



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, February 24, 2020
Council Chamber, 2-100 University Hall (UNH)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Statutory Members:

Ex-Officio:

David Turpin, Chair
Chris Andersen
Dale Askey
Lesley Cormack
Joseph Doucet
Brenda Hemmelgarn
Shanthi Johnson
Matina Kalcounis-
Rueppell
Gitta Kulczycki
Diane Kunyk (delegate)
Brooke Milne
Pierre-Yves Mocquais
Kerry Mummery
Melissa Padfield
Wendy Rodgers
(delegate)
Matthias Ruth
Kelly Spencer
Jennifer Tupper

Elected Faculty:

Jason Acker
Cathy Adams
Bill Foster
Heather Coleman
Gary Eitzen
Anastasia Elias
Duncan Elliott
Nadir Erbilgin
Pierre Lemelin
Susanne Luhmann
Pirkko Markula
Sean McMurtry
Al Meldrum
Roger Moore
Sarah Moore
Shannon O'Byrne
Dan Romanyk
Victoria Ruetalo

Richard Schulz
John Seubert
Eleni Stroulia
Alan Underhill
Dilini Vethanayagam
Akiko Watanabe
Lynne Wiltse
Minn-Nyoung Yoon
Students:
Dylan Ashley
Jared Larsen

Appointed Members:

Akanksha Bhatnagar
Katherine Binhammer
Meijun Chen
André Costopoulos
Fahed Elian
Shawn Flynn
Kevin Kane
Janice Kung
Christopher Lupke
Habba Mahal
Milad Nazarahari
Alesha Reed
Lindy Schaffrick
Andrei Tabirca
Frederick Tappenden
Janet Williamson
Donna Wilson
Adrienne Wright
Ding Xu
Larry Zhong

REGRETS:

Ayman Adwan
Joel Agarwal
W. Ted Allison
J Nelson Amaral
Adarsh Badesha
Matthew Barnett

Nicholas Beier
Stanford Blade
Amlan Bose
Yiming Chen
Melinda Chisholm
Greta Cummings
Neal Davies
Piet Defraeye
Steven Dew
Natalie Diether
David Draper
Tarek El-Bialy
Shannon Erichsen
Fay Fletcher
Fraser Forbes
Mary Forhan
Michael Frishkopf
Paul Gareau
Ian Gatera
Tahra Haddouche
Robert Haennel
Jill Hall
Olivia Harris
Osman Hojanepesov
Basil Hubbard
Peter Hurd
Abigail Isaac
Peter Johnson
Simran Kaur Dhillon
Nat Kav
Wade King
Alana Krahn
Rajesh Kumar
Eva Lemaire
Rowan Ley
Kathleen Lowrey
Maria Mayan
Stephanie McKenzie
Lynn McMullen
Rojin McVea
Sue-Ann Mok

Vivian Mushahwar
Anthony Nguyen
David Percy
Milad Rezvani Rad
Christina Rinaldi
Carolyn Sale
Amber Sayed
Georg Schmolzer
Sarah Severson
Andrew Sharman
Susan Sommerfeldt
Dhanvanth Soora
Kisha Supernant
Catherine Swindlehurst
Shahed Taghian
Dehaghani
Demetres
Tryphonopoulos
Amy Tse
Samantha Tse
Kristof Van Assche
Jonathan White
Ian Winship
Yan Yuan

Staff:

Marion Haggarty-France,
University Secretary
Brad Hamdon, General
Counsel
Yimmie Sonuga, GFC
Secretary
Heather Richholt, Scribe

Observers:

Anne Bailey
Kate Peters
Keisha Marsh
Norma Rodenburg
Derek Roy-Brenneis
Andrea Smith

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor

Motion: Kalcounis-Rueppell/Doucet

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor

Discussion:

The Chair made note of the upcoming approval pathway for the university's budget and the implications of the provincial budget set to be tabled later in the week.

The Chair announced that the Provost had indicated he was willing to stand for another term. He noted that a Provost's Advisory Review Committee would be struck, confirmed the deadline for applications to be on the committee and the eligibility criteria.

The Vice-Chair of the Nominating Committee gave an update on the work underway to address student vacancies and noted that GFC would receive a motion for its approval at the March 30th meeting.

The Chair spoke to the departure of the Dean of Arts, Dr Lesley Cormack, who would be leaving the university at the end of June as a result of her appointment as the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of British Columbia - Okanagan.

The Chair pointed to the Museums Annual Report, Item 14C, and noted that Janine Andrews had announced her retirement as the Executive Director of University of Alberta Museums. He acknowledged and thanked her for her years of service and excellent reporting to GFC.

CONSENT AGENDA

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Consent Agenda Mover and Seconder: Mocquais/Doucet

3. A. Approval of the Minutes of November 25, 2019 - as amended further to the January 27, 2020 meeting

THAT General Faculties Council approve the open session minutes of November 25, 2019.

