



General Faculties Council  
 Executive Committee  
 Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, March 07, 2016  
 2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)  
 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**ATTENDEES:**

Voting Members:

David Turpin	Chair, President
Lisa Collins	Member, Vice-Provost and University Registrar
Steven Dew	Member, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Duncan Elliott	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Paul Jurasz	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Anita Molzahn	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Steve Patten	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Fahim Rahman	Member, Vice-President (Academic), Students' Union
Sean Robertson	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Harsh Thaker	Member, Vice-President (Academic), Graduate Students' Association
Jonathan White	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC
Sheena Wilson	Member, Academic Staff, Member of GFC

Presenter(s):

David Turpin	President and Chair, GFC Executive Committee
Steven Dew	Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Janine Andrews	Executive Director, Museums and Collections Services
Duncan Elliott	GFC Executive Committee
Martin Ferguson-Pell	Vice-Principal, Peter Lougheed Leadership College
Anne Bailey	Director, Internal Communications, University Relations

Staff:

Meg Brolley, General Faculties Council (GFC) Secretary and Manager of GFC Services  
 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: Collins/White

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Agenda.
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**CARRIED**

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of February 1, 2016

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Thaker/Jurasz

THAT the GFC Executive approve the Minutes of February 1, 2016.

**CARRIED**

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair welcomed the incoming Vice-President (Academic) of the Students' Union (SU), Ms Marina Banister, to the meeting, and offered congratulations to incoming SU President, Mr Fahim Rahman. Mr Harsh Thaker noted that the incoming Vice-President (Academic) of the Graduate Students' Association (GSA), Mr Firouz Khodayari, was not able to attend the meeting.

The Chair, in addition, reported that the development process for the institutional strategic plan continues, and that university leaders continue to advocate for funding from the Provincial Government. In regards to the Federal Budget, the Chair noted that he continues to work on obtaining targeted infrastructure funding.

**ACTION ITEMS**

4. Proposed Editorial Changes to the Code of Student Behaviour and Code of Applicant Behaviour regarding name change of the Office of Student Judicial Affairs to Student Conduct and Accountability

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter:* Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To reflect that the name of the Office of Student Judicial Affairs has been changed to Student Conduct and Accountability within the Code of Student Behaviour (COSB) and the Code of Applicant Behaviour (COAB).

*Discussion:*

Dr Dew confirmed that there were no changes to the administrative structure of the unit following the name change.

Motion: Collins/Molzahn

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties, the changes to the Code of Student Behaviour to reflect the name change of the Office of Student Judicial Affairs to Student Conduct and Accountability as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect March 11, 2016.

**CARRIED**

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties, the changes to the Code of Applicant Behaviour to reflect the name change of the Office of Student Judicial Affairs to Student Conduct and Accountability as set forth in Attachment 2, to take effect March 11, 2016.

**CARRIED**

5. Proposed Amendments to the Composition of the Selection/Review Committee for the Dean of the Faculty of Native Studies

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter:* Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To amend the UAPPOL Faculty Deans Selection Procedure Appendix A: Dean Selection Committees for Individual Faculties, Native Studies, to ensure clarity and more inclusive and better balanced committee representation.

*Discussion:*

Dr Dew reported that the proposal includes various changes to the Faculty Deans Selection Procedure Appendix A: Dean Selection Committees for Individual Committees for the Faculty of Native Studies, including directly populating the Deans Selection Committee with faculty members, the addition of a graduate student, and the aspirational goal to work towards an Indigenous majority on the Deans Selection Committee.

In a discussion around the use of the term “Aboriginal” rather than “Indigenous” members noted that: there is a lack of consensus currently on the use of these terms; there was no debate on this language when this item was discussed at the Faculty Council of Native Studies; that the term “Aboriginal” is used throughout the University Calendar: and that this represents a larger, complex issue surrounding inclusivity.

Motion: Patten/Rahman

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, under delegated authority from the Board of Governors and the General Faculties Council, proposed changes to the composition of the Dean Selection Committee for Dean of the Faculty of Native Studies as submitted by the Office of the Provost and Vice- President (Academic) and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect immediately.

**CARRIED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### 6. University of Alberta Museums Annual Report to General Faculties Council

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting files.

*Presenter:* Janine Andrews, Executive Director, Museums and Collections Services

*Purpose of the Proposal:* The University of Alberta Museums Annual Report for July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015, including the report of the U of A Museums Policy and Planning Committee.

*Discussion:*

Ms Andrews spoke to the annual report for General Faculties Council (GFC), noting that the University of Alberta Museums are comprised of research and teaching collections across five Faculties, include 17 million objects and specimens, and that 90% of collections are in the Sciences. She reported that the collection is diverse and available across a multitude of campus spaces.

