



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
University Teaching Awards Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Friday, March 03, 2017
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Uwe Hacke	Chair, Academic Staff
Ryan Dunch	Member, Academic Staff
Robin Everall	Member, U of A Alumni Association Representative
Pierre Lemelin	Member, Academic Staff
Vanessa Marensi	Member, Graduate Student At-Large
Paula Marentette (via telephone)	Member, Academic Staff
Heather Raymond	Member, U of A Alumni Association Representative
Aleksandra Tymczak	Member, Undergraduate Student-at-large
Zizhao (Finn) Wang	Member, Undergraduate Student-at-large

Presenter(s):

Uwe Hacke	Professor, Faculty of ALES and Chair, GFC UTAC
Marc de Montigny	Member, GFC <i>Ad Hoc</i> Committee on Academic Governance Including Delegated Authority

Staff:

Andrea Patrick, Coordinator, GFC University Teaching Awards Committee

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Lemelin/Everall

THAT the GFC University Teaching Awards Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of June 10, 2016

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Everall/Lemelin

THAT the GFC University Teaching Awards Committee approve the Open Session Minutes of June 10, 2016.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair welcomed members to the first meeting of the Committee for the 2016-2017 academic year and invited all members to introduce themselves.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Proposed GFC University Teaching Awards Committee (UTAC) Adjudication Guidelines

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Uwe Hacke

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss strategies for GFC UTAC members' assessment of teaching award nominations and to determine standardized Committee procedures towards a fair and efficient adjudication process.

Discussion:

The Chair reported that the proposed adjudication guidelines were originally presented to members of GFC UTAC in 2014 by former Chair Dr Elisabeth Le, in an effort to establish a mutually agreeable approach to ranking nominations. Since that time, GFC UTAC has had the opportunity to discuss, amend (if necessary) and use these guidelines prior to each adjudication session.

Members discussed this process as well as the process surrounding conflicts of interest.

5. Terms of Reference TOUR of GFC Standing Committees

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Uwe Hacke; Marc de Montigny

Purpose of the Proposal: Members of the GFC *Ad Hoc* Committee are touring GFC Standing Committees to solicit input, perspectives, and innovative ideas on moving Academic Governance into the future. Member ideas and suggestions will contribute to further discussions and consultation and inform the final report and recommendations which come forward to GFC in April.

Discussion:

During the initial discussion surrounding the purpose of the GFC *Ad Hoc* Committee, members noted that the timing of the discussion was not ideal as members were currently preparing for the adjudication process. A better time for UTAC to discuss procedural changes would be the meeting in May. There was overall consensus that current Committee processes and membership are both effective and appropriate and that further, hasty adoption of changes may negatively impact the Committee's work and reputation of the awards. UTAC needs to maintain its independence from other committees, including CLE.

In relation to the mandate of GFC UTAC, members discussed that the singular delegated authority from GFC, to adjudicate the nominees for its annual teaching awards, is currently appropriate and taken very seriously and safe-guarded by members of UTAC. There was strong opposition to merging GFC UTAC and GFC CLE to preserve the integrity of the adjudication process as independent and impartial, although there was willingness to consider ways to improve communication between GFC UTAC and GFC CLE, including a suggestion for the

Chairs of each Committee to make an informal annual visit to each Committee for a check-in. Members discussed the UAPPOL procedure oversight process of the Committee.

In regards to membership, there was opposition to changing current membership, especially adding a cross-representative member to GFC CLE and tentative support for nominating a Vice Chair to, in part, provide Chair succession planning to the Committee. Members offered support for current membership categories and that they are a good representation of campus members, but did not support the idea of GFC members populating its standing committees exclusively.

6. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

7. Items Approved by the Committee by E-Mail Ballots (non-debatable)

There were no items.

8. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

9. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.