

General Faculties Council (GFC)
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, September 19, 2022
Council Chamber, University Hall 2-100
2:00 PM - 3:50 PM

Before calling the meeting to order, the Chair made the following territorial acknowledgement:

We are located on Treaty 6 territory. We are privileged to reside on lands in Treaties 6, 7, 8 and the homeland of the Metis. To respect these agreements and to honour our relations with these Nations, we recognize this territory as we convene today. This is a sign of our commitment to working and living in good relations with Indigenous Peoples and nations who, through the treaty process, generously offered their lands.

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

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

Discussion:

The Chair noted that the minutes from June 6 had been pulled from the consent agenda for revision and would return for approval at a subsequent meeting. He also noted that there had been a request to pull Item 5 from the Consent Agenda. He suggested that it be considered after the Exploration Credits item.

A member made a notice of motion for debate at the next meeting of GFC as set out in the GFC Meeting Procedural Rules (8.7).

Notice of Motion: To amend section 4.2 of the Terms of Reference for the GFC Facilities Development Committee.
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A member asked a question about the Chair's procedural memo. The Chair noted that questions about the memo could be asked during question period. The member then raised a point of order, expressing that the agenda should not be approved until the procedural rules were clear.

Motion: The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT General Faculties Council approve the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

2. Report from the President

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

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

Discussion:

The Chair welcomed new members and, in lieu of remarks, introduced University Chancellor Peggy Garrity and Board of Governors Chair Kate Chisholm and invited them to say a few words. The Chair also invited Vice President (Facilities and Operations) Andrew Sharman to provide an update on the construction of University Commons.

CONSENT AGENDA

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

The motion to approve the items in the Consent Agenda was moved and seconded.

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of May 3 and June 6, 2022

The approval of the minutes of June 6, 2022 was deferred.

THAT General Faculties Council approve the open session minutes of May 3, 2022.

CARRIED

4. New Members of GFC

TO APPOINT/REAPPOINT:

The following Academic Teaching Staff representative to serve on GFC for a term commencing September 19, 2022 and ending June 30, 2025:

Jennifer Passey

The following appointed member for a term commencing September 19, 2022 and extending for the duration of the appointment:

Gordon Swaters, President of the AASUA

CARRIED

TO RECEIVE:

The following statutory faculty members who have been elected/re-elected by their Faculty, to serve on GFC for a term of office beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2025:

Spencer Proctor, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences

Melanie Dreyer-Lude, Faculty of Arts

Dan Romanyk, Faculty of Engineering

Pierre Lemelin, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Liran Levin, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Sharon Compton, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Yifeng Wei, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Jelena Holovati, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Pierre Chue, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

The following ex officio members to serve on GFC for a term beginning July 1, 2022 and extending for the duration of the appointment:

Tammy Hopper, Dean of the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

Verna Yiu, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

The following ex officio member to serve on GFC for a term beginning August 15, 2022 and extending for the duration of the appointment:

Norma Rodenburg, Acting Vice-Provost and Registrar

CARRIED

6. Proposed Termination of the Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend the Board of Governors approve the termination of the Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy program.

CARRIED

7. Proposed Termination of Graduate Programs in Comparative Literature, Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

THAT General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve the termination of the MA and PhD in Comparative Literature, as outlined in the included documents and for implementation upon final approval.

CARRIED

8. Proposed Terminations of the Bachelor of Science First-Level Specializations (Majors) in Animal Biology, Bioinformatics, Environmental Physical Sciences, Evolutionary Biology, and Geography, Faculty of Science

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend Board of Governors approval of the termination of the following Bachelor of Science first-level specializations (majors):

- a. Animal Biology (effective July 1, 2023)
- b. Bioinformatics (effective July 1, 2023)
- c. Environmental Physical Sciences (effective July 1, 2023)
- d. Evolutionary Biology (effective July 1, 2024)
- e. Geography (effective July 1, 2023)

CARRIED

9. Proposed Termination of the Diploma in Dental Hygiene Program, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the proposed termination of the dental hygiene diploma program.

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

10. Revisions to Sexual Violence Policy and new Student Conduct Policy (to replace non-academic portions of the Code of Student Behaviour)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Deborah Eerkes, Sexual Violence Response Coordinator; Jax Oltean, Senior Legal Counsel

Discussion:

D Eerkes spoke about the letter from the Minister of Advanced Education and the Associate Minister of Status of Women, including the checklist of requirements and the deadline for implementation. She explained the consultation and work that had been ongoing since the letter was received in February 2022 and provided an overview of the proposed changes.