In terms of identified issues within the Report, Ms Andrews highlighted adherence to policy, the appropriateness of policies, the work of returning human remains from Anthropology, sustainable facilities, reviews to maintain accreditation, and the end of the formalized relationship between the City of Edmonton and the University of Alberta with respect to Enterprise Square.

In addition to commendation on the Report itself, members enquired about the use and funding of Enterprise Square. A member also enquired about the possibility of acquiring a piece of Inuit art for the outdoor space around Pembina Hall. Ms Andrews noted that public art is eligible for federal grant funding.

The Chair thanked Ms Andrews for her Report, and noted that it would be included in the March 21, 2016 GFC agenda.

## 7. Draft Institutional Strategic Plan

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter:* David Turpin, President and Chair, GFC Executive Committee

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To discuss the draft institutional strategic plan.

### *Discussion:*

The Chair provided members with a summary of the consultation process of the development of the institutional strategic plan (ISP), and noted that the draft document would be publicly available within the next week.

The Chair reported that the document is built around five goals: Build, Experience, Excel, Engage, Sustain, and that there are objectives, strategies and stories attached to each goal. He stated that the ISP was written to allow readers the ability to peruse the document in three minutes, 30 minutes or three hours, depending on the level of desired detail. The Chair invited members to comment on the document, as well as the presentation of the document to General Faculties Council (GFC).

Members expressed support for the document and noted that the document is well organized and relatable to several audiences. A member noted that the process of developing the ISP was beneficial and that members of the community have expressed satisfaction that their comments and suggestions were incorporated.

Members discussed the document's focus on individuals *versus* programs, and the Chair explained that the document is meant to reflect broad-based activities undertaken at the academy, while at the same time remaining flexible in terms of future areas of scholarly focus. A member added that although the two focal points may seem to be in conflict, that they are not contradictory.

The Chair requested member feedback in terms of the ISP's presentation to GFC. A member suggested that a summary of the objectives could be presented to GFC.

A member commented on the methods used to weave the overarching narrative throughout the document and noted that the introductory section was bold, and seemed to include elements of institutional branding. He continued by suggesting that 'Engage' could be a better first objective.

The Chair replied that this issue was discussed at length by members of the ISP Planning Advisory Committee, and that ultimately, 'Build' was selected as the first objective within the document due to its broad inclusion of so many people at the university. A member added support for this decision, explaining that it placed the people of the community first.

In relation to the intended audience of the document, the Chair explained that it was written for internal community members as well as external individuals recognizing that the variety of audience members who may access the document. He also noted that the document seeks to emphasize the importance of being a public institution.

Dr Bailey reported that changes had been made to the draft surrounding 'Mission' as well as the addition of grammatical parallelism throughout the document. The Chair added that the ISP Planning Advisory Committee would be discussing the inclusion of language surrounding institutional autonomy and the importance of self-governance.

A member pointed out that Edmonton has not been a traditional gathering place for Inuit peoples. A member suggested more elaboration surrounding consultation within the document.

The Chair thanked members for their input.

#### 8. Academic Governance Working Group - Update

There were no documents.

*Presenter:* Duncan Elliott, Professor, Faculty of Engineering, and Chair, Academic Governance Working Group

*Purpose of the Proposal:* For information/discussion.

#### *Discussion:*

Dr Elliott reported that the Academic Governance Working Group had met twice and reviewed source documents; he noted further that there was a need for additional members on the Working Group. Dr Elliot provided members with a summary of the issues identified by the Working Group: transparency; delegation of authority from GFC to its Standing Committees; the sentiment that nothing substantive comes before GFC; Terms of Reference for all GFC Standing Committees; each Standing Committee's mandate.

Dr Elliott suggested that GFC could create an *ad hoc* committee to review these issues in greater detail, or that GFC could ask the GFC Executive Committee to draft Terms of Reference for an *ad hoc* committee.

Dr Elliot noted that the June 30, 2016 deadline within Motion I of the January 25, 2016 meeting of GFC was to ensure timely response. Members discussed the remaining dates of GFC during this academic year. Ms Haggarty-France noted that May 30, 2016 is the last scheduled GFC meeting, and Ms Brolley added that GFC members had discussed holding a special GFC meeting on May 2, 2016.

Dr Elliott replied that although GFC members may not like the idea of extending the timeline of the process, that a proper review of all delegations from GFC to its Standing Committees requires extra time, and that more member participation is needed on the Working Group. He stated that an *ad hoc* committee might do a better job of reviewing this issue.

