General Faculties Council  
Academic Planning Committee  
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, February 15, 2017  
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:
Steven Dew Chair, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Lorne Babiuk Member, Vice-President (Research)
Nadir Erbilgin Member, Academic Staff-at-large
Sarah Ficko Member, President, Graduate Students' Association
Manpreet Grewal Member, Undergraduate Student-at-Large
Loren Kline Member, Academic Staff-at-large
Gitta Kulczycki Member, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Pierre-Yves Mocquais Member, Dean Representative
Roger Moore Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Fahim Rahman Member, President, Students' Union
Sarah Stahlke Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Eleni Stroulia Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC

Non-Voting Members:  
Lisa Collins Member, Vice-Provost and University Registrar

Presenter(s):  
Steven Dew Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Chair, GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC)
Scott Jeffrey Associate Dean (Academic), Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES)
André Costopoulos Vice-Provost and Dean of Students
Wayne Patterson Executive Director, Human Resource Services and Acting Associate Vice-President (Human Resources)
Lisa Collins Vice-Provost and University Registrar
Gitta Kulczycki Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
Andrew Sharman Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
Deborah Burshtyn Member, GFC Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Governance Including Delegated Authority
Marina Banister Vice-President (Academic) Students' Union (SU)

Staff:  
Meg Brolley, 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: Kline/Moore

**THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda.**

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of January 18, 2017

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Erbilgin/Kline

**THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Minutes of January 18, 2017.**

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair updated the members on the Provincial Government’s ongoing reviews of the tuition framework and post-secondary funding model noting that both may impact resourcing of new programs and the types of programs expected from the University.

**ACTION ITEMS**

4. Proposal for the Termination of the Bachelor of Science Agriculture, Range and Pasture Management Major, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Scott Jeffrey

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To discuss the approval of the (proposed) Termination of the BSc Agriculture, Range and Pasture Management Major.

*Discussion:* Dr Jeffrey reported that this program had been suspended since 2012 due to low enrolment and that the last student in the program had graduated in spring 2015. There was no further discussion.

Motion: Erbilgin/Mocquais

**THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend to General Faculties Council, the termination of the Bachelor of Science Agriculture, Range and Pasture Management Major as set forth in Attachment 1, and as proposed by the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, to take effect upon final approval.**

CARRIED

5. Sexual Violence Policy and Procedure

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* André Costopoulos; Wayne Patterson
Purpose of the Proposal: To recommend approval of the Sexual Violence Policy, Procedure and related Information documents.

Discussion:
Dr Costopoulos noted that the proposal, drafted with extensive feedback and consultation, represents an institutional statement of principles surrounding awareness, survivor support, and due process for those accused of sexual violence.

A member proposed a friendly amendment to the definition of Distribution of Intimate Images to include child pornography to include “images prohibited by law”. It was agreed that this amendment would be included subject to the approval of the Chair of the GFC Campus Law Review Committee (CLRC).

GFC Secretary’s Note: Following the meeting, the Chair of CLRC and General Counsel were consulted and did not approve the amendment to the definition, citing the following rationale:
1. No amendment is required to the definition in the Policy because conduct that violates any municipal by-law, Provincial or Federal statute or regulation is already included within Section 30.3.6(2) of the Code of Student Behaviour - Breach of Rules External to the Code.
2. Amending the definition in this manner runs contrary to statutory interpretive principles.
3. Related to #2, the proposed amendment does not align with the unifying concept/essential element outlined in the definition of Distribution of Intimate Images. That is, all of the prohibitions apply to non-consensual distribution. To add child pornography or other images “prohibited by law” fundamentally alters the nature of the conduct that is intended to be captured by the definition. [Children cannot consent to the distribution of their images, especially pornographic ones].
The proposal therefore stands as presented.

Motion: Grewal/Stroulia

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend to General Faculties Council the Sexual Violence Policy and Procedure, as set forth in Attachments 1-5, to take effect upon final approval. CARRIED

6. Proposed New Mandatory Student Instructional Support Fees, Proposed Changes to Existing Mandatory Student Instructional Support Fees, Proposed Deletion of Mandatory Student Instructional Support Fee, and Proposed Change to Other Fee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Lisa Collins

Purpose of the Proposal: To establish new Mandatory Student Instructional Support Fees, Changes Existing Mandatory Student Instructional Support Fee, Deletion of existing Mandatory Student Instructional Support Fee and Change to Other Fee as outlined in each proposal.

Discussion:
The Chair noted that, upon request of a member, ENGG 490 and EDU 211 would be extracted from the main Motion to be considered individually.

Ms Collins reported that the proposal includes course- and program-specific fees levied by departments for experiential learning opportunities such as field trips. She explained that the Registrar’s Advisory Committee on
Fees (RACF) reviews these items each year and that students are represented on RACF. She noted that these items require final approval from the Board of Governors.

During the discussion, members identified that some of the items, such as EAS 237, represented a substantial increase in costs. In response, it was reported that in previous years, some of these items had significant industry supplementation and that without those resources they would be impossible to maintain.

A member also sought clarification surrounding the notion that an increase in deposit amount would increase enrolment, and it was noted that there was indeed evidence to support this for undergraduate students.

