



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, October 01, 2012
L1-490, Edmonton Clinic Health Academy
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Amaral, J Nelson	Science
Andrews, Nathan	Graduate Council of Students (Statutory)
Ashworth, Nigel	Medicine and Dentistry
Auger, Joanna	Sessional Staff
Belosevic, Mike	GFC Appointee to the Board
Bernier, Ashlyn	Graduate Students' Association (GSA) President
Blackburn, Ed	Faculté Saint-Jean
Brown, Cary	Rehabilitation Medicine
Brown, Norman	Arts
Chelen, Dustin	Student Nominated by Undergraduate Council of Students
Chen, Chris	Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Clark, Phyllis	Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Connor, Bill (Delegate)	Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction)
Cormack, Lesley	Dean, Arts
Coulthard, Roy	Graduate Student at-Large
Crone, Lyndon	Engineering
DeGara, Chris	Medicine and Dentistry
Deyholos, Michael	Science
Ferguson-Pell, Martin	Acting President and Acting Chair; Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Goble, Erika	Graduate Student at-Large
Gordon, Ann	Arts
Gotell, Lise	Arts
Haennel, Robert	Acting Dean, Rehabilitation Medicine
Hansra, Sangram	Law
Harrington, Joanna	Law
Harris, John	Arts
Hokowhitu, Brendan	Dean, Native Studies
Ingles, Ernie	Vice-Provost (Learning Services) and Interim Director, Library and Information Studies
Jensen, Louise	Nursing
Joseph, Sam	Arts
Kabata, Kaori	Arts
Kang, Jimmy	Science
Kelly, Brent	Students' Union (SU) Appointee to the Board of Governors
Kendal, Gerry	Vice-Provost and University Registrar

Kochikuzhyi, Jeffrey	Science
Kumar, Chandan	Graduate Student at-Large
Kuryliw, Sarjenka	Education
Lederer, Robert	Arts
Lee, Matt	Science
Lemelin, Pierre	Medicine and Dentistry
Lemire, Bernard	Medicine and Dentistry
Loebenberg, Raimar	Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Science
McGetrick, Jennifer	Graduate Student at-Large
Meston, John	Graduate Student at-Large
Mildenberger, Adam	Medicine and Dentistry
Mills, Kelsey	Arts
Milner, Rachel	Medicine and Dentistry
Mohamed, Bashir	Arts
Mohamed, Yasser	Engineering
Molzahn, Anita	Dean, Nursing
Mummery, Kerry	Dean, Physical Education and Recreation
Nocente, Norma	Education
Patterson, Ray	Business
Penrod, Lynn	Arts
Renke, Wayne	AASUA Appointee to the Board of Governors
Robertson, Sean	Native Studies
Robinson, Frank	Vice-Provost and Dean of Students
Rodgers, Wendy	Physical Education and Recreation
Saunders, Duncan	Public Health
Shchepetkina, Alina	Graduate Student at-Large
Shirvani, Mazi	Vice-Provost and Dean, Graduate Studies and Research
Shores, Sandra	Library Academic Staff
Snart, Fern	Dean, Education
Sumar, Saadiq	Student Nominated by the Undergraduate Council of Students
Swanson, Ruby	APO
Turpin, Karen Vera Lyn	Graduate Student at-Large
Van der Baan, Mirko	Science
Whelton, Bill	Education
Williamson, Deanna	Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences
Willows, Noreen	Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences
Woods, Adam	Arts
Yamagishi, Colten	Students' Union President
Zhang, Hao	Engineering
Zielinski, Michal	Graduate Student at-Large

Presenter(s):

Blackburn, Ed	Chair, GFC Nominating Committee
Belosevic, Mike	Academic Staff Representative on the Board of Governors
Bodnar, Garry	Secretary to General Faculties Council and Coordinator, GFC Replenishment Committee
Clark, Phyllis	Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Cormack, Lesley	Dean, Faculty of Arts
Ferguson-Pell, Martin	Acting President and Acting Chair, General Faculties Council; Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic); and Acting Chair, GFC Executive Committee

