



# UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council  
Executive Committee  
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, June 10, 2019  
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

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### ATTENDEES:

Steven Dew, Acting Chair  
Joel Agarwal  
Dylan Ashley  
Adarsh Badesha  
Lesley Cormack  
Duncan Elliott  
Mary Forhan

Bill Foster  
Sean McMurtry  
Al Meldrum  
Melissa Padfield

**REGRETS:**  
David Turpin

Eleni Stroulia  
Brent Swallow

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

### OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Forhan/Ashley

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Agenda.

**CARRIED**

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

Updates

- Workplace Impairment Policy
- Clean Air Strategy
- Working Group on Freedom of Expression

*Presenter(s):* Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Acting Chair GFC Executive Committee

Dr Dew noted that the President was lobbying government and the Blue Ribbon Panel (an independent body established to examine Alberta's finances and economy) to maintain funding levels for post-secondary institutions. The university expected to have an indication of government funding later in the fall. The President also met with the Advanced Education Minister and found him to be engaged and enthusiastic.

Dr Dew reported that a working group on Freedom of Expression had been formed, chaired by the Deputy Provost, and included members of the GFC Executive Committee. He noted that discussion on this would continue in the fall.

Dr Dew gave the committee a brief update on the proposal and consultations for program based predictable tuition for international students and noted that the proposal would go forward to the Board for approval later in the week.

He reported that the Board would be considering approval of the Workplace Impairment Policy (as recommended by GFC in April). He further noted that revisions were made at the Board committee level in order to address risk related to disclosure.

Finally, Dr Dew updated members on development of a Clean Air Strategy and noted the challenge of balancing a healthy and safe workplace with accommodation for those who smoke or vape, and emphasized that wide consultation would occur.

*Discussion:*

Members asked questions and expressed comments about the new international tuition model and implications of the new budget model, funding directed to supports for international students, and the flexibility of the model to adjust to program changes.

Members discussed the recent GFC meeting and the questions regarding GFC composition. Members expressed support for the early consultation process and discussed the responsibility of members to participate at this stage. Members also expressed support for GFC's commitment to revisit terms of reference every three years.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

3 Approval of the Open Session Minutes of May 13, 2019

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Cormack/Foster

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve the Open Session Minutes of May 13, 2019.

**CARRIED**

### **ACTION ITEMS**

4. Proposed Changes to Composition of Arts Faculty Council, Faculty of Arts

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Steve Patten, Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts

*Purpose of the Proposal:* The proposal is before the committee because Arts Faculty Council has voted to revise its membership and decisions with regard to the composition of Faculty Councils must be approved by GFC Executive Committee, acting on behalf of GFC with formally delegated authority.

Dr Patten explained that the Faculty of Arts had recently undertaken significant work on revising composition and terms of reference for Arts Faculty Council and its committees. He noted that most of this work was approved internally but that Faculty Council Composition required approval by GFC Executive Committee.

*Discussion:*

Members discussed the addition of the Academic Teaching Staff to the composition, the consultation pathway, and the definition of "career status".

Motion: Forhan/Padfield

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, under delegated authority from the General Faculties Council,

proposed changes to the composition of the Arts Faculty Council as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect July 1, 2019.

**CARRIED**

5. Proposed Changes to Composition of Faculty Council, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s)*: Fraser Brenneis, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

*Purpose of the Proposal*: To continue efforts within the Faculty to create a sense of inclusivity and equity in Council and Faculty activities and processes.

*Discussion*:

Dr Brenneis noted the changes proposed to the composition and explained the intention to increase equity and inclusion.

Members discussed the different staff categories, and asked about student membership on Faculty Council.

Motion: McMurtry/Cormack

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, under delegated authority from the General Faculties Council, proposed changes to the composition of Council of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry as set forth in Attachment 1, submitted by the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, to take effect upon final approval.

**CARRIED**

6. Changes to Department Chair Selection procedures related to Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s)*: Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Fraser Brenneis, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

*Purpose of the Proposal*: The proposal is before the committee to update the composition of selection committees for Department Chairs in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, and to clarify procedural differences in Departments in which the Department Chair and the Zone Clinical Department Head (AHS) could be the same individual.

*Discussion*:

Dr Brenneis provided an overview of the proposed changes to the selection procedures and noted the relationship between the Faculty and Alberta Health Services (AHS), which could have impact on the leadership structure of clinical departments. He noted that clinical departments had a university academic chair and also an AHS zone clinical department head.

Members discussed the composition and determined that some clarification was required. As the Faculty would be striking committees before the fall, the committee agreed to consider a revised document, clarifying membership, for an electronic vote.

A revised document was circulated to the committee on June 19, 2019, for an e-vote.

Motion: Foster/Cormack

THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve, under delegated authority from the Board of Governors and General Faculties Council, proposed changes to the procedures for selection of Department Chairs in the

Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry as set forth in Attachment 1 (amended June 19, 2019), to take effect upon final approval.

**CARRIED  
by e-vote June 19, 2019**

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

The Acting Chair stepped out of the chair and departed from the meeting. Dean Cormack assumed the chair.

7. GFC Executive ad hoc Committee on Program Approval Pathways - Update (no documents)

*Presenter(s)*: Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs), Vice Chair GFC Executive Transition Committee

Dr Hopper reported on the meeting of the ad hoc Committee on Program Approval Pathways, which was established to respond to the remaining recommendations of the ad hoc Committee on Academic Governance Including Delegated Authority related to program approvals. She reported that the committee met for a day and a half for a very productive session. Dr Hopper explained that the committee envisioned changes to streamline and clarify the program approval pathways at the university and that recommendations would come forward to the community for substantial consultation in the fall.

*Discussion:*

There was no discussion.

8. Question Period

There were no questions.

### **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. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.