



General Faculties Council
Academic Planning Committee
Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, September 13, 2017
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Steven Dew, Chair
Jason Acker
Marina Banister
Darcy Bemister
Walter Dixon
Shannon Erichsen
Christopher Mackay

Roger Moore
Jerine Pegg
Babak Soltannia
Eleni Stroulia
Lisa Collins
Katy Campbell

REGRETS:

Florence Glanfield

Gitta Kulczycki
Sarah Stahlke

STAFF:

Meg Brolley, Coordinator
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: Moore/Dixon

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of June 14, 2017

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Stroulia/Moore

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Minutes of June 14, 2017.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair welcomed all to the 2017-2018 academic year and invited members to introduce themselves.

He provided several updates to the committee including strong enrolment numbers, mental health funding, and the status of the Government reviews of tuition, the funding model, and Agencies, Boards and Commissions.

4. Committee Kick-Off and Orientation 2017-2018

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

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

Purpose of the Proposal: To provide committee members with an overview of the principles under which GFC operates and how these inform the work and functioning of the committee. To orient members to the committee's mandate, terms of reference, procedures and to committee member roles and responsibilities.

Discussion:

Ms Haggarty-France and Ms Brolley provided members with a high level overview of the university's governance structure. Members were provided with an orientation to GFC's approved principles of delegated authority and committee composition, and the significance of these documents to the structure and functioning of APC. In addition, the roles and responsibilities of members and procedural rules were reviewed. Finally, the mandate and responsibilities of APC were discussed and the recommendations of the ad hoc committee to revise the terms of reference of the committee were introduced.

During the discussion, a question arose regarding a formal mechanism to refer strategic matters to GFC.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. Election of Vice-Chair

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Meg Brolley

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss the election a Vice-Chair to GFC APC.

Discussion:

Ms Brolley reported that the position of Vice-Chair on the committee was vacant. She invited members to consider this role and noted that the item would be brought back to the committee for further discussion.

ACTION ITEMS

6. Proposed Changes to the Admission of Aboriginal Students Calendar Section and updates to Faculty Sections

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Lisa Collins, Vice-Provost and University Registrar; Chris Andersen, Dean, Faculty of Native Studies

Purpose of the Proposal: In order to achieve consistency across Faculties, calendar sections are being updated to indicate that proof of Aboriginal identity will be required.

Discussion:

Ms Collins indicated that there would be no changes to the process of self-identification which provides data and allows for access to services. She provided a summary of the proposed changes which include a requirement to prove Aboriginal identity in cases where places are reserved for Aboriginal students, eligibility requirements for Métis identity, the removal of the statutory declaration as proof of identity, and an updated appeals mechanism.

Ms Collins reported that there was extensive consultation surrounding the proposed changes. All Faculties had been consulted and Faculty-specific changes to the Calendar were approved by relevant Faculty Councils.

Dean Andersen reported on the relevance of the shift from proof of Aboriginal ancestry to Aboriginal identity and the importance of a connection to the community.

During the discussion, questions arose in regards to the appeal process and how a student might prove connection to the Aboriginal community.

Motion: Banister/Stroulia

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend that General Faculties Council approve the proposed changes to the calendar sections related to the admission of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students as set forth in Attachments 1 and 2, and as recommended by the GFC Academic Standards Committee, to take effect in 2018/19.

CARRIED

7. Proposal for Establishment of the Centre for Health System Improvement (CHSI) as an Academic Centre - School of Public Health

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Kue Young, Dean, School of Public Health

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss the proposed establishment of the University of Alberta Centre for Health System Improvement (CHSI), in the School of Public Health.

Discussion:

Dean Young provided a summary of the proposed establishment of the University of Alberta Centre for Health System Improvement (CHSI) noting that it is a unique opportunity for the university to lead an evidence-based, collaborative approach towards review of the performance of the public health care system.

He noted that this establishment is timely and builds upon strong existing relations with Alberta Health Services. The strategic direction of the centre would be led by an international advisory board.

During the discussion, it was suggested that the term "system" applies to many additional disciplines such as computing science, business, and engineering, and that it would be advantageous to include them within the proposal. Dr Young noted that there would be no overlap with the existing Institute of Health Economics but that he would seek collaboration with its members.

Members also discussed the importance of financial viability of the centre.

Motion: Campbell/Moore

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposal for the formal establishment of the University of Alberta Centre for Health System Improvement (CHSI), an Academic Centre to be housed within the School of Public Health, as submitted by the Dean of the School of Public Health, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to be effective upon final approval.

CARRIED

8. Proposed Faculty name change: Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation (from Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Kerry Mummery, Dean, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation

Purpose of the Proposal: To change the name of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation to a name that more accurately depicts its academic mission and offerings, in support of attracting the best and brightest students and faculty, and being recognized as a leader among its peers.

Discussion:

Dean Mummery reported that the 2014 President's Visiting Committee recommended a name change for the Faculty to reflect the evolution of the field from physical education to kinesiology. He added that the university is one of the last in the country to change its name.

Following wide consultation with faculty members, staff, students and alumni, a name was identified and approved by Faculty Council earlier this year. He noted that the addition of the word 'sport' to the title originated from inside the academy to reflect the Faculty's expertise in sports related subjects. Dean Mummery indicated that the proposed name would define and differentiate the Faculty on the national and international level.

Members discussed the communication plan for the change and the associated costs.

Motion: Acker/Stroulia

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend that General Faculties Council approve the proposed name change for the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation to the 'Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation', as submitted by the Dean of the Faculty, to take effect upon final approval.
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CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. White Paper: A Brief Analysis of Arguments For and Against Creation of Teaching-Only Stream

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Shane Scott, Vice-President (Academic) Students' Union

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

Mr Scott reported that this legacy item was drafted as a discussion piece by former Students' Union Vice-President (Academic) Fahim Rahman during his term on the GFC Committee on the Learning Environment (CLE), prior to the adoption of the Academic Teaching Staff (ATS) agreement.

During the discussion, comments arose concerning the lack of representation of opposing views and evidence supporting some of the assertions presented.

Members also discussed the importance of research to teaching and whether these individuals would be eligible to teach blended courses and MOOCs.

10. Update on the Budget

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Chair

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

The Chair reported that the University of Alberta receives more provincial funding on a per-student basis than its U15 colleagues. He noted some uncertainty about ongoing funding levels due to the provincial economy in the wake of the slow recovery of the oil and gas sector, and the current provincial reviews on tuition and funding models. He also noted that the university itself is struggling with an ongoing structural deficit. He reported that discussions surrounding the implementation of a new institutional budget model are ongoing.

11. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

12. Items Approved by GFC Academic Planning Committee by e-mail Ballots

There were no items.

13. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

14. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.