



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Academic Planning Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, November 08, 2017
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Steven Dew, Chair
Roger Moore, Vice-Chair
Jason Acker
Benjamin Angus
Marina Banister
Walter Dixon
Shannon Erichsen
Gitta Kulczycki
Christopher Mackay

Jerine Pegg
Masoud Khademi (Delegate)
Non-voting:
Lisa Collins

REGRETS:
Darcy Bemister
Katy Campbell
Florence Glanfield

Sarah Stahlke
Eleni Stroulia

STAFF:
Meg Brolley, Coordinator
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: Acker/Moore

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of October 25, 2017

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Moore/Acker

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Minutes of October 25, 2017.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair provided a summary of issues discussed at a recent national meeting of university provosts, including institutional budgeting, the impact of changing demographics on university enrolments in eastern Canada, the development of post-secondary sexual violence policies, and trends in Ontario such as institution-specific mandates and workplace learning experiences for students.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Proposal from the Faculty of Graduate Studies & Research for a new course-based MA in History of Art, Design and Visual Cultural (HADVC), Department of Art and Design

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Robin Everall, Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Elizabeth (Betsy) Boone, Professor, History of Art, Design, and Visual Culture, Department of Art and Design

Purpose of the Proposal: This proposal is to add a course-based MA in the History of Art, Design and Visual Culture.

Discussion:

Dr Boone indicated that this proposal uses existing courses. She noted that the program will prepare students for professional and managerial careers in the arts and that several prominent members of the arts community have offered support for this flexible option.

Dr Everall noted that the proposal received unanimous support at FGSR Council.

During the discussion, members enquired about the cost of the program, as well as the course schedule.

Motion: Angus/Moore

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, with delegated authority, a new course based MA in History of Art, Design and Visual Culture (HADVC) in the Department of Art and Design, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Arts, and as set forth in Attachment 1.

CARRIED

5. Proposal from the Faculty of Graduate Studies & Research for a new combined MSc in Physical Therapy/PhD in Rehabilitation Science (MScPT/PhD) program, Department of Physical Therapy and the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Robin Everall, Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research; Patricia Manns, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

Purpose of the Proposal: The combined MScPT/PhD program brings together two programs to achieve efficiencies that help exceptional students seamlessly complete combined clinical and research studies.

Discussion:

Dr Manns indicated that this proposal allows students to complete a MScPT/PhD combined program in an effort to provide specialized training for qualified individuals interested in pursuing a career in physical therapy in a research-focused clinician-scientist role. She added that there will be up to two spots available per year in the program and that students can start in either the MScPT or the PhD program.

The committee discussed students committing to the combined program and the Dean's discretion on exiting into a single program; it was confirmed that graduates would receive two parchments.

Motion: Banister/Ericksen

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve, with delegated authority, a new combined MSc in Physical Therapy/PhD in Rehabilitation Science (MScPT/PhD) in the Department of Physical Therapy, as submitted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, and as set forth in Attachment 1.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. Update on the Budget

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew; Gitta Kulczycki

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

Dr Dew led members through a slide presentation outlining the university's plans to increase the alignment of budgeting processes with strategic goals. During this presentation, he referred to ongoing government reviews of funding and tuition models; the budgetary pressures on the provincial government and the university; provided a review of the budget model and multi-year planning process; and gave an overview of anticipated reductions in the 2018-2019 budget.

Dr Dew indicated planning assumptions include no increase in the two major revenue sources for the university: tuition and the Campus Alberta grant. He also reported that the university aims to eliminate the structural deficit and reduce reliance on investment income to support ongoing base expenditures by implementing multi-year budget planning and accountability processes and the developing tools to ensure the university's long-term financial sustainability.

During the discussion, members discussed what was meant by a structural deficit; the roles of students, student associations and deans in the budgeting process; possible revenue generation; job losses and incentives packages. Ms Kulczycki confirmed that the reduction would apply across all portfolios but that the decisions could be made at that level to apply the reductions differentially across the portfolio. Dr Dew summarized that it is early in the planning process and no decisions have been made at this point.

Dr Dew noted that the President would be presenting this information at the Campus Forum on Financial Sustainability on November 9, all were welcome to attend.

7. 2016-17 Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees (MNIFs) Annual Report

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew

Purpose of the Proposal: This is the first report that has been produced under the new MNIF oversight and accountability structure.

Discussion:

The Chair provided a summary of the report to members, noting that it demonstrates the total revenues generated through MNIFs and the related expenses. He indicated that report provides a clear connection

between the fees and the services provided and noted than practices in the past where the fees went into general revenue. He further noted that these services also receive support from base budget funds.

He added that Report was developed in consultation with undergraduate and graduate students and relevant Units through the Joint MNIF Oversight Committee, which includes representatives from the Students' Union (SU), the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) and the Units that receive MNIF.

A member noted that the process has been collaborative but that MNIFs remain high in Alberta.

8. Question Period

A member posed a question in relation to IT in academic governance.

INFORMATION REPORTS

9. 2018-19 Academic Price Index (API) Calculation for Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew

Purpose of the Proposal: For information.

Discussion:

The Chair reported that this item provides the calculated increase to MNIFs using the API calculation that was agreed upon by the university, Students' Union, and Graduate Students' Association in February 2016 as part of the MNIF restructuring. He further noted that the current tuition freeze and impending tuition fee regulations to be announced by the provincial government add uncertainty as to whether this increase will be applied.

A member noted that undergraduate students do not agree with the concept of API applying to tuition.

Secretary's note: A member also noted that the Graduate Students' Association does not support the use of API for tuition increases.

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 3:25 p.m.

