



General Faculties Council
Executive Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, December 05, 2016
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Steven Dew	Acting Chair, GFC Executive Committee
Marina Banister	Member, Vice-President (Academic), Students' Union
Heather Bruce	Member, Academic Staff, elected from/by GFC
Lisa Collins	Member, Vice-Provost and University Registrar
Duncan Elliott	Member, Academic Staff, elected from/by GFC
Sarah Ficko (Delegate)	Member, Vice-President (Academic), Graduate Students' Association
Anita Molzahn	Member, Academic Staff, elected from/by GFC
Eleni Stroulia	Member, Academic Staff, elected from/by GFC
Sheena Wilson	Member, Academic Staff, elected from/by GFC

Presenter(s):

Steven Dew	Acting Chair, GFC Executive Committee
Michael Peterson	Appeals and Compliance Officer, University Governance
Deborah Eerkes	Director, Student Conduct and Accountability
André Costopoulos	Vice-Provost and Dean of Students
Janine Andrews	Executive Director, Museums and Collections Services
Jocelyn Hall	Chair, Museums Policy and Planning Committee
Jason Carey	Associate Dean, Faculty of Engineering
Arvind Rajendran	Associate Chair (Undergraduate), Faculty of Engineering

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: Elliott/Stroulia

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of October 31, 2016

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Discussion:

The Acting Chair reported that a Secretary's Note will be added to the Minutes reflecting that SU Health and Dental coverage deadlines would be re-inserted into the Academic Schedule; it was further noted that the Vice-Provost was the only presenter for that item.

Motion: Banister/Bruce

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Minutes of October 31, 2016, as amended.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Acting Chair

The Acting Chair announced the University's newest Rhodes Scholar: Yasmin Rafiei. He also reported on the reviews of the funding model and tuition fee regulation being undertaken by the Provincial Government. He noted that the outcomes of these reviews are critical to the University's financial health. The Acting Chair reported on additional areas of review including labour legislation, sexual violence policies and an inventory of Indigenous activities and supports.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. University of Alberta Museums Annual Report for the Period July 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Janine Andrews; Jocelyn Hall

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

Ms Andrews provided members with highlights of the annual Report noting its alignment with *For the Public Good*. She reported that museums and collections held by the University of Alberta are used across all Faculties and enhance teaching and research at the academy and emphasized the need for purpose built facilities.

Dr Hall explained that community engagement, both online and in-person exhibitions, has been a particular area of focus during the past year. She reported on challenges faced over the last year including pest management, relocating collections, and inventory methodology.

During the discussion, comments and questions from the committee included: distributed management of collections across many locations, online resources available, the certification of Museum Objects and Collections as Cultural Property in relation to the Canadian Cultural Property Export Review Board (CCPERB). , potential partnerships with other organizations such as the Royal Alberta Museum and the challenges with access for teaching and research; and the challenges to having collections in other facilities (such as the Research and Collection Resource Facility (RCRF) where travel time could be prohibitive for students.

5. Student Conduct and Accountability Annual Statistical Report (2015-2016)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Deborah Eerkes

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

Ms Eerkes provided members with a summary of the annual Report noting an increase in severity of sanctions related to the nature of cases, an increase to violations of safety or dignity likely due to increased reporting, and a decrease in alcohol related incidents. She further noted an increase in self-reporting of mental health issues.

A member enquired whether there would be changes to reporting of violations of safety or dignity would be further defined once a Sexual Violence Policy was in place. Ms Eerkes responded that more detailed reporting would be possible once definitions were approved. During the discussion, members commented or asked questions about: the difference between expulsion and exclusion, restorative justice processes, length of suspensions, differences between undergraduate and graduate student populations, bribery. On the question of discipline following a student to another institution, Ms Eerkes noted that institutions do not communicate these sanctions beyond what is noted on student transcripts.

6. Annual Report of the Appeals and Compliance Officer (2015-2016)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Michael Peterson

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

Mr Peterson provided members with a description of his role as Appeals and Compliance Officer. He provided the highlights of the Report noting that, while the statistics show a drop in appeals, this is reflective of a point in time and may be impacted by when faculty decisions are made. He reported an increase in appeals in relation to non-academic offences but noted that the majority of appeals are for academic offences.

During the discussion, a member sought clarification on trends in sanctions being confirmed, varied or quashed; Mr Peterson responded that these outcomes are based on a unique batch of cases heard in any one year. Regarding faculty specific statistics on charge and case counts, Mr Peterson confirmed that if the count was related to a specific course, this was reported under the faculty offering the course rather than the student's home faculty.

7. Sexual Violence Policy and Procedures

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): André Costopoulos

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

Dr Costopoulos indicated that the draft Sexual Violence Policy and Procedure is a statement of the University's commitment towards education, community engagement and a survivor-based approach in response to sexual violence on the campuses of the University of Alberta. He reported that this Policy partners with existing policies such as the Code of Student Behaviour and staff collective agreements.

During the discussion, there were comments or questions on the following: the need for education and training for staff to be able to assist students who have experienced sexual violence, accommodations for students, bad faith complaints, how to measure impact of the policy, the potential increase in the number of complaints which will be received, the concurrent but separate University process and criminal process.

ACTION ITEMS

8. Proposal from the Faculty of Engineering to add ENGG 404 to the List of Courses with Consolidated

Exams

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Arvind Rajendran; Jason Carey

Purpose of the Proposal: To add ENGG 404 to the list of courses for which consolidated final exams are scheduled.

Discussion:

Dr Rajendran explained that this proposal addresses the recent addition of this mandatory course on safety and risk management for all students in specialized engineering programs and the subsequent increase in number of students taking the course. Dr Rajendran confirmed that Engineering students were consulted during the development of this proposal.

Ms Collins reminded members that the increased requests for consolidated examinations provide challenges for scheduling in the current number of days set aside for this purpose.

Motion: Bruce/Wilson

THAT GFC Executive Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the addition of ENGG 404 Engineering Safety and Risk Management – Leadership in Risk Management to the list of courses with Consolidated Final Examination, as submitted by the Faculty of Engineering, to take effect 2017-2018.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

9. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

10. Items Approved by the GFC Executive Committee by email ballots

There were no items.

11. Information Items Forwarded to GFC Executive Committee between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

12. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.