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)
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.
General Faculties Council

Council on Student Affairs (COSA)

Academic Planning (APC)

Executive (EXEC)

Committee on the Learning Environment (CLE)

Student Conduct Policy (SCPC)

Academic Standards (ASC)

Undergraduate Awards and Bursaries (UABC)

Nominating (NOM)

Facilities Development (FDC)

University Teaching Awards (UTAC)
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
**Mandate:** The University Teaching Awards Committee is charged with adjudicating:

- the William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching
- the Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching
- the Provost’s Award for Early Achievement of Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching
- the Teaching Unit Award
- the Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching

GFC UTAC Terms of Reference
What to Expect at a Meeting

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?
Questions?