Lise Gotell Chair, Women's Studies Program, Faculty of Arts
Marion Haggarty-France University Secretary
Joanne McKinnon Assistant Chair (Administration), Women's Studies Program, Faculty of Arts

Staff:

Bodnar, Garry Secretary to General Faculties Council
Haggarty-France, Marion University Secretary
Paulsen, Emily Scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Shirvani/Amaral

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the Agenda.	CARRIED
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2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of May 28, 2012

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: De Gara/Cormack

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the Minutes of May 28, 2012.	CARRIED
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3. Comments from the Acting Chair

Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Phyllis Clark introduced Dr Martin Ferguson-Pell to members, commenting on both his new role as Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and, on the occasion of this GFC meeting, as Acting Chair because of President Samarasekera's commitment to an event in Ottawa sponsored by the Federal Government.

Acting Chair Ferguson-Pell commented on the passing of a close friend and alumnus of the University of Alberta and former Alberta Premier, The Honourable Peter Lougheed. He stated Dr Lougheed's close connection with the University will continue in many ways, including the awarding of the Peter Lougheed Scholarships. Dr Ferguson-Pell also informed members of: the important work being done by Dr Carl Amrhein on behalf of the University during the course of his sabbatical; recent new appointments of Deans; individuals within the University of Alberta community who had passed away over the Spring and Summer of 2012; and a number of honours recently awarded to University members, including membership in the Royal Society of Canada.

4. Kick-off

Presenter: Marion Haggarty-France, University Secretary

Purpose of the Proposal: To provide new and continuing members of the General Faculties Council (GFC)

with an (annual) orientation to the legislative and administrative frameworks in which GFC will operate during the Academic Year 2012-2013.

Discussion:

Ms Haggarty-France welcomed members to the new space for GFC meetings (ie, L1-490, Edmonton Clinic Health Academy (ECHA)) by setting out the context for the move from University Hall's Council Chamber to this new facility. She provided, in turn, a brief orientation on the iClicker technology that would serve as GFC's new voting system. She concluded her remarks by stating that University Governance stands ready to provide advice and support to all members of Council.

ACTION ITEMS

5. New Members of GFC

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Martin Ferguson-Pell, Acting President and Acting Chair, General Faculties Council; Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic); and Acting Chair, GFC Executive Committee)

Discussion:

Mr Bodnar updated GFC on recent appointments that were not reflected in the material before members.

Motion I: TO APPOINT/REAPPOINT

The following graduate student members to serve on GFC for terms beginning immediately and ending April 30, 2013:

Waleem Alausa	(GS) Economics
Alina Shchepetkina	(GS) Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

The following undergraduate student members to serve on GFC for terms beginning immediately and ending April 30, 2013:

Bo Lun Zhang	Faculty of Arts
Dave Jones	Faculty of Arts
Bashir Mohamed	Faculty of Arts
Carlo Martin	Augustana Faculty
Jason Hong	Faculty of Education
Nicholas Adamski	Faculty of Engineering
Sangram Hansra	Faculty of Law
Adam Mildenberger	Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Cory Hodgson	Faculty of Science
James Hwang	Faculty of Science
Matt Lee	Faculty of Science
Jimmy Kang	Faculty of Science
Brenden Kunimoto	Faculty of Science
Dawson Zeng	Faculty of Science

The following academic staff member to represent sessional staff, for a term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2013:

Joanne Auger
Kelly MacFarlane

Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation
Faculty of Arts

The following academic staff members to represent administrative professional and faculty service officers, for terms beginning immediately and ending as noted:

Ruby Swanson
Richard Uwiera

Devonian Botanic Gardens (June 30, 2013)
Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (June 30, 2015)

The following academic staff members to represent library staff for terms beginning immediately and ending as noted:

Sandra Shores
Katherine Koch

Libraries (June 30, 2013)
Libraries (June 30, 2015)

The following non-academic staff representative nominated by the Non-Academic Staff Association (NASA) for a term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2014:

