



# UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

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General Faculties Council  
Academic Planning Committee  
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, November 14, 2012  
Room 2-31, South Academic Building  
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

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### **ATTENDEES:**

#### Voting Members:

Martin Ferguson-Pell	Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Acting Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee
Lorne Babiuk	Vice-President (Research)
Phyllis Clark	Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Colten Yamagishi	President, Students' Union
Ashlyn Bernier	President, Graduate Students' Association
Deanna Williamson	Academic Staff Member, Member of GFC
Wendy Rodgers	Academic Staff Member, Member of GFC
Christina Rinaldi	Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Loren Kline	Academic Staff Member-at-large
Keith McKinnon	Academic Staff Member-at-large
Geeta Sehgal	NASA Member at-large
Marc Arnal	Dean, Campus Saint-Jean
Larry Prochner	Department Chair at-large
Anna Nilson	Graduate Student at-large

#### Non-Voting Members:

Gerry Kendal	Vice-Provost and University Registrar
Ed Blackburn	Member of the GFC Executive Committee
Bill Connor	Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction)

#### Presenters:

Phyllis Clark	Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Bill Connor	Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction)
Martin Ferguson-Pell	Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Acting Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee
Gerry Kendal	Vice-Provost and University Registrar
Douglas Miller	Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

#### Staff:

Garry Bodnar	Coordinator, GFC Academic Planning Committee
Marion Haggarty-France	University Secretary
Andrea Patrick	Scribe

## **OPENING SESSION**

### 1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Rodgers/Bernier

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda.

**CARRIED**

### 2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of October 10, 2012

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Yamagishi/Bernier

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Minutes of October 10, 2012.

**CARRIED**

### 3. Comments from the Acting Chair

The Acting Chair commented on a number of items of interest to members.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### 4. Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry – Proposed Dissolution of the Faculty's Virtual Schools

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter:* Douglas Miller, Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To request formal approval for the dissolution of nine virtual schools in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, originally established in October, 2009.

*Discussion:*

Dr Miller introduced his proposal by providing a detailed history of the nine virtual Schools within the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, which were introduced in 2009 by former Dean Philip Baker. He explained that while the original intention was to create a streamlined approach to administrative- and research-related endeavors across the Faculty, the current consensus within the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry is that the Schools have had a negative to neutral effect on affairs, with the exception of one School which has experienced some success within the realms of research and graduate studies. The concept of officially dissolving the Schools was presented to members of the Faculty Strategic Committee in August, 2012, and the majority of members were in favor of dissolution. He added that the majority of members who attended the September, 2012 meeting of Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry Council also supported dissolution. Dr Miller noted that Chairs within the Faculty also had been consulted on the matter, and their collective feedback was supportive of dissolution. Dr Miller concluded his presentation by stating that the Schools did not add value to the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry.

In response to a question raised about the possible reasons for the Schools being unsuccessful, Dr Miller

explained that the Schools were created in a “top down” fashion within the Faculty and then had been underfunded, which inevitably lead to their failure. He explained that no other similar model currently exists within academic medicine in North America, and that the existence of the Schools caused redundancy and confusion as they related to the role of the Departments within the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. He added that one of the positive legacies from the Schools is the continuation of advisory committees created at the inception of the Schools, as these groups continue to meet and to benefit the Faculty. Dr Miller stated that his preferred administrative approach as Dean is to work closely with the Chairs, as Departments act as the main bodies within the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, and dissolving the Schools was an appropriate step in that direction.

Motion: Kline/Rodgers

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry for the formal dissolution of the nine virtual Schools in the Faculty, as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect immediately.

**CARRIED**

#### 5. University of Alberta 2013-2014 General Tuition Fee Proposal

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenters:* Martin Ferguson-Pell, Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Acting Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee; Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To set tuition fees for the 2013-2014 academic year.

*Discussion:*

Dr Babiuk assumed the role of Chair as Dr Ferguson-Pell co-presented this proposal.

Ms Clark introduced the both this and the 2013-2014 Program/Course Differential Fee and Market Modifier Fee Proposal by explaining that the issue of increasing tuition is tied to the Alberta Consumer Price Index (CPI) and is a highly-regulated process, resulting in the Alberta Ministry of Enterprise and Advanced Education (EAE) calculating the maximum increase at 2.15% for the 2013-2014 academic year. She added that, in accordance with this amount set by the Provincial Government and to maintain the vitality and success of the academy, the University Administration has proposed the maximum allowable tuition increase of 2.15%. She stated that the level of Provincial funding has declined at the University of Alberta in relation to its overall expenditures, with its commitment to a 2% annual grant increase while, at the same time, the University’s Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP) relied upon institutional budgeting set at an increase of 4%; combined with the current flat investment climate, the proposed tuition increase is a necessity to maintain educational planning and programs, manage facility operations, and honor agreements with staff and faculty regarding salary and benefits. She reported that despite a continued effort to reallocate revenue, the University continues to struggle to balance the budget, as required, and, therefore, all revenue opportunities must be maximized.

