



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Academic Planning Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, March 23, 2022
Remote Meeting by Zoom
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Steven Dew, Chair
Chris Andersen
Chris Beasley
Sandeep Agrawal
Peter Berg
Heather Bruce
Martin Coutts (delegate)
Shannon Erichsen
Anas Fassih

Todd Gilchrist
Vadim Kravchinsky
Rowan Ley
Jacqueline Leighton
Melissa Padfield
Aminah Robinson
Yan Yuan

non-voting:
Kate Peters

REGRETS:

Runjuan Liu
Jelena Holovati
Brad Hamdon
Sanhita Pal

Staff:

Heather Richholt, Assistant
Secretary to GFC

OPENING SESSION

The Chair began by acknowledging the territory:

Before we begin, I would like to acknowledge that the University of Alberta resides on Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis. To acknowledge the territory is to recognize the longer history of these lands and signifies our commitment to working in Good Relations with First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples as we engage in our institutional work.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

The Chair thanked members for accomodating a short meeting. He also asked members to consider an amended agenda and explained that Item 5, the proposed Bachelor in Biomedicine, was being deferred and that the proposal would be brought back in April.

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair of GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC)

Motion: Andersen/Padfield

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the agenda.

CARRIED

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair of APC

Discussion: The Chair noted that the proposals for budget, tuition and mandatory non-instructional fees that had recently been recommended by APC would be put to the Board for approval on Friday. He congratulated the incoming student leaders for the Students' Union and the Graduate Students' Association, as well as the candidates who had put their names forward. Finally, he provided an update on the University of Alberta Non-Academic Staff Association (NASA) negotiations with the University who had enlisted the assistance of a mediator and their bargaining teams have a mediator's report recommending terms of settlement. The Chair noted that the full proposed terms of settlement as captured by the mediator's report will now be subject to ratification by both groups and that, if ratified, the terms of the report and agreed-upon items are binding and would be included in a renewal collective agreement.

CONSENT AGENDA

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Consent Agenda Mover and Seconder: Leighton/Bruce

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of March 23, 2022

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the open session minutes of March 23, 2022

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. Indigenous Institutional Indigenous Plan

Materials and presentation before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee for discussion of the final draft of the IISP goals and accountabilities and to solicit feedback on an affirmation document.

Discussion: The Chair noted F Glanfield had led work to balance the U of A's commitment to develop a thoughtful, respectful, meaningful and sustainable response to the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action while formulating some important objectives for the University. F Glanfield spoke to the important work to consult with Indigenous colleagues in the University, the extensive internal consultations, and engagement with the Leadership of Treaties 6,7, and 8 as well as the Métis Nation of Alberta. She reported that the consultations have consistently pointed to the work that needs to be done to ensure Indigenous Initiatives are considered in administrative processes, student success, quality assurance, and research policy. Members of APC heard that the draft had evolved to include a special focus on accountabilities and some information on budget principles and strategies that could be implemented through the new University administrative structure including the College model and the Strategic Excellence Transformation (SET). Finally, APC was presented with a draft affirmation document that members of the University community would be asked to commit to.

Members expressed gratitude for the work and asked questions and made comments including:

- Specific commitments to support work on Indigenous scholarship and research through the creation of a new position;
- The absence of departments and department chairs in the accountabilities laid out in the plan, and plans for grassroots work;
- How making connections to Indigenous communities was complex and the members of the University community needed support to make contributions without existing relationships;
- The need for support from leaders at all levels of the University and for a coordinated approach to working with communities;

- The possibility that a piece-meal approach will weaken the impact of the plan and the specific challenges of Augustana Campus, Campus Saint-Jean and the Faculty of Native Studies in implementing the plan; and
- The opportunity for the Colleges to lead some of the implementation of the plan and the possibility for the creation of a new leadership position that would provide support across the University;

Members were informed about the pathway for endorsement working back from the Board of Governors meeting on June 17th. Members were invited to save the date for a ceremonial launch on June 24th.

9. Budget Update

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair of APC, Todd Gilchrist, Vice-President (University Services and Finance)

Discussion: The Chair updated APC on the work to put together proposals for a new funding program made available through the Ministry. If successful, the University could increase enrolment by 1,500 students starting in the Fall with funding rolling for the following four years. It was noted that this would make a significant impact on the University's goals for enrolment growth. The Chair expressed a hope that in the future, the targeted program areas would be broadened, but that currently, they reflect the Ministry's economic growth goals in areas such as computer and health sciences.

The Chair explained that the Investment Management Agreement has progressed with confirmation on the targets for performance metrics and enrolment growth. The Chair provided some details on the metrics that represent "at risk" outcomes for the University which make up a total of 15% of grant funding: Work-Integrated Learning (WIL), (4%); Domestic Enrolment (8%); and Skills Alignment (3%). The Chair noted that much of the work to meet the WIL targets relate to housekeeping around program data, rather than development of WIL. The target for domestic enrolment will not take into account the additional unfunded students that the University has taken on in the past few years meaning that the growth since 2018-2019 remains unfunded. He explained the Skills alignment metric is based on feedback from graduates collected on a survey and that the baseline used is from 2018 and represents 95% satisfaction. Finally, the Chair provided an overview of the transparency metrics – International enrolment, Indigenous Enrolment, Government funding ratio and Employment rate.

9. Question Period

Presenter(s): Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), and Chair of APC

There were no questions.

CLOSING SESSION

11. Adjournment

- Next Meeting of APC: April 13, 2022
- Next Meeting of GFC: May 2, 2022

The meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.