Russell Eccles

NASA

The following academic staff member nominated by GFC to the Board of Governors and appointed to GFC for a term that is concurrent with his term on the Board (July 16, 2012 to July 15, 2015):

Miodrag (Mike) Belosevic

Departments of Biological Sciences and Public Health
Sciences

The following academic staff member nominated by the Association of Academic Staff - University of Alberta (AASUA) to the Board of Governors and appointed to GFC for a term that is concurrent with his term on the Board (September 3, 2012 to September 2, 2015):

Wayne Renke

Faculty of Law

CARRIED

Motion II: TO RECEIVE

The following statutory faculty members who have been elected or re-elected by their Faculty to serve on GFC for terms beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2015:

Gerald Haeubl
Ray Patterson
Sean Robertson

Alberta School of Business
Alberta School of Business
Alberta School of Business

CARRIED

6. Proposal to Establish a Department of Women's and Gender Studies (Faculty of Arts) (and Concurrent Termination of the Faculty's Women's Studies Program)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenters: Martin Ferguson-Pell, Acting President and Acting Chair, General Faculties Council; Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic); and Acting Chair, GFC Executive Committee; Lesley Cormack, Dean, Faculty of Arts; Lise Gotell, Chair, Women's Studies Program, Faculty of Arts; Joanne McKinnon, Assistant Chair (Administration), Women's Studies Program, Faculty of Arts

Purpose of the Proposal: To transform the existing Women's Studies Program into a Department of Women's and Gender Studies. The Program currently operates much like a Department, with a Chair who sits on the Faculty Evaluation Committee (FEC), pre-tenured and tenured faculty, and the responsibility for managing its own budget and teaching plan. The proposal is also a response to the recommendation of the 2008 Academic Unit Review that the Program become a Department.

Discussion:

The proposal was introduced to members by Dr Cormack, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, who noted that, in many ways, this would only be a cost-neutral name change, considering that the Faculty's existing Women's Studies Program already has its own budget, faculty members, and academic programming. Dr Gotell, Chair of the Women's Studies Program, added that the idea of creating a Department from the Program came from a comprehensive unit review conducted in 2008. After a question from a member, Dr Gotell clarified that naming the Department "Women's and Gender Studies" as opposed to "Gender Studies" had been a much-discussed issue, but it was considered a suitable compromise that would reflect similar programs throughout North America as well as the history and identity of the discipline.

Motion:

THAT General Faculties Council recommend to the Board of Governors the proposal from the Faculty of Arts for the formal establishment of the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, as submitted by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and as set forth in Attachment 1, and the concurrent termination of the Faculty of Arts' Women Studies Program, all to take effect January 1, 2013.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. Information Session on the University Budget 2012/2013 Preliminary Forecast

There were no documents.

Presenters: Martin Ferguson-Pell, Acting President and Acting Chair, General Faculties Council; Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic); and Acting Chair, GFC Executive Committee; Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

Purpose of the Proposal: For discussion/information.

Discussion:

At this point in the meeting, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) Bill Connor (who, at today's GFC meeting, was Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic)) took the position of the Chair so that Dr Ferguson-Pell could contribute to the presentation of this agenda item. The Acting Chair stated that the purpose of this presentation was to provide GFC with an opportunity to hear specifically from Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Phyllis Clark on the operation and structure of the University's budget and projections for the future.

Ms Clark commented on several economic drivers, such as natural gas and crude oil, which have decreased in their revenue-generating capacity; the exchange rate between the Canadian and American dollars; and historically-low interest rates. Ms Clark outlined for members the structure of the institutional Consolidated Budget and provided explanation on its component parts, including the Operating, Capital, Ancillary, and restricted (research) Budgets. The revenue and expenses of the Consolidated Budget were presented, with the greatest portion of revenue coming from Provincial Government funding and the greatest source of expenses deriving from salaries and benefits. Assumptions and sensitivities for the 2012-2013 Budget were also described in detail. The presentation concluded with discussion on cross-departmental cuts as well as the need for the Government to clearly define their commitment to post-secondary institutions in Alberta.

