The University of Alberta governs itself with a bicameral governance structure (literally, it is governance in two chambers): Board of Governors and General Faculties Council.

Although the Board is the senior of the two, the Board and GFC share and balance power within the University.

The University Governance Unit, under the direction of the University Secretary, provides support for all areas of the Board and GFC.
Where Does GFC’s Authority Come From?

Province of Alberta enacts

LEGISLATION: *Post-Secondary Learning Act* of 2003 (PSLA) that establishes

AUTONOMOUS ENTITY: University of Alberta, with an ACADEMIC GOVERNING BODY: General Faculties Council (subject to the Board)
Collegial Governance

System of governance that depends heavily upon the participation of colleagues to establish and realize a shared purpose

Provides an opportunity for citizens to participate in decision-making, and it is the hallmark of academic decision-making
GFC Principles for Delegation of Authority

GFC Principles for Standing Committee Composition

GFC Roles and Responsibilities of Members

GFC Meeting Procedural Rules

Report of the GFC Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Governance including Delegated Authority - April 2017

Report of the GFC Executive Transition Committee - Implementation of ad hoc Committee recommendations - April 2019
Resources for Members

GFC Guidebook

Member Zone

- Committee Terms of Reference
- Past Agendas and Minutes
- Upcoming Materials

Governance Team
Proposed Mandate: Promote excellence in teaching and learning: learning environments, assessment and evaluation, teaching innovations, teaching resources and support, and educational experience.

Some Previous Agenda Items:
- Open Educational Resources
- Teaching Assessment and Evaluation
- Revisions to Graduate Teaching and Learning Program
- Curriculum Renewal
- Classroom Technology

GFC CLE Terms of Reference (current)
Meeting Agenda:

• Action Items
• Discussion Items
• Early Consultation Items
• Information Items
• Question Period
What do we do if a fire alarm goes off during the meeting?