

General Faculties Council
Facilities Development Committee (FDC)
Approved Open Session Minutes

Thursday, March 16, 2023
Senate Chamber
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Kathryn Todd, Chair
Ahmed Bouferguene
Heather Bruce
Marie Carrière
Levi Flaman
Kyle Foster

Jesse Luyendyk
Andrew Sharman

REGRETS:

Brad Hamdon
Kate Peters
Janmejay Rao

Dan Romanyk
Julia Viloso

Staff:

Heather Richholt, Coordinator
Faiza Billo

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Kathryn Todd, Deputy Provost (Academic), and Chair of FDC

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the GFC Facilities Development Committee approve the agenda.

CARRIED

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

Presenter(s): Kathryn Todd, Deputy Provost (Academic), and Chair of FDC

Discussion:

The Chair welcomed members and noted that this was the first committee meeting since September 2021. She then led a round table of introductions.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Orientation

Presenter(s): Heather Richholt, Associate Secretary to GFC, and Coordinator of FDC

Discussion:

H Richholt provided a committee orientation and spoke about how FDC fits into the broader governance landscape of the General Faculties Council (GFC) and its standing committees. She provided an overview of the committee's terms of reference (TOR) and the changes made to its delegated authority in October 2022. She noted the lack of work for the committee over the past several years and the proposal to disband the committee

that came forward to GFC in the spring of 2022 that was tabled. She also spoke about the responsibilities and mandates related to facilities held by the GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC) and the GFC Committee on the Learning Environment (CLE) as well as the authority held by GFC itself. Finally she noted that a review of the TOR for FDC, APC, and CLE was planned for the fall.

A member asked whether student residences were included in FDC's authority or mandate. Members discussed facilities items that could come to the committee for information or recommendation as per the TOR.

4. Asset Management Master Plan (AMMP) Overview

Presenter(s): Andrew Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)

Discussion:

A Sharman provided an overview of the AMMP noting that it would provide a clear vision of the University's campuses in alignment with the University Strategic Plan. He indicated that it would build on the principles in the Integrated Asset Management Strategy (IAMS) and connect with *Braiding Past, Present, and Future*, the University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Plan, and the U of A Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity (EDI) Strategic Plan. He also explained that the AMMP will help to put forward the Annual Capital Plan to government each year.

Members discussed:

- the current state and deferred maintenance of the University's buildings;
- the removal of the Ring Houses and the proposed removal of the Administration Building;
- AMMP's approval timeline with a draft to the Board in June and to GFC in the fall, and approval in early 2024;
- the Space Optimization Strategy and the importance of understanding our space and using it more effectively;
- changes to pedagogy and the need for flexibility in classroom space;
- the dashboard and how decisions are made;
- future plans for Campus Saint-Jean;
- the underutilized Humanities Building and what will happen to the offices and departments currently located there if the building is closed;
- how potential changes to facilities would impact the community;
- how to account for the College structures and centralized functions;
- the spread of the departments in the Faculty of Arts across North Campus and the need for space that aligns with different pedagogies;
- whether adjustment of the normal class hours (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.) would help to solve some of the classroom space issues; and
- consideration of future needs including increased enrolment.

The Chair observed that no changes will be made without thorough consultation.

5. Asset Management Master Plan (AMMP) Financial Model

Presenter(s): Andrew Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations); James Allen, Associate Vice-President, Asset Management & Operations

Discussion:

A Sharman spoke about the financial model noting that it would complement the AMMP by providing estimates for long-term asset funding sources and expenses.

Members discussed:

- the rationale for the removal of the more modern wings of the Dentistry-Pharmacy/University Commons Building;
- the use of the financial model to support operations across the university campuses on a long-term basis;
- how the outputs would be communicated and how they would inform decision-making;
- the need to balance environmental, financial, and pedagogical concerns in decision-making about facilities management;
- the importance of including history, culture, and value to community in the overall picture;
- efforts to maintain what it is possible to maintain as has been put into practice with the restoration and refurbishing of original elements of the University Commons Building; and
- whether the numbers behind the assumptions in the financial model would be publicly available.

6. Question Period

Discussion:

Members asked questions about maintenance issues and heard that the University is in crisis management mode, that all of our buildings need work, and that safety and critical systems are being prioritized.

A member asked about campus security reports and was directed to the Safety and Security Committee updates.

A member asked about the strategy for residences and heard that a refresh was coming soon.

INFORMATION REPORTS

7. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

- University of Alberta Mail - GFC Facilities Development Committee Meeting Cancellation and Facilities Update

CLOSING SESSION

8. Adjournment

- Next meeting: May 18, 2023
- Next meeting of GFC: March 20, 2023