There were questions and comments from members regarding the following: work undertaken by The Umbrella Committee (TUC) and The Renaissance Committee to find means by which some budget pressures could be alleviated; the impact that South Campus has on the budget; clarification on the annual deployment of the institutional deferred maintenance budget; and future plans to encourage and provide for a diversification of revenues.

At the conclusion of discussion, Dr Ferguson-Pell reassumed the chair.

8. Question Period

Mr Colten Yamagishi, President of the Students' Union, directed questions to Dr Ferguson-Pell regarding recent changes made to the 'House Rules' for Lister Centre. Considering the Motions associated with the restorative justice proposal recommended by GFC on November 29, 2010 and approved by the Board of Governors on February 11, 2011, in which it stated, in part, that changes to 'House Rules' would be jointly agreed upon by the appropriate residence student association and Residence Services, Mr Yamagishi asked which of the residence associations had approved the amendments to the residences' 'House Rules' decided upon in early September, 2012. Dr Ferguson-Pell explained that is the mandate of the University's senior administration to act if student and employee health and safety are at risk; he noted that this ability to act was similarly spelled out in an existing agreement with regard to the Lister Centre. He added that Administration had met with the Lister Hall Students' Association (LHSA) and with the Students' Union. The Administration is currently engaged in meetings intended to clarify how future situations similar to this would be handled.

Mr Yamagishi asked for clarification of where there is an appropriate enforcement mechanism for these types of situations, considering that discussion regarding the Lister Hall situation was not entertained by the Chair of the Campus Law Review Committee (CLRC) at a recent meeting of this committee. Dr Ferguson-Pell replied that this is currently being discussed and that greater clarity on this issue will become apparent in due course.

A member of GFC voiced appreciation for the changes that had been made at the Lister Centre and for the balanced reporting of *The Gateway* on this matter.

An undergraduate student representative from the Faculty of Engineering, Mr Lyndon Crone, directed to Vice-Provost and Dean of Students Frank Robinson a question regarding the termination of 40 student staff members from Residence Services, the proceeding rapid recruitment and training of new staff, and the continuing vacancies. Dr Robinson committed to answering the question in writing for the next GFC meeting. Mr Saadiq Sumar, with clarification from Mr Yamagishi, suggested that Dr Robinson consult data collected by the LHSA when framing his response; Dr Robinson responded that he was unaware of the data to which the student representatives were referring. Mr Yamagishi stated he would ensure this

information was shared with the Dean of Students.

INFORMATION REPORTS

9. GFC Executive Committee Minutes of May 7 and June 4, 2012

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

10. Reports of the Board of Governors of May 11, June 4, and June 15, 2012

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

11. E-Mail Reports of the GFC Nominating Committee (May 25 and July 5, 2012)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

12. E-Mail Report of the GFC Replenishment Committee (June 19, 2012)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

13. Information Items Forwarded to GFC Members Between Meetings

Result of the Election of One (1) Academic Staff Member to Serve as the GFC Nominee to the Board of Governors [E-Mailed to Members on June 27, 2012]

A Important Reminder: Election by GFC of One (1) Academic Staff Representative to Serve as the Nominee of General Faculties Council on the U of A's Board of Governors [E-Mailed to Members on June 22, 2012]

Election by GFC of One (1) Academic Staff Representative to Serve as the Nominee of General Faculties Council on the U of A's Board of Governors [E-Mailed to Members on June 18, 2012]

Cancellation of the June 18, 2012 Meeting of General Faculties Council (GFC) [E-Mailed to Members on June 5, 2012]

Nominees for Two (2) Faculty Vacancies on the GFC Replenishment Committee (GFC RC) [E-Mailed to Members on June 1, 2012]

Correspondence Regarding a Survey on Academic Senates (and GFCs) in Canada [E-Mailed to Members on June 1, 2012]

An Update Regarding the Agenda for the May 28, 2012 Meeting of General Faculties Council (GFC) [E-Mailed to Members on May 25, 2012]

14. Reports

There were no reports.

CLOSING SESSION

15. Adjournment

The Acting Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:35 pm.