

General Faculties Council  
Executive Committee (EXEC)  
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, March 13, 2023  
South Academic Building (SAB) 2-31  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

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**ATTENDEES:**

Bill Flanagan  
Jerine Pegg  
Shanthi Johnson  
Hiren Kaklotar (delegate)  
Gurleen Kaur  
Christopher Lupke  
Spencer Proctor

Tracy Raivio  
Norma Rodenburg  
Dan Romanyk  
Kathryn Todd (delegate)  
Nese Yuksel  
*non-voting:*  
Brad Hamdon  
Kate Peters

**REGRETS:**

Bishoi Aziz  
Jelena Holovati  
Chanpreet Singh  
Verna Yiu

Staff:

Heather Richholt, Scribe

**OPENING SESSION**

Before calling the meeting to order, the Chair acknowledged, "that we are located on Treaty 6 territory. We respect the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community."

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Bill Flanagan, President and Vice-Chancellor, and Chair of EXEC

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT GFC Executive Committee approve the agenda.

**CARRIED**

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

*Presenter(s):* Bill Flanagan, President and Vice-Chancellor, and Chair of EXEC

*Discussion:*

In his comments, the Chair spoke about:

- the Provincial Budget that was released on February 28th;
- an update on the search for a University Secretary; and
- Pride week events and celebrations.

General Counsel and University Secretary B Hamdon provided an update on the discussion with the Board Governance Committee (BGC) about the protocol for Communicating Recommendations from General Faculties Council to the Board of Governors. He noted that there was agreement that the process worked well but that BGC would like to have more context provided in the brief. B Hamdon suggested that in the future, more

information could be included concerning how the decision came before GFC and a summary of the discussion that occurred at GFC. He concluded that the governance staff will note this for any further recommendations that move forward in this way.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of February 13, 2023

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT GFC Executive Committee approve the open session minutes of February 13, 2023.

**CARRIED**

### **ACTION ITEMS**

4. Revisions to the Nomination and Election Guidelines for the GFC Nominee to the Board of Governors

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Brad Hamdon, General Counsel and University Secretary; Kate Peters, GFC Secretary and Manager, GFC Services

*Discussion:*

B Hamdon and K Peters provided an overview of the proposed changes to the guidelines for the nomination and election of the GFC Nominee to the Board of Governors. They noted EXEC's delegated authority as noted in the original procedure approved by GFC in 1988 and the changes proposed including the move to an application rather than nomination process, and ranked voting by electronic ballot.

Members discussed the university's commitment to principles of Indigenous Initiatives, and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, and noted that those from underrepresented groups must also be encouraged to apply and see themselves in this role. A member suggested that there should be an option to apply as well as an option to nominate someone.

A member asked where this guidelines document would be kept and heard that it would be publicly available on the Governance website.

A member asked about the delegation from GFC regarding the voting. B Hamdon suggested that the original language be used and this change was made as a friendly amendment.

Members discussed how ranked voting would work and a suggestion was made to include some information about the process in a communication to GFC when the time came for them to vote.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the revisions to the Nomination and Election Guidelines for the GFC Nominee to the Board of Governors as set forth in attachment 1, as amended, to take effect upon approval.

**CARRIED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### 5. General Faculties Council Terms of Reference and Replenishment Procedure

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Jerine Pegg, Professor and Chair of GFC Executive Subcommittee on Governance and Procedural Oversight (GPO); Kate Peters, GFC Secretary and Manager, GFC Services

#### *Discussion:*

J Pegg spoke about the limited amount of feedback received from GFC to date but noted that the feedback forms would stay open until after the March 20th meeting of GFC. K Peters pointed to the comparator data and graphs in the meeting materials that provided a different view of the statutory membership and current membership including the appointed members.

Members discussed consideration of the number of academic staff in relation to the membership as a whole and the different views on what the ratio should be. Members also discussed the importance of including more Academic Teaching Staff as their numbers and contributions to the institution continued to grow. Members considered the definition of full-time academic staff, whether there could be a limit to terms to increase engagement and diversity, and the limitations on the changes GFC can make to its composition because of the legislation. A member suggested that the *Post-Secondary Learning Act* (PSLA) should be revised to make changes to the statutory membership of GFC including to the reapportionment of academic staff across the university.

K Peters explained that the PSLA determines how many statutory members there are and how the elected academic staff members are apportioned. She noted that the legislation also gives those statutory members the authority to determine the appointed membership of GFC so only the statutory members should vote on changes to the GFC composition.

## **FOR PLACEMENT ON THE GFC AGENDA - ACTION ITEMS**

6. Budget Model Principles
7. Undergraduate Embedded Certificate Framework

## **FOR PLACEMENT ON THE GFC AGENDA - DISCUSSION ITEMS**

8. Proposed Revisions to the Awards for Teaching Excellence Policy
9. College Model Review

## **ACTION ITEMS**

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

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s)*: Bill Flanagan, President and Vice-Chancellor, and Chair of EXEC

*Discussion:*

The Chair of the GFC University Teaching Awards Committee (UTAC) T Raivio noted that the UTAC terms of reference and composition were connected to the work that the committee is doing on the policy suite in item 8 and would be discussed at the next meeting of GPO.

GFC Secretary K Peters observed that the committee felt strongly that their composition should not align with the GFC Principles for Standing Committee Composition.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the Agenda for the March 20, 2023 meeting of General Faculties Council, as set forth in Attachment 1.

**CARRIED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### 11. Question Period

*Presenter(s)*: Bill Flanagan, President and Vice-Chancellor, and Chair of EXEC

*Discussion:*

A member noted the connection between the GFC agenda items on the Budget Model and the College review and asked how we can ensure that we adequately fund the Colleges so that they can work towards the betterment of the university. The Chair replied that Budget Model 2.0 will look at how the Colleges are funded and that GFC would be discussing the Budget Model Principles.

## **CLOSING SESSION**

### 12. Adjournment

- Next Meeting of Exec: April 3, 2023
- Next Meeting of GFC: March 20, 2023