update the committee further after hearing more from government.

Members were reminded of the joint Budget Briefing with members of the Board of Governors scheduled for February 5, 2016, and in particular, a change in the scheduled time. Dr Dew, in response to a question, noted that members of the GFC Executive Committee were not invited to the Budget Briefing and that this was part of the APC mandate.

The Chair noted that the Provost's Office went through an allocation exercise with the Deans in December to allocate \$6.8 million from Bill 3 for 2015/16 on one time spending which included faculty renewal and Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report recommendations.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Proposed Changes to existing Admission Requirements for High School Applicants, Office of the Registrar

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Melissa Casey, Assistant Registrar (Liaison and Recruitment), Office of the Registrar

Purpose of the Proposal: To approve proposed changes which will allow students to use Aboriginal Studies 30 with Social Studies 30-1 on an admission, and clarify that only 5 credit courses will be used for admission purposes.

Discussion:
There was no discussion.

Motion: Patten/Erbilgin

THAT Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed changes to existing admission requirements as recommended by the Academic Standards Committee, and as set forth in Attachment 1, for implementation in 2017-2018 (with publication in the University Calendar in 2016-2017).

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. Centres and Institutes Committee (CIC), Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic): 2014-2015 Annual Report

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Randy Goebel, Associate Vice-President (Academic & Research)

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss the Centres and Institutes Committee (CIC) Annual Report 2014-2015.

Discussion:

Dr Goebel reported on the highlights of the CIC Annual Report. He noted that, under the new policy Deans have significant authority including the recommendation of termination of institutes due to loss of leadership, funds, or mandate. He also noted that, post policy, there had been a decline in the number of centres as greater focus was placed on coherence, adherence the policies on how finances are managed and the contribution to the university in terms of scholarly activity.

Dr Goebel noted that the committee had moved from four meeting a year to meeting when necessary. It was suggested that there would be value in having an annual meeting. There was a brief discussion on the review process and the oversight function of Deans. It was noted that the review process has become more rigorous in recent years as new structures are put in place.

6. Programs in Progress on Campus

There were no documents.

Presenter: Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC APC

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

The Chair reported the following:

To be Proposed to Government pending approval by the Board Learning and Discovery Committee:

- (New) Post-baccalaureate Certificate Bridging to Canadian Physical Therapy Practice
- (New) Post-baccalaureate Certificate Indigenous Sport and Recreation

Currently with Advanced Education undergoing System Coordination Review:

- (New) Program Proposal for MSc in Urban and Regional Planning
- Suspension to Admission in the Adult Education Route of the Bachelor of Education
- (New) PhD in Indigenous Studies
- (New) University Certificate in Early Learning and Childhood Education
- (New) University Certificate in Digital Learning
- (New) University Certificate in Adolescent Literacy

Referred to Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC) for review

- (New) PharmD Program

Sent back from the Ministry

- (New) Program Proposal for MSc in Audiology
- Suspension proposal for Diploma in Dental Hygiene

Recently approved:

- Master of Accounting
- (New) Program Proposal for a Diploma in Tourism Management;

- Load Change proposal for BSc in Radiation Therapy

On a question regarding suspension of the Adult Education Route of the Bachelor of Education, it was noted that there had been no admission to this program for the past ten years.

7. Institutional Strategic Plan

There were no documents.

Presenter: Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC APC; Amy Dambrowitz, Strategic Development Manager, Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

The Chair invited observers to the table for the discussion on the theme of Student Experiential Learning.

Dr Dambrowitz reported to members on the stages of consultation and ISP development. She noted that there have been in-person consultations with over 700 people, more than 100 online and email responses, over 25 meetings (town halls, round tables, GSA, SU, Faculty Councils, Deans' Council, GFC and Committees (APC, ASC, CLE), Alumni Council, Senate, Board of Governors and many others). Dr Dambrowitz invited the committee to view the consultation summaries which have been posted on the website at uofa.ualberta.ca/strategic-plan.

A member indicated that students are asking for professionalization of their degrees including experiential learning with credit received for time spent in community service learning and businesses further noting that students do not have access to scholarships if the experiences are not credit granting. Concern was raised that for some programs, professionalization is controversial, in terms of the balance between academic work and training for a specific profession; academic programs with experiential learning would be a clearer description that professionalized.

Experiential learning was viewed as more important in some areas than others and that it should not be mandatory but should be accessible. The importance of having students learn the fundamentals first in preparation for experiential learning later in the program was noted. The cooperative education program was mentioned as an example where the work and classroom experiences complement each other in an ongoing fashion.

The importance and need for centralized supports and services was emphasized as was the need for integration between Faculty and central level services. One kind of support mentioned was a central clearing house to provide a point of contact so that communities are not overwhelmed with multiple contacts.

The value of linking students and the university to communities and the need to develop programs that address the needs of community were noted. Additionally, the value of experiential opportunities which give students a greater understanding of the needs of the world and a more informed world view were expressed.

It was noted that government is interested in experiential learning and is asking questions around how this is sustainable, how the University ensures placements, student safety, and are students paid.

More integration of teaching-research-experiential learning was recommended so that experiential learning would find its place more easily.

The committee had a further discussion on quality, and the possible role of learning outcomes and competencies as a measure of quality.

8. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

9. Items Approved by the GFC Academic Planning 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 3:25 p.m.