



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Executive Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, December 10, 2018
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

David Turpin, Chair
Masoud Aliramezani
Akanksha Bhatnagar
Steven Dew
Duncan Elliott
Mary Forhan
Bill Foster

Sean McMurtry
Melissa Padfield
Eleni Stroulia
Brent Swallow

Regrets:
Lesley Cormack

Al Meldrum
Nathan Sunday

Staff:
Meg Brolley, GFC Secretary
Marion Haggarty-France,
University Secretary

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Dew/Elliott

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of November 19, 2018

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

The minutes were amended to indicate that Dr Forhan was in attendance.

Motion: Foster/Stroulia

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Open Session Minutes of November 19, 2018, as amended.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

- Update Board/GFC/Senate Summit
- Post-Secondary Education Position Paper, COPPOA

The Chair provided an update on the planning for the joint Board/GFC/Senate Summit on January 25, 2019. He noted the tentative topic was perceptions of universities in an election year and resources would include Bruce Anderson of Abacus Data and the COPPOA document distributed to the committee with the agenda.

The Chair noted that the Post-Secondary Education Position Paper represented the first time in recent memory that all 26 Alberta institutions were in agreement on a position going into a provincial election. He indicated that this paper would be circulated with the agenda for the Summit. He further indicated that the paper had been shared with the SU, GSA, NASA and AASUA.

The Chair provided an update on the work of the Board of Governors on delegations and reported that administration had been asked to develop proposals on delegation of tuition changes within specific parameters to committee or administration. A member asked a question about the academic cost of living index versus the CPI in relation to tuition and fee increases.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. University of Alberta Museums Annual Report for the Period: July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Janine Andrews Executive Director, University of Alberta Museums and Collections; Michael Caldwell, Chair, University of Alberta Museums Policy and Planning Committee

Purpose of the Proposal: To file an annual report, as requested, with General Faculties Council.

The Chair noted that the community was privileged this year to house part of the Museums' collection of art in the governance boardrooms and indicated that there had been many positive comments on how it changed the atmosphere in these rooms.

Ms Andrews provided highlights of the Museums Annual Report and spoke to the policy committee's work and the progress on strategic plans. She noted that issues continue to include requests for the return of cultural artifacts and human remains, and ownership of material culture. She spoke about the benchmark survey underway to collect information across all collections on where items are coming from and how they are being used; this will be reported on next year. Ms Andrews then noted that challenges continue with not enough technical staff and facilities. She also reported that long term collections are increasingly being used as teaching resources in courses.

Dr Caldwell spoke about the level of institutional risk associated with keeping track of objects borrowed from other collections and brought to this university by professors and graduate students, the large number of accession objects which is second only to national museums and on par with the number at the University of Toronto, the challenges with collections spread across the institution and maintaining appropriate standards for all of these collections.

Discussion:

The committee discussed the pan Canadian approach to return of objects, UNESCO agreements, research ethics, legislation and international treaties, and the need for a policy on human remains used for research purposes. The presenters emphasized that new objects brought into collections should be carefully considered in light of: difficulties with repatriation of objects, space issues, and ensuring objects are tied to the academic mission and strategic plan of the university.

ACTION ITEMS

5. Selection of faculty member for TLEF Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund Advisory Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Bill Foster, Vice-Chair, GFC Nominating Committee

Purpose of the Proposal: The GFC Executive Committee is called upon to select a faculty member to serve on the TLEF Selection Committee.

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

Motion: Foster/Bhatnagar

THAT the GFC Executive Committee select, on the recommendation of the GFC Nominating Committee, Liran Levin, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, to serve a 2 year term on TLEF Selection Committee to be effective immediately and end June 20, 2020.

CARRIED

6. Parchment for the Dual Degree Program with Seoul National University (SNU), South Korea and the Faculty of Education

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Melissa Padfield, Interim Vice-Provost and University Registrar

Purpose of the Proposal: To adjust the wording of the program-specific University parchment to reflect the shared credential of a Master of Education or Doctor of Philosophy between the University of Alberta with the Seoul National University (South Korea)

Discussion:

There was no discussion.

Motion: Padfield/Aliramezani

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed parchment wording for cohorts of students receiving a Master of Education or Doctoral degree under the shared credentials agreement with Seoul National University (SNU), South Korea as submitted by the Office of the Registrar and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval.

CARRIED

7. Revised 2019-2020 Academic Schedule

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Melissa Padfield

Purpose of the Proposal: To rescind the Academic Schedule 2019-2020 proposal approved by the GFC Executive Committee on October 15, 2018, and to approve the Academic Schedule 2019-2020 proposal revised as of December 3, 2018.

Discussion:

Ms Padfield noted that the Faculty of Pharmacy was in the process of conducting additional student consultations.

The committee discussed: timing for approval of the Academic Schedule to meet Calendar deadlines; communication plans for students to be notified of changes; concerns about the imbalance in teaching time for Monday-Wednesday-Friday versus Tuesday-Thursday time slots and the need to relook at this.

Motion: Padfield/McMurtry

THAT the GFC Executive Committee rescind the following motion, originally approved on October 15, 2018: THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, with delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the Academic Schedule for 2019-2020 as set forth in Attachment 4 and, in doing so, empower the Registrar to make any editorial changes as needed as long as the changes do not have the force of policy, to be effective upon final approval.

CARRIED

Motion: Padfield/McMurtry

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the Academic Schedule for 2019-2020 (revised as of December 3, 2018), as submitted by the Interim Vice-Provost and University Registrar and as set forth in Attachment 1, and, in doing so, empower the Registrar to make any editorial changes as needed as long as the changed do not have the force of policy, to be effective immediately.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Question Period

The committee had a discussion on academic decision making should a labour or other serious disruption occur. The committee asked questions and provided comments on: the President's authority to act in an emergency; policies or procedures at other universities; whether a decision making body be constituted; the role of the Deans; determination of what decisions would need to be made; availability of communication channels such as email; emergency meetings and quorum; guidelines that would ensure the necessary flexibility for decision makers; option to assume business as usual until it is not; authority of the Board; and the role of GFC Executive Committee to act on behalf of GFC. The Chair indicated that further information on policies or procedures from other institutions would be brought back to the committee for further information.

A member asked about the implications of the Huawei situation. The Chair noted that the Vice-Presidents Research of the U15 institutions had been advised by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) to be careful but no direction was given on what to do.

INFORMATION REPORTS

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

There were no items.

10. Information Items Forwarded to GFC Executive Committee between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

11. The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 pm.