During the ensuing discussion, the presenters addressed questions and comments, including, but not limited to, the following: the outcome on the University’s budget if an increase was not assessed; speculation on future Provincial funding amounts; the possible impact of restructuring tuition for international students; the negative impact of tuition increases on students; and the relationship between tuition revenue and bursaries and scholarships.

Ms Clark reported that if the University of Alberta does not increase tuition, the institution will continue to run a deficit; there would be a 3.5% cut to Faculties; libraries and bursaries would be negatively impacted; and the necessary cuts would significantly erode the programs and services at the University of Alberta, negatively impacting the quality of education offered.

Dr Ferguson-Pell added that maintaining quality continues to be increasingly difficult, and the goal of Administration is to maintain quality with fewer resources without running the risk of seriously overextending staff. The Renaissance Committee has been created to tackle some of these cost-related stressors, balancing numbers and balancing the stress on employees. He noted that cuts would have a significant impact on overall institutional quality and on quality of life for students and staff. He continued by stating that, as a competitive research-intensive university, it is more expensive to function. The costs continue to increase. The funding received does not recognize the differential between more traditional universities and institutions such as the University of Alberta.

Ms Clark listed a number of student service and information technology (IT) endeavors that the Administration has continued to invest in, despite significant cost pressures. Further, she pointed out recent data which suggests that Canadian students are exiting the post-secondary environment with less debt than American students.

Motion: Williamson/Kline

(Opposed: Yamagishi)

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, recommend to the Board Finance and Property Committee that the Board of Governors approve a proposal from the University Administration for a general tuition fee increase of 2.15%, effective September 1, 2013 and as illustrated in the table below.

Undergraduate Tuition Fee Proposal <sup>a, c</sup>	2012-13	2013-14	Change <sup>b</sup>	
			\$	%
Domestic (Arts and Science)	\$5,269.20	\$5,382.00	\$112.80	2.14%
International, Base (Arts and Science)	\$5,269.20	\$5,382.00	\$112.80	
International, Differential (Arts and Science)	<u>\$13,048.80</u>	<u>\$13,328.40</u>	<u>\$279.60</u>	2.14%
Total International (Arts and Science)	\$18,318.00	\$18,710.40	\$392.40	
Business Administration Diploma <sup>a</sup>	2012-13	2013-14	Change <sup>b</sup>	
			\$	%
Domestic	\$2,799.60	\$2,859.60	\$60.00	2.14%
International, Base	\$2,799.60	\$2,859.60	\$60.00	
International, Differential	<u>\$6,943.20</u>	<u>\$7,092.00</u>	<u>\$148.80</u>	2.14%
Total, International	\$9,742.80	\$9,951.60	\$208.80	
Graduate Tuition Fee Proposal <sup>a, c</sup>	2012-13	2013-14	Change <sup>b</sup>	
			\$	%
Domestic, Course Based	\$3,708.00	\$3,787.20	\$79.20	2.14%
International, Course Based (Base Tuition)	\$3,708.00	\$3,787.20	\$79.20	
International, Course Based (Differential)	<u>\$3,708.00</u>	<u>\$3,787.20</u>	<u>\$79.20</u>	2.14%
Total International (Course Based)	\$7,416.00	\$7,574.40	\$158.40	
Domestic, Thesis 919 <sup>d</sup>	\$2,312.80	\$2,362.52	\$49.72	2.15%
International, Thesis 919 (Base Tuition)	\$2,312.80	\$2,362.52	\$49.72	
International, Thesis 919 (Differential)	<u>\$2,312.80</u>	<u>\$2,362.52</u>	<u>\$49.72</u>	2.15%
Total International Thesis 919 <sup>d</sup>	\$4,625.60	\$4,725.04	\$99.44	

Domestic, Thesis Based <sup>e</sup>	\$2,778.00	\$2,837.64	\$59.64	2.15%
International, Thesis Based (Base Tuition)	\$2,778.00	\$2,837.64	\$59.64	
International, Thesis Based (Differential)	<u>\$2,769.48</u>	<u>\$2,829.00</u>	<u>\$59.52</u>	2.15%
Total International, Thesis <sup>e</sup>	\$5,547.48	\$5,666.64	\$119.16	

- (a) Values are based on a full-time per term and full-time per year.
- (b) Tuition increases are applied to the fee index. As such, the effective year over year percentage change on the overall full-time program may be below 2.15%.
- (c) Excludes applicable market modifier and/or program specific differential fees.
- (d) Tuition applies to thesis students who were admitted to the program of study prior to Fall 2011 and are assessed the reduced thesis rate.
- (e) Tuition applies to thesis students who were admitted to the program of study beginning in Fall 2011 or later; this is based on an annual fee assessment (including spring/summer).