CARRIED

B. Approval of the Minutes of January 27, 2020

THAT General Faculties Council approve the open session minutes of January 27, 2020.

CARRIED

4. New Members of GFC

TO RECEIVE:

The following statutory faculty member who has been elected by their Faculty, to serve on GFC for term of office beginning February 4, 2020 and ending June 30, 2022:

Peter Hurd, Faculty of Science

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

5. An Ethics Framework for Student Learning Analytics

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Mike MacGregor, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Information Services & Technology)

Discussion:

Dr MacGregor expressed thanks to everyone for their feedback on the framework and especially to the Vice-Presidents (Academic) of the Students' Union and the Graduate Students' Association.

Motion: Bhatnagar/Moore

THAT the General Faculties Council endorses the Code of Practice for Student Learning Analytics at the University of Alberta, as set forth in attachment 1.

CARRIED

6. Proposed Addition to the Code of Student Behaviour Regarding Weapons on Campus

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Marcel Roth, Director, University of Alberta Protective Services

Discussion:

Mr Roth explained that the Code of Student Behaviour (COSB) applied to students of the university while they were on campus or at any university related event. He noted that the proposed addition to the COSB was meant for specific complaints of weapons which would require an elevated response. He also noted that the advice of the GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee had been incorporated in the definition of weapon.

Members asked questions and expressed opinions including, but not limited to: exceptions for student biathletes; the rules for student residences; University of Alberta Protective Services (UAPS) responses to complaints on campus; ancient weapons in collections on campus; knives as weapons and how the COSB already has provision to address "creating a condition which endangers or potentially endangers or threatens" another person.

Motion: Doucet/Kulczycki

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve the proposed addition to the Code of Student Behaviour, as recommended by the GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee, as submitted by University of Alberta Protective Services, to take effect July 1, 2020.

CARRIED

7. University Mandate

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor

Discussion:

The Chair noted that the Ministry of Advanced Education had instructed the university to provide a revised mandate according to a provided template. He explained that the reformatted mandate coming forward for approval was a transfer of existing information into the new template with a few editorial revisions as outlined in the documents.

Motion I: Mocquais/Padfield

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve the reformatted University Mandate Statement, as set out in Attachment 2, for submission to the Minister of Advanced Education for final approval.

CARRIED

Motion II: Mocquais/Padfield

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors rescind the previous University Mandate Statement, approved by the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology on July 17, 2009, following ministerial approval of the new statement.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Report of the Senate ad hoc Committee on Honorary Degrees (no documents)

Presenter(s): Douglas Stollery, Chancellor

Discussion:

Mr Stollery spoke about the report of the Senate's ad hoc Committee on Honorary Degrees, which was struck in response to a strategy outlined in the 2017 University of Alberta Senate's Strategic Plan to enhance the honorary degree nomination, selection, and conferral processes to ensure best practices. He outlined the membership of the committee and noted that the report was presented to the Senate in May 2019. Implementation of the recommendations was well underway. He identified two recommendations that he thought would be of interest to GFC:

1. Controversy - Information from additional vetting processes using publicly available information sources would be reviewed by the Chancellor as Chair, and relevant details would be shared with the Senate's Honorary Degree Selection Committee during the nomination review process. In the case of potential controversy, the committee would use its best judgement and consider the values of the university. The honorary degree scheduling process would also be expanded to include confidential consultation with Deans, Vice-Presidents and Vice-Provosts.
2. Revocation - The committee used the Order of Canada's process as a guide and made clear that it was a very significant step to revoke an honorary degree and this should be an extremely rare occurrence. Causes to consider would be a serious criminal offense or an ethical violation of magnitude that were a matter of public record. Steps to follow would include notice and an opportunity to return the degree, a confidential and independent inquiry, approval by 2/3 of the selection committee and the majority of Senate.

Members asked questions and expressed comments, including but not limited to: university autonomy; outside influences; university values; the potential to revoke an honorary degree of a deceased person; that the nomination process is confidential; the representation of the Senate's Honorary Degree Committee; the Senate's statutory authority to award honorary degrees; and the potential secondment of staff from the University Library and University Relations to assist with research in the vetting process.

9. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

10. Report of the GFC Executive Committee

11. Report of the GFC Academic Planning Committee

12. Report of the GFC Academic Standards Committee

13. GFC Nominations and Elections

14. Information Items

A. Annual Report on Undergraduate Enrolment 2019-20

B. Helping Individuals at Risk (HIAR) and Office of Safe Disclosure and Human Rights (OSDHR) Annual Reports 2018-2019

C. University of Alberta Museums Annual Report: July 2018 - June 2019

15. Information Forwarded to GFC Members Between Meetings

-FYI: Dean of Arts, Dr. Lesley Cormack

CLOSING SESSION

16. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.