

General Faculties Council
Academic Planning Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, May 03, 2023
SAB 2-31
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Verna Yiu (Chair)
Heather Bruce (Vice-Chair)
Bishoi Aziz
Zengtao Chen
Chetan Dave
Tammy Hopper
Vadim Kravchinsky
Adrian Lam
Jacqueline Leighton

Heather Seyl Miyashita
Tammy Hopper
Vadim Kravchinsky
Adrian Lam
Jacqueline Leighton
Aminah Robinson Fayek
Norma Rodenburg
Kent Rondeau
Chris Sprysak

Regrets
Sandeep Agrawal
Christian Fotang
Todd Gilchrist
Brad Hamdon
Ola Mabrouk

Non-Voting Members
Kate Peters

Staff
Heather Richholt

OPENING SESSION

The Chair began by acknowledging the territory:

The University of Alberta resides on Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis. To acknowledge the territory is to recognize the longer history of these lands and signifies our commitment to working in Good Relations with First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples as we engage in our institutional work.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Verna Yiu, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair, Academic Planning Committee (APC)

Discussion: The Chair welcomed the new student members and opened with a round-table of introductions. She noted a change to the agenda to defer the Graduate Scholarship Committee Report to a future meeting.

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

Presenter(s): Verna Yiu, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair, APC

Discussion: In light of the shortened meeting, the Chair made no comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of April 12, 2023

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the open session minutes of April 12, 2023

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

4. Institute for Intersectional Research

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Siobhan Byrne, Associate Professor, Political Science, Faculty of Arts; Sara Dorow, Professor, Sociology, Faculty of Arts; Samira ElAtia, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies, Faculte Saint-Jean, Faculte Saint-Jean

Discussion: The Chair informed members of their authority over Centres and Institutes and described the governance process to develop Academic Centres and Institutes. S Byrne, S Dorow and S ElAtia introduced themselves and noted their anticipated leadership roles for the Institute for Intersectional Research. They explained that the Institute was a result of the Signature Area on Intersections of Gender and provided an overview of the goals and proposed mission. They emphasized the importance of decolonization work in the Institute which aligns with goals set out in the University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Plan, *Braiding Past, Present and Future*. S ElAtia noted that the Institute will be bilingual and described the support of French-speaking researchers from Campus Saint-Jean.

Members asked questions and made comments including and not limited to:

- Engagement with units across Campus on strategic priorities that align with the Institute's expertise;
- Funding sources for the Institute and plans to ensure sustainability;
- How the Institute would serve undergraduate students;
- Whether the Institute would create any new courses and what resources might be valuable for teaching and the learning environment;
- How the Institute might support professional development and continuing education;
- How the governance structure would interact with the Colleges and a request that the stand-alone faculties especially Augustana Campus, not be forgotten; and
- Whether there could be opportunities to open up course requirements in different programs to include the Institute's coursework; and

The Chair provided some feedback on the governance structure including the name and the reporting structure for the Director. She suggested that the Institute's role in supporting education within the University and for the community was an important part of their mandate that should be reflected in their name.

The motion was moved and seconded

That the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the creation of the Institute for Intersectional Research/Institut de recherches intersectionnelles (IIR/IRI), effective upon approval.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. University Strategic Plan

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Verna Yiu, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair, APC

Discussion: The Chair emphasized the importance of APC's role to provide feedback and direction to inform the University Strategic Plan. She noted that there had been positive feedback on the pillars, the focus on people, and how the plan is inclusive of different groups.

Members made comments and suggestions including:

- The goals for enrolment growth need to be accompanied by commitments to quality and student supports;
- That quality indicators for the plan should include educational outcomes of students; and
- Praise for the inclusive definition of research that takes into account different research fields and scholarship.

In closing the Chair thanked members for their feedback throughout the process.

6. Graduate Studies Yearbook: Enrolment Data and Updates from FGSR, 2022-2023

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Ali Shiri, Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)

Discussion: A Shiri provided an overview of graduate student enrolment, demographics, and completion data by faculty. He reported on enrolment of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students by type of credential and pointed to the increase over time. In reporting on overall data, he noted that PhD enrolment had increased thanks to International student enrolment but that domestic PhD enrolment was falling. He concluded by sharing plans for improvements to enrolment management in FGSR.

Members asked questions and made comments including:

- The proportion of female to male students and the persistence of the difference over time;
- The disparity between enrolment in course-based vs thesis-based programs;
- How different narratives of individual student experiences can help to illuminate the data; and
- Trends in international student enrolment by country and whether there was information that showed how many students were coming from Canadian undergraduate studies.

7 Question Period (Please submit questions by email)

Presenter(s): Verna Yiu, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair, APC

Discussion: There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

8. Information Items Forwarded to committee Members Between Meetings

- APC: Follow-up Items
- Work-Integrated Learning (WIL): IMA Performance-Based Funding Metric Reporting Remaining Administrative Terminations

CLOSING SESSION

9. Adjournment

- Next Meeting of APC: May 17, 2023
- Next Meeting of GFC: May 29, 2023