Motion: Moore/Kline

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, that the Board of Governors approve:

• the proposed New Mandatory Student Instructional Support Fees (set forth in Attachment 1 excluding ENGG 490 and EDU 211)
• the proposed Changes to Existing Mandatory Student Instructional Support Fees (set forth in Attachment 2)
• the proposed Deletion of Mandatory Student Instructional Support Fee (set forth in Attachment 3)
• and the proposed Change to Other Fee (set forth in Attachment 4)

as submitted on behalf of the relevant Faculties/Departments by the Registrar’s Advisory Committee on Fees (RACF), to take effect as noted in each respective attachment.

CARRIED

The committee then considered the proposed fee for ENGG 490; a member expressed concern about students being required to sponsor travel and hosting costs for speakers. He noted that this fee seemed instructional in nature. In response, it was noted that RACF, during consideration of the proposal, agreed that the fee did meet the UAPPOL definition and that it was at the request of students to bring this experience to campus. It was noted that this is not a mandatory course for all students; it will be limited to students in the Business minor and will provide an opportunity for these students to interact with speakers in a smaller group.

Motion: Kline/Babiuk

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, that the Board of Governors approve:

• the proposed New Mandatory Student Instructional Support Fee, ENGG 490, (set forth in Attachment 1)

as submitted on behalf of the Faculty of Engineering by the Registrar’s Advisory Committee on Fees (RACF), to take effect as noted in Attachment 1.

CARRIED

The committee then considered the proposed fee for EDU 211; a member indicated that this item would benefit from additional time to secure student input. The Registrar noted that she had received a letter from the President of the Education Students’ Association in support of the proposed fee after the agenda had been distributed and read the letter aloud to the committee. It was noted that the Faculty had covered this cost in previous years but that this was no longer sustainable. The committee discussed the impact of delaying the approval of this item including internal governance timelines and the time required to advertise this new fee to students, whether enough student consultation was obtained, and whether it might set a negative precedent in the future in regards to student consultation.

Motion: Rahman/Ficko

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee Table the the proposed New Mandatory Student Instructional
Support Fee, EDU 211, as set out in Attachment 1 and as submitted on behalf of the Faculty of Education by the Registrar’s Advisory Committee on Fees (RACF), to allow two additional weeks for student consultation.  

DEFEATED

Motion: Moore/Kline  
One opposed

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, that the Board of Governors approve:

- the proposed New Mandatory Student Instructional Support Fee, EDU 211, (set forth in Attachment 1)

as submitted on behalf of the Faculty of Education by the Registrar’s Advisory Committee on Fees (RACF), to take effect as noted in Attachment 1.

CARRIED


Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew; Andrew Sharman; Gitta Kulczycki

Purpose of the Proposal: This item presents the Budget and Capital Plan components of the CIP for approval. The remainder of the document will be submitted for approval through the subsequent governance cycle.

Discussion:
The Chair indicated that this proposal includes the Budget and Capital Plan components of the Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP) and that the remainder of the CIP would be brought forward for consideration at a later date.

Ms Kulczycki and Mr Sharman provided an overview of the Budget and Capital Plan.

Before discussion commenced, the Chair indicated his willingness to work with Ms Ficko around the reference to student involvement in the utilization of the Academic Price Index (API) within the CIP. Members discussed the use of API in the document and whether additional scholarships and bursaries would be made available to international students in the face of higher tuition costs.

Members also discussed the impact on the budget of the unionization of Residences staff, projects aimed at carbon reduction, the financial impact of patent rights, support for international graduate students, IT contracts, and what is being done to address high vacancy rates and increased maintenance costs in student residences on campus.

Motion: Babiuk/Moore

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee recommend, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, that the Board of Governors approve Appendix A: Financial and Budget Information, and Appendix F: Capital Plan, of the University of Alberta’s Comprehensive Institutional Plan (2017-2020), as set forth in Attachments 1 and 2.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Terms of Reference TOUR of GFC Standing Committees
Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Deborah Burshtyn; Marina Banister

Purpose of the Proposal: Members of the GFC Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Governance Including Delegated Authority are touring GFC Standing Committees to solicit input, perspectives, and innovative ideas on moving academic governance into the future. Ideas and discussions will contribute to further discussions and consultation and inform the final report and recommendations which come forward to GFC in April 2017.

Discussion:
Dr Burshtyn provided the committee with observations made by the GFC Ad Hoc Committee including the range of items covered within the APC mandate, APC’s role in program approval and that of the Academic Standards Committee and the Executive Committee, the role of APC in relation to the GFC Committee on the Learning Environment (CLE) and the GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC), and the consideration of establishing a specific GFC Research Committee.

Members identified a number of items which would benefit from clarification in the current terms of reference including APC’s role in approving new buildings and policies surrounding campus planning, whether APC is the proper body to approve college-level programming, and that members enjoy the range of areas currently within APC’s mandate. Regarding a GFC Research Committee, it was noted that a similar advisory body already reviews institutional research and that it might be disadvantageous to single out research.

A member noted that CLE lacks any delegated authority from GFC, and that certain big projects such as the CLE Subcommittee on Attributes and Competencies Final Report, endorsed by the committee in 2013, did not result in any actions by GFC.

9. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

10. Items Approved by GFC Academic Planning Committee by e-mail Ballots

There were no items.

11. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

12. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.