**CARRIED**

6. University of Alberta 2013-2014 Program/Course Differential Fee and Market Modifier Fee Proposal

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenters:* Martin Ferguson-Pell, Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Acting Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee; Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To set differential/market modifier fees for the 2013-2014 academic year.

*Discussion:*

As Item 5 and 6 were considered as one item as *per* the Chair, discussion on this matter was included with that for Item 5. See above.

Motion: Rodgers/Rinaldi

(Opposed: Yamagishi)

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, recommend to the Board Finance and Property Committee that the Board of Governors approve a proposal from the University Administration for a fee increase to program differentials, course differentials, and market modifiers of 2.15%, effective September 1, 2013, for:

- a) Faculty of Law, Juris Doctor (JD) program;
- b) Faculty of Business, Master of Business Administration (MBA) program;
- c) Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, Doctor of Medicine (MD) program;
- d) Faculty of Business, Undergraduate Business courses;
- e) Faculty of Engineering, Undergraduate Engineering courses;
- f) Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Pharmacy program; and,
- g) Graduate Studies, Thesis Based.

as set out in the table below.

Program & Course Differential Fee Proposal <sup>a</sup>	2012-13	2013-14	Change <sup>d</sup>	
			\$	%
Juris Doctor (JD) Program	\$4,500.60	\$4,597.36	\$96.76	2.15%

MBA Program	\$591.96 per course	\$604.68 per course	\$12.72 per course	2.15%
MD Program	\$4,500.60	\$4,597.36	\$96.76	2.15%
<b>Market Modifier Fee Proposal<sup>a, c</sup></b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>Change<sup>b</sup></b>	
			<b>\$</b>	<b>%</b>
Business	\$207.72 per course	\$212.18 per course	\$4.46 per course	2.15%
Engineering	\$175.64 per course	\$179.40 per course	\$3.76 per course	2.14%
Pharmacy	\$400.20 per course	\$408.72 per course	\$8.52 per course	2.13%
Graduate, Thesis Based <sup>d</sup>	\$848.28	\$866.40	\$18.12	2.14%

- (a) Values are based on a full-time per term and full-time per year, unless otherwise stated.
- (b) Tuition increases are applied to the fee index. As such, the effective year over year percentage change on the overall full-time program may be below 2.15%.
- (c) A grand-parenting structure applies in each case to allow for the exemption of these fees, under specific conditions, for students registered prior to September 2011.
- (d) Graduate Market Modifier applies only to thesis students beginning their program of study in Fall 2011 or later and is based on an annual fee assessment (including spring/summer).

**CARRIED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

7. General Faculties Council Delegation to the GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC) on Approval of Diploma Programs Offered by Centre collégial de l'Alberta de l'University of Alberta – Proposal from the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenters:* Bill Connor, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) ; Gerry Kendal, Vice-Provost and University Registrar

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To seek the GFC Executive Committee's approval (on behalf of General Faculties Council) to delegate responsibility for review and approval of diploma programming offered by the Centre collégial de l'Alberta to GFC APC (except in cases where a new funding model is proposed for a newly-proposed or existing diploma program offered by the Centre, in which case GFC APC would recommend onward to the Board of Governors).

*Discussion:*

Dr Connor explained that although, normally, a degree program goes through the GFC ASC Subcommittee on Standards (SOS) and the GFC Academic Standards Committee (ASC) and then on to GFC APC, in this case, both SOS and GFC ASC are being bypassed because the diploma programs to be offered by Centre collégial de l'Alberta are lower-level credentials, considerably different than the usual degree program proposals reviewed by these two bodies. He stated that since the programs being considered are a lower-level credential that does not appear in the standard University Calendar, he is attempting to keep things simple as far as their review and approval is concerned. He explained that this process is similar to the one for the approval by GFC ASC alone of credit and non-credit certificate programs.

Mr Yamagishi enquired about General Faculties Council's (GFC) role in approving such changes, and Mr Bodnar replied that if the item is considered urgent by both the proposers and by the GFC Executive Committee, it is within that committee's purview (under delegation of authority from GFC) to consider and approve it.

Dr Connor explained that these proposed changes to GFC APC's terms of reference were considered urgent in order to obtain timely approval for a couple of diploma programs that were currently under development by the Centre and were awaiting both review and the necessary funding by the Provincial Government.

8. Question Period

There were no questions.

**INFORMATION REPORTS**

9. Items Approved by the GFC Academic Planning Committee by E-Mail Ballots

There were no items.

10. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

**CLOSING SESSION**

11. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:25 pm.