



# UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council  
Academic Planning Committee  
Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, January 17, 2018  
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

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## **ATTENDEES:**

Steven Dew, Chair  
Roger Moore, Vice-Chair  
Jason Acker  
Katy Campbell  
Lisa Collins  
Marina Banister  
Darcy Bemister  
Walter Dixon  
Shannon Erichsen  
Florence Glanfield  
Larry Kostiuk (Delegate)

Gitta Kulczycki  
Christopher Mackay  
Jerine Pegg  
Babak Soltannia  
Sarah Stahlke  
Eleni Stroulia

**REGRETS:**  
Benjamin  
Angus

## **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: Acker/Stahlke

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda.

**CARRIED**

### 2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of December 13, 2017

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Stroulia/Soltannia

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Minutes of December 13, 2017.

**CARRIED**

### 3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair commented on upcoming work ahead for the committee including the Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP) with the associated budget and tuition proposals. He noted that the domestic tuition remains frozen by government for another year and that consultation was underway for the international tuition fee proposal. He reported that there was no word yet on the Campus Alberta grant for the upcoming year.

The Chair reported on the government announcement of the Alberta Research Innovation Framework which as identified innovation targets for 2030 in the areas of health, emerging technologies, energy, environment and climate adaptation, food and agriculture, and fibre and bioindustrial.

He reminded members of the CIP Briefing and approval meetings in February and the joint Board of Governors/GFC/Senate Summit on January 26.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

4. Proposal for a new Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies (MLCS), Faculty of Arts

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Carrie Smith-Prei, Chair, Modern Languages and Cultural Studies; Claudia Kost, Associate Chair, Undergraduate Studies, Modern Languages and Cultural Studies

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To seek approval for the proposed degree in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies (MLCS) which is comprised of a single major with two routes.

*Discussion:*

Dr Smith-Prei reported that the proposed degree in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies (MLCS) consolidates the 8 existing majors into a program that provides students with a language studies route and a cross-cultural studies route. She indicated that the new major is more interdisciplinary and gives greater flexibility for students. She also noted that the new degree will be more streamlined for students and will provide more stability and sustainability for the department.

Members enquired about consultation with graduate students including teaching assistantships; Dr Smith-Prei noted that the graduate program was recently restructured and that the fit between the graduate program and the proposed undergraduate program would be much clearer. She also noted that it would open more opportunities for graduate students to mentor undergraduates.

Members discussed the costs associated with the study abroad components, the inclusion of Indigenous languages, impact of the proposal on the scheduling and offering of courses, community service learning, and how success will be measured. A member noted that the proposal does not specifically address the recommendation within *For the Public Good* to foster learning opportunities that enable students to participate in reconciliation, and that as such, she would be unable to support the proposal.

Dr Kost and Dr Smith-Prei noted that languages offered in other departments would be recognized towards this program and that the proposal lists only those courses offered in MLCS; they further noted that, as the program develops, the department would be looking at Indigenization within individual courses.

Members enquired about the governance path of the proposal; it was noted that the sequence was determined to provide a more timely approval process for the proposal. Members discussed options on whether to proceed with the item as laid out in the motion or to conduct an e-vote after the Academic Standing Committee meeting.

Motion: Stahlke/Campbell

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, with delegated authority, the new Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies (MLCS), subject to approval of admission/transfer and academic standing by the GFC Academic Standards Committee, as submitted by the Faculty of Arts and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect September 2019.

**CARRIED**

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

5. Annual Report on Undergraduate Enrolment 2017-18

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s)*: Lisa Collins, Vice-Provost and University Registrar

*Purpose of the Proposal*: To discuss the 2017/18 annual report on undergraduate enrolment.

*Discussion*:

Ms Collins provided a summary of the report, describing the institution's enrolment health as good to excellent and reporting that there was a record demand for seats. She noted that there was increased enrolment from the university's target groups. She explained that as demand increases, competition for seats increases, and that the report reflects the subsequent rise in admission averages.

During the ensuing discussion, members sought clarification about retention rates of high-achieving students, the impact of increasing admission averages, and whether data on diploma exam marks had been evaluated.

6. Budget Update

There were no documents.

*Presenter(s)*: Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC APC; Gitta Kulczycki, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

*Purpose of the Proposal*: For discussion/information.

*Discussion*:

Ms Kulczycki provided members with the three-year budget planning forecast for 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21, adding that the numbers reflect caution regarding investment income and move to address the structural deficit.

The Chair reported that the provincial budget would not be announced until March and that there was still no word on the tuition regulation and funding framework reviews.

Members requested additional information on the structural deficit.

7. Peter Lougheed Leadership College – Update

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s)*: Wendy Rodgers, Deputy Provost

*Purpose of the Proposal*: For discussion/information.

*Discussion*:

Dr Rodgers reported that as the first Principal of the PLLC nears the end of her term, the President struck a working group to examine the future of the PLLC. She noted that the group had identified that the PLLC could be an umbrella for all university leadership activities. The Chair added that the changes to the PLLC are intended to recognize that the University of Alberta has a lot to offer in terms of leadership.

Members commented on opportunities to expand access to the existing certificate, the timeline for implementation of the recommendations, plans for financial sustainability, graduate student involvement on the working group, and whether the proposed activities would fit together with the academic programs of the college.

The Provost indicated that responsibility for the PLLC would move from the President's Office where the initiative was developed to the Provost's Office where it would be more permanently located and to ensure it maintained a strong academic mission.

8. Question Period

There were no questions.

**INFORMATION REPORTS**

9. Items Approved by 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 3:45 p.m.