



Transition Committee Update

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The Ad-Hoc Committee Outputs

7

Principles of Committee
Composition

48

Recommendations

11

Focal Areas

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on
Academic Governance Including Delegated Authority

<https://bit.ly/2GAPfBQ>

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Focal Areas

1. The majority of elected members should be drawn from GFC
2. The number of elected members should exceed the number of ex-officio members.
3. The voting status of ex-officio members should be consistent with their voting status on GFC
4. Ex-officio members should be included when their portfolio is directly relevant to the mandate and role of the standing committee.
5. The Vice-Chair should be elected by the committee from its elected academic staff members and be a member of GFC.
6. Standing Committees should be populated with a commitment to diversity and broad representation.
7. Cross-appointments should be outlined in the ToR of each committee and such members shall have voting status on both committees.

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Focal Areas

1. Transition
2. Overall GFC practices
3. Relationship between GFC and the BoG
4. Composition and replenishment of GFC and Standing Committees
5. Engagement of the Community with GFC
6. Delegations
7. Task Committees: CLRC, UTAC, UASC
8. ASC, ARPC, and CLE
9. Academic Programs
10. COSA
11. Faculty Councils

(1) Transition

47, 48

- The mandate of the **Transition Committee** was to guide the implementation of the recommendations by April 2019.
- The committee members are:
 - Steve Patten and Mark Loewen (Ad-hoc committee members)
 - Tammy Hopper (Vice-Provost)
 - Shane Scott/Akanksha Bhatnagar (SU representatives)
 - Eleni Stroulia (GFC and GFC Exec member, chair)
- We first met in September 2017, and have been meeting at least once per month.

(2) Overall GFC Practices

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 46

- 2017-2018 was the first year with more GFC meetings (from 6 to 8)
- In March 2017 (<https://bit.ly/2SLwQsJ>), an early consultation section was added to the GFC agenda.
- All ToR have a clear section that details their delegated authority.
- Orientation materials make it explicit that standing committees do not have to exercise their delegated authority and can always refer matters to GFC.
- The standing committees' ToR (and the delegations) will be reviewed every three years, as mentioned in the revised ToR of the Executive Committee.
- The composition of the GFC will change slightly to reflect recent changes to the PSLA, and respond to current institutional priorities, pending consultation.
- The ToR for GFC Exec and GFC should come to GFC in March 2019.

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(3) Relationship between GFC and the BoG

25, 26, 27

- These recommendations have been implemented in the governance process since the 2017-2018 year.
- The Chair of the BoG is invited to speak at a GFC meeting annually (typically at the first meeting of the academic year - September).
- An annual joint, GFC and Board Summit has been established (and already occurred twice), with its agenda co-developed by members of the Exec and the Board. Given the summit agenda topics, Senate, the other statutory body was also invited.

(4) Composition and Replenishment of GFC and Standing Committees

8, 9, 10, 11, 12

- The **Nominating committee** has become a free-standing committee since April 2018 (<https://bit.ly/2DWtskE>)
 - “...NC will ensure the best possible match between prospective members and the committees to which they are nominated, and ensure the broadest possible base of representation and diversity.”
 - The committee has also developed a procedures document (December 2018, <https://bit.ly/2NcMNCj>)
- The ToR of all standing committees that have been accepted by GFC meet the composition principles, or have provided a rationale for diverging from these principles.

(5) Engagement of the Community with GFC

28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33

- Governance 101 materials have been updated and there are typically three sessions per year (Sep, Feb and Jun) to new GFC members and other members of the community.
- Work continues on #32 and #33 and will be ongoing given the importance of continuous education and orientation.
 - Materials are being improved after each presentation, based on feedback.
 - The **GFC and Committee Member Guidebook** (<https://bit.ly/2XinOSs>) has being developed.
 - The governance team will be providing orientation to different cohorts (new faculty, new Deans, new chairs and other members of the U of A community) so that they are introduced to governance in a contextual manner, relevant to their interests and activities.
ITAC was one of the first committees to be given such orientation!
- The **OpenGov** web site will be migrating to the new governance repository ASAP.

(6) Delegations

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- An initial document has been drafted, identifying GFC delegated authorities, based on Committee ToR, UAPPOL, position descriptions
- The list will soon be available on the Governance website.
- This work will be ongoing.

(7) Task Committees: CLRC, UTAC, UASC

34, 35, 36, 42

- Campus Law Review Committee (CLRC)
 - ➔ Student Conduct Policy Committee (SCPC)
 - Revised ToR – **October 2017** (<https://bit.ly/2Gzup6a>)
- University Teaching Awards Committee (UTAC)
 - Revised ToR – **November 2018** (<https://bit.ly/2SKgQXQ>)
- Undergraduate Awards and Scholarship Committee (UTAC)
 - ➔ Undergraduate Awards and Bursaries Committee (UABC)
 - Revised ToR – **January 2019** (<https://bit.ly/2NhVQBR>)

(8) ASC, ARPC, and CLE

15, 18; 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23; 40, 41

- The **ASC** membership consists primarily of administrators, which serves its purpose well; its divergence from the principles of composition is warranted by its role. The ASC mandate will be expanded to allow the committee to comment (and recommend to ARPC) on program (change) proposals; to approve changes to certificates, and recommend to ARPC for consideration.
- The **APC** will become **ARPC**, thus bringing the Research back under the governance umbrella. Its mandate will be to oversee changes to Academic Programs and Academic Units (with resource implications); oversee research policy and initiatives; receive, and provide feedback to, reports on International, Indigenous and IT plans and policies.
- The **ASC** and **ARPC** ToR should come to GFC in **March 2019**.
- **CLE** is also working on their revised ToR, which will come to GFC in **September 2019**. This is better timing, especially since the new student GFC members will have had some time to get acclimated.

(9) Academic Programs

16, 17, 19, 24, 43

- Our program pathways (including establishment, evolution, and suspension) are quite complex, and asymmetrical for the undergraduate and graduate levels.
Some streamlining has already been done, and will be reflected in the ToR of ASC and ARPC.
- An ad hoc committee to review current program approval processes and propose revised pathways has been approved by Exec, January 2019 (<https://bit.ly/2TZlaPE>).

(10) COSA

37, 38, 39

- “...students feel that better student consultation and input is needed, rather than more student consultation and input. ... The ad hoc committee is recommending that COSA be re-imagined to become a more formal part of the governance system. ”
- A thorough consultation process has been occurred and the ad-hoc committee managing this process is bringing the revised **COSA** ToR to GFC today.

(11) Faculty Councils

44

- A template has been drafted to support Faculties in reviewing and, if necessary, updating their ToR.
- The Faculties of Arts and Education have been working on this process, in parallel with the transition committee, and their experience has informed the development of the template.
- The template will be shared and reviewed with the Deans' Council in **March 2019**.

In Conclusion

We are well on track towards completing the transition that the ad-hoc committee outlined for our governance framework.

A renewal process has now been built in the framework so that it grows with our campus and community.

Questions?