During the discussion, members and presenters asked and answered questions, and expressed opinions including but not limited to: Expressions of support for the trauma informed practices for both complainants and respondents; Concern about the enduring power imbalance between students, staff, and faculty; The impact

of collective agreements on processes; Code of Conduct, Student Conduct Policy, and definitions of indecent exposure; The use of sanctions and the overarching priority of supporting a safe learning environment; and That it was important to recognize that approval of the policies and procedures was the first step and that further development would come through implementation.

Motion: The motions were moved and seconded.

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve the amendments to the Sexual Violence Policy as identified in Attachment 1.

CARRIED

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve of the Student Conduct Policy and associated Procedures identified in attachment 3,4,5 and 6.

CARRIED

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve the rescission and amendment of the sections of the Code of Student Behaviour identified in attachment 7.

CARRIED

11. Proposed change to the Exploration Credits Policy

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Norma Rodenburg, Acting Vice-Provost and University Registrar

Discussion:

N Rodenburg noted that the Exploration Credits Policy was approved in March 2022 and explained that when working through implementation, some issues arose around approval of course exclusions. She noted that the proposed change to the *Calendar* language was meant to provide clarity around the authority to approve these exclusions.

A member asked about students who were not eligible to take Exploration Credits such as students on academic probation. N Rodenburg replied that they were still working through the initial implementation and this proposal was focused on clarifying the process for course exclusions and not changing the policy itself.

Motion: The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the revision to the Calendar language for the Exploration Credit Policy as set forth in attachment 1 to take effect upon approval.

CARRIED

5. Proposed Suspension of the BSc Pharmacy and the Bridging Program for BSc Pharmacy Students, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Item was considered outside of agenda sequence.

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Christine Hughes, Interim Dean, Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences

Discussion:

C Hughes provided a brief overview of the proposal.

There was no discussion.

Motion: The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve the suspension of the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy program, for implementation July 1, 2023.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

12. Question Period

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

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

Discussion:

Questions were submitted in advance regarding:

- The College Dean Selection Procedure and Faculty Dean Position Descriptions and why these policy documents were not brought to GFC for their consideration;
- Proposed Disbanding of the GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC) and the review of terms of reference for FDC, the Academic Planning Committee, and the Committee on the Learning Environment;
- Workplan for Executive's Subcommittee on Governance and Procedural Oversight (Exec GPO) related to reviews of GFC and Executive Committee terms of reference;
- When the College Deans' plans and priorities would come to GFC;
- Deans' Council reporting to GFC;
- Timelines for New Budget Principles; and
- The Online Programming Strategy.

During question period, members asked follow up questions to those submitted in advance. Members also asked questions regarding:

- Delays in scholarship funding;
- Supports for students in the Faculty of Arts;
- Delays in graduate student academic contracts;
- Registration support for undergraduate students who are admitted later in the cycle;
- Executive authority for decision making;
- How the University communicates with High Schools regarding transcripts for admission; and
- Tuition and fees paid by students who are enrolled in a practicum.

A member made a notice of motion for debate at the next meeting of GFC as set out in the GFC Meeting Procedural Rules (8.7).

Notice of Motion: To ensure that the President provides GFC with notice of all policies that will go to the Board for approval so that GFC can consider and make recommendations.

13. UASU & GSA Goals

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Abner Monteiro, President, University of Alberta Students' Union (UASU); Anas Fassih, President, Graduate Students' Association (GSA)

Discussion:

A Monteiro gave a presentation on the UASU Executive Goals for 2022-2023 and their mission to serve, represent, and engage students. The five major priorities listed were: Building an Engaged Campus Community; Walking the Path of Reconciliation; (Re)Envisioning our Learning Environment; Creating Safe and Welcoming Spaces; and Fostering an Inclusive and Equitable University Experience.

A Fassih gave a presentation on the GSA Board Strategic Work Plan for 2022-2023 and its alignment with the three priorities of Connect, Support, and Advocate. Highlights of the plan included: expanding outreach to in-person events and governance processes; making quality graduate student supervision an institutional priority; advocating for funding packages that support a reasonable standard of living; and enhancing support for graduate students and the organizations that support them such as the Campus Food Bank.