Mr Rahman indicated his wish to be included on the Working Group. Mr Thaker noted that perhaps a student member could propose a Motion to extend the deadline, in order for students to attend GFC to participate in this important discussion, since many students leave campus after final examinations. He added that GFC Standing Committees should be reviewing their Terms of Reference regularly, and perhaps report back to GFC at the first meeting of the next academic year.

The Chair expressed concern that extending the deadline may not be received well by GFC and proposed to report to GFC on the early work conducted by the Working Group including a high-level review of delegations and that there were no recommended changes to existing delegations at this time. He stated that the operational changes could be accommodated quickly, but that the dialogue on principles would require further discussion.

Members discussed the need to move forward quickly and increase membership diversity on the *ad hoc* committee or Working Group. A member reported that more time is needed to properly review this issue.

On the issue of reviewing delegations, a member asked whether mapping existing delegations could be realistically undertaken. In response, Ms Haggarty-France noted that this group could map out delegations, but

that more time is needed to ensure that Chairs of the GFC Standing Committees can be involved. A member stated that members would be happy to hear about the level of consultation being done.

A member thanked members of the Working Group for their presentation.

Members engaged in a discussion about the next steps in the process, including continuing on with current delegations, or asking GFC to establish an *ad hoc* committee with GFC representation. Members discussed including specific Motions around the *ad hoc* committee's Terms of Reference, and some of the operational suggestions. Members discussed how members could be recruited to join the *ad hoc* committee.

The Chair summarized the points for the presentation to GFC noting that the Working Group has reported back to the GFC Executive Committee and University Governance, and that the Governance Office has implemented the operational changes. He suggested that the presentation at GFC include a review of delegations, as per Motion I, and a note that the Working Group does not see a compelling need to change current delegations, but recognizes that a broader range of consultations are needed. He added that he would like GFC to be made aware that the Working Group has done a significant amount of work already. He confirmed that members of the GFC Executive Committee would have the opportunity to see the GFC presentation and material and to provide feedback prior to posting of the GFC meeting materials.

Members requested an update in relation to operational suggestions, including creating a listserv for all meeting material and archiving entire meeting packages. Ms Brolley reported that University Governance is working on creating a subscription-based email distribution list for all GFC Standing Committees, and that, effective March 1, 2016, all meeting materials for GFC Standing Committees will remain accessible on the governance website.

Dr Dew proposed placing two documents in front of GFC: first, the Terms of Reference for each Standing Committee, with a highlight of their delegations, and second, a summary of all Motions considered by GFC's Standing Committees from the last year. Several members expressed their support for this presentation of material, adding that it provides GFC with exact information on items being approved with delegated authority from GFC. In relation to this, a member suggested providing GFC members with contextual information surrounding why former President Samarasekera initiated her review of GFC in the first place.

The Chair thanked members for their feedback, and reported that a revised slide presentation, as well as a summary of Motions undertaken by GFC's Standing Committees, would be circulated for comment by the end of the week.

#### 9. Update on the Peter Lougheed Leadership College (PLLC)

There were no documents.

*Presenter:* Martin Ferguson-Pell, Vice-Principal, Peter Lougheed Leadership College (PLLC)

*Purpose of the Proposal:* For information/discussion.

*Discussion:*

Dr Ferguson-Pell presented members with a short video on the Peter Lougheed Leadership College (PLLC) and asked members for advice on its presentation to General Faculties Council (GFC). He reported that students at the PLLC could also appear in person at GFC to present their personal experiences within the program.

Members noted that there remains concern with GFC of the PLLC's classification as an administrative rather than an academic unit and suggested that this should be acknowledged. A member noted that teaching and

leadership training occurs throughout campus, outside of the PLLC, and that there is concern that GFC has not had the opportunity to shape the leadership curriculum being offered as part of the PLLC.

Members indicated that a high level presentation on the evolution of PLLC could be presented, but also that the focus of the presentation should be forward looking and include how the academic elements of the program are approved through GFC committees and processes.

Dr Ferguson-Pell thanked members for their comments.

10. Question Period

There were no questions.

**ACTION ITEMS**

11. Draft Agenda for the March 21, 2016 Meeting of General Faculties Council (GFC)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter:* David Turpin, President and Chair, GFC Executive Committee

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To approve the agenda for the General Faculties Council meeting of March 21, 2016.

*Discussion:*

The Chair provided a summary of the proposed GFC Agenda for the March 21, 2016 meeting, and following a brief discussion, the item was approved by members.

Motion: Patten/Collins

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the agenda for the General Faculties Council meeting of March 21, 2016.

**CARRIED**

**INFORMATION REPORTS**

12. Items Approved by the GFC Executive Committee by e-mail Ballots

There were no items.

13. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

**CLOSING SESSION**

14. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.