

General Faculties Council  
Executive Committee  
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, February 12, 2024  
South Academic Building (SAB) 2-31  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

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**ATTENDEES:**

Bill Flanagan (Chair)  
Pedro Almeida  
Ryan Dunch  
Kyle Foster  
Danielle Gardiner-Milln  
Julianne Gibbs-Davis  
Rija Kamran

Jelena Holovati  
Sujata Persad  
Spencer Proctor  
Norma Rodenburg  
Dan Romanyk  
Aiman Saif  
JC Spence  
Robert Wood

*non-voting:*

John Lemieux  
Kate Peters

**REGRETS:**

Verna Yiu  
Staff:  
Faiza Billo

**OPENING SESSION**

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

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

*Discussion:* A member made a motion to amend the agenda to include a discussion of the Annual Enrolment Report with N Rodenburg and T Raivio presenting.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT GFC Executive Committee approve the agenda as amended.

**CARRIED**

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

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

*Discussion:* The Chair provided an update related to bargaining with NASA and AASUA and noted the preliminary introductory meeting to commence negotiations on a renewed collective agreement was scheduled. M Padfield noted that the Provost had exercised their authority as set out in the Department Chair Selection Procedure to add a member to a Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry (FoMD) Departmental Selection Committee. She informed the committee that FoMD is considering adding a member permanently. J Lemieux provided an update regarding the work of the Presidential Review Committee.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of January 15, 2024

4. Changes to the Faculty of Augustana Campus Faculty Council Composition and Quorum

The motion to approve the items in the consent agenda was moved and seconded.

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the consent agenda.

**CARRIED**

**ACTION ITEMS**

5. Deletion of GFC Policy Manual Section 109 - Student Records: Contents, Access, Use, and Protection

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* John Lemieux, University Secretary

*Discussion:* J Lemieux noted that the proposal to delete the section was simplified by the presence of duplicated information in the University Calendar.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT GFC Executive Committee recommend to the General Faculties Council that it rescind Section 109 of the GFC Policy Manual.

**CARRIED**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

6. General Appeals Committee Report

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Scott Jeffrey, Special Advisor, Faculty Relations

*Discussion:* The GFC Secretary noted that this report is presented annually to the Executive Committee and that it was also the subject of Item 7, a proposal to rescind the GFC Policy Manual section. She noted that GFC Executive Committee would continue to receive the report annually, typically on consent.

S Jeffrey presented the report noting some of the considerations from the past academic year including exceptions made to ensure French-language proceedings for Campus Saint-Jean.

Members asked about the disproportionate numbers of processes that were conducted for smaller faculties and asked for clarification within the constraints of confidentiality. Members expressed appreciation for the rigour of university processes noting that there was a proportionately small number of appeals. They asked whether the statistics from 2023 could be interpreted as a result of any change in processes.

**ACTION ITEMS**

7. Deletion of GFC Policy Manual Section 56 - General Appeals Committee (GAC)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* John Lemieux, University Secretary

*Discussion:* J Lemieux presented historic context on Section 56 and presented a case for deleting the document. He emphasized that the GFC resolution from 1977 is still in effect and that GFC still has the right to ask that this report be delivered to it.

THAT GFC Executive Committee recommend that the General Faculties Council rescind Section 56 of the GFC Policy Manual.

**CARRIED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### 8. Proposed revisions to GFC Academic Planning Committee Terms of Reference

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Ryan Dunch, Chair of the GFC Executive Subcommittee on Governance and Procedural Oversight (GPO)

*Discussion:* R Dunch spoke to the role and functioning of GPO and presented on the proposed revisions to the Academic Planning Committee (APC) terms of reference. K Peters reminded members about the motion to disband the Facilities Development Committee (FDC) from June, 2022.

Members discussed:

- General Space Plans and their relation to space allocation;
- Whether the proposed changes to the APC terms of reference will provide for feedback from the academy on space planning and allocation;
- The urgency of reducing the University's footprint;
- APC's ability to make recommendations on facilities and the appropriateness of giving APC this responsibility;
- A concern that moving the authority to APC will further dilute the authority of GFC to make recommendations on facilities;
- The example of decision-making on South Campus which had considerable academic impacts;
- Whether a Terms of Reference should be wielded to protect the authority of governing bodies;
- Whether additional student members should be added to committee composition to balance the addition of the ex officio members;
- Whether there had been any discussion of splitting off the authority of APC into a separate committee to lighten it's load given the number of meetings per year
- That the workload is not changing at APC, because the committee already receives facilities proposals
- How space related information is brought forward to GFC
- A request that GPO discuss principles for student representation on standing committees and the the matter be resolved before the terms of reference are placed before GFC.

### 9. Annual Enrolment Report

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Norma Rodenburg, Acting Vice-Provost and University Registrar; Tracy Raivio, Vice-Provost and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies

*Discussion:* N Rodenburg and T Raivio presented the Annual Report for Undergraduate and Graduate students.

Members discussed:

- Trends in the undergraduate enrolment especially regarding yield and differences between admission of domestic and international students;
- Whether the University was working towards specific targets for undergraduate international enrolment or for graduate enrolment expansion;
- Where the enrolment targets originate and how these goals will shape the University;
- The impact of individual faculty members on graduate enrolment and how systems can support distributed decision-making to achieve enrolment goals;
- Whether the trend in decreased applications by domestic graduate students in thesis-based and course-based programs could be explained;
- That graduate enrolment and faculty capacity are linked and whether this should be indicated in the report;
- Whether external competitive research dollars, job placement and housing of graduate students are tracked and linked to trends in graduate programming;
- How affordability is changing decisions made by graduate students; and
- The use of the terminology related to sex vs gender in the Enrolment report and whether "other" is the best way to represent individuals who have chosen not to disclose.

### **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, Chair, President and Vice-Chancellor

*Discussion:*

Members discussed placing the GFC Policy Manual deletions on the consent given their straightforward nature. P Almeida provided an update on the ZTC Cup awards. Members asked questions about the second-level specializations in the Doctor of Education and agreed that consent was appropriate for the proposals.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the Agenda for the February 26, 2024 meeting of General Faculties Council, as set forth in Attachment 1.

**CARRIED**

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### 11. Question Period

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

*Discussion:* Members asked questions and made comments related to the Google suite and S Baraniuk was invited by the Chair to provide an update on the rollout of the changes across campus including forthcoming townhalls to discuss the needs, options, and to provide information on administrative options.

Members discussed:

- Impacts on graduate students and graduate education;
- Institutional risks and the options available to the University;
- How to archive information;
- Timelines for implementation;

- The impact on undergraduate employees.

### **CLOSING SESSION**

12. Adjournment
  - Next Meeting of Exec: March 11, 2024
  - Next Meeting of GFC: February 26, 2024