INFORMATION REPORTS

14. Report of the GFC Executive Committee
15. Report of the GFC Academic Planning Committee
16. Report of the GFC Programs Committee
17. GFC Nominations and Elections
 - A. NC Report to GFC -September 2, 2022
 - B. Current Vacancies
18. Report of the Board of Governors
19. Information Items:
 - A. Information on budget 2023-2024
 - B. Approval of the Academic Schedule
20. Information Forwarded to GFC Members Between Meetings
 - A. University of Alberta Capital Plan
 - B. Travel Policy Update and Review Session for GFC Members

CLOSING SESSION

21. Adjournment
- Next Meeting of General Faculties Council: October 17, 2022

ATTENDEES:

Statutory Members

Ex-Officio:

Bill Flanagan, Chair
Simaan AbouRizk
Dale Askey
Barbara Billingsley
Stanford Blade
Brenda Hemmelgarn
Tammy Hopper
Nathalie Kermoal
Elan MacDonald
Brooke Milne
Kyle Murray
Kyra Pyke
Aminah Robinson Fayek
Norma Rodenburg
Andrew Sharman
Demetres
Tryphonopoulos
Jennifer Tupper
Frederick West
Robert Wood
Verna Yiu

Academic Staff:

Saadet Andrews
Jennifer Branch-Mueller
Cary Brown
Marie Carrière
Pierre Chue
Zachary Friggstad
Michael Hendzel
Carol Hodgson Birkman
Jessica Kolopenuk
Vadim Kravchinsky
Hollis Lai
Jacqueline Leighton
Pierre Lemelin
Liran Levin

Derek MacKenzie
Weimin Mou
Mario Nascimento
Pauline Paul
Jerine Pegg
Sujata Persad
Frances Plane
Elena Posse de Chaves
Spencer Proctor
Tracy Raivio
Christian Reyns-
Chikuma
Dan Romanyk
Kent Rondeau
Carolyn Sale
Chris Sprysak
Mani Vaidyanathan
Yifeng Wei
Shauna Wilton
Nese Yuksel

Students:

Bishoi Aziz
Joannie Fogue
Gurleen Kaur

Appointed Members

Haruun Ali
Cirila Bartley
Josephine Bolaji
Marsha Boyd
Heather Bruce
Daniela Carbajal
Telisa Courtney
Greta Cummings
Alexander Dorscheid
Joseph Doucet
Anas Fassih
Levi Flaman
Shawn Flynn

Kyle Foster
Tahmid Al Hafiz
Rachel Hislop-Hook
Emily Holden
Leo Huang
Simran Kaur Dhillon
Valentina Kozlova
Devshri Lala
Warren Leung
Lionel Liu
Angie Mandeville
Adekunle Mofolasayo
Tessa Monaghan
Abner Monteiro
Jennifer Passey
Hubert Piatkowski
Jad-Julian Rachid
Milan Regmi
Marian Sanchez
Meruja Selvamanikkam
Srivathsan
Shanmuganathan
Subrat Sharma
Sophie Shi
Chanpreet Singh
Allison Sivak
Pien Steinbusch
Gordon Swaters
Frederick Tappenden
Dilini Vethanayagam
Vedant Vyas
Adrian Wattamaniuk
Rachel Yang

REGRETS:

Abdul Abbasi
Sandeep Agrawal
Hussain Alhussainy
Fateh Arslan
Rebecca Avila

Ahmed Bouferguene
Jayden Brooks
Robert Burrell
Susan Chatwood
Yiming Chen
Sharon Compton
André Costopoulos
Charvi Dhamija
Melanie Dreyer-Lude
Michael Dyck
Richard Field
Jaida Han
Jelena Holovati
Mobashhir Khan
Mohit Kumar
Diane Kunyk
Ariane Lamoureux
Precious Majekodunmi
Priyanka Mittapelly
Sarah Opena-Sakar
Graham Pearson
Polina Reisbig
Keith Rourke
Dweej Shah
John Spence
Rana Sunjog Singh
Thind
Andrei Tabirca
Mirko van der Baan
Richard Wozniak

Governance Staff:

Brad Hamdon, General
Counsel and University
Secretary
Kate Peters, GFC
Secretary
Heather Richholt, Scribe
Faiza Billo
Erin Plume