



1. Purpose of the Committee

The Council on Student Affairs (the “**Committee**”) is established by GFC under the authority of the PSLA to exercise Immediate Jurisdiction over student affairs as GFC may determine. The Committee’s primary purpose is to provide considered input and advice to GFC, confirming that all proposals, policies, and issues brought before GFC are evaluated specifically in light of their impact on students.

2. Delegated Authority from GFC

2.1 The Committee does not hold delegated authority from GFC. In furtherance of its statutory mandate to exercise Immediate Jurisdiction over student affairs, the Committee’s responsibilities and functions are as follows:

- (a) Review and, if appropriate, formulate recommendations based on the Council’s feedback, to GFC and its standing committees on all proposals, policies and issues that fall within the Council’s scope of purpose, ensuring their potential impact on students is thoroughly evaluated.
- (b) Advise GFC on strategies and initiatives designed to promote the continued improvement and effectiveness of programs and policies related to student academic affairs across the University.
- (c) The specific issues subject to the Committee’s review and recommendation include, but are not limited to, issues related to:
 - (i) teaching and learning;
 - (ii) academic programs;
 - (iii) research;
 - (iv) student financial support and accessibility;
 - (v) significant changes to the academic schedule;
 - (vi) student conduct; and
 - (vii) planning and facilities.

2.2 The Committee’s review of proposals, policies and issues may be requested by GFC or any one or more of its standing committee, or may be initiated by the Committee itself as deemed necessary to fulfill its mandate.

3. Reporting Obligation

A written report will be put before GFC by the Committee at each regularly scheduled meeting of GFC, which shall summarise the activities and decisions of the Committee since the last meeting of GFC.



4. Composition of the Committee

Voting Members (22)	
<i>Chair (1)</i>	
(a)	Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
<i>Ex-officio (6)</i>	
(b)	President of The Students Association of the University of Alberta
(c)	President of The Graduate Students Association of the University of Alberta
(d)	Vice-Provost and Dean of Students
(e)	Vice-Provost and University Registrar
(f)	Vice-Provost and Dean, Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
(g)	Deputy Provost (Students and Enrolment)
<i>Elected by GFC (12)</i>	
(h)	Eight undergraduate students, subject to the following criteria: (i) a minimum of four students must be members of GFC; and (ii) preference will be given to students who are GFC members
(i)	Two graduate students
(j)	Two members of the University's academic staff, each of whom must also be a member of GFC
<i>Appointed (3)</i>	
(k)	The Indigenous Students' Union, as selected by the Indigenous Students' Union
(l)	The Indigenous Graduate Students' Association, as selected by the Indigenous Graduate Students' Association
(m)	The International Students' Association, as selected by the International Students' Association
Non-Voting/Resource Members	
(n)	University Secretary

The Committee may, in its sole discretion, and at any time, appoint one additional member to the Committee where the Committee is of the opinion that such additional member will bring a particular perspective, expertise and/or knowledge to the Committee that will serve to enhance its work. The procedure for such an appointment is within the discretion of the Committee, provided that the procedure is demonstrably fair and transparent.



The Vice-Chair of the Committee shall be either the President of the Students' Association of the University of Alberta or the President of the Graduate Students' Association. The appointing councils will decide this position annually.

5. **Definitions and Interpretation**

5.1 In these Terms of Reference, and in addition to terms otherwise defined in these Terms of Reference, the following terms have the following meanings:

- (a) **"GFC"** means the General Faculties Council, an unincorporated body formed pursuant to the PSLA;
- (b) **"Immediate Jurisdiction"** within the framework of the PSLA, means that CoSA has the direct and primary power to address matters concerning student affairs, rather than just being an advisory body on these topics, within the scope of the responsibilities determined by GFC and articulated within these terms of reference.
- (c) **"program of study"** has the meaning ascribed to that term in the PSLA;
- (d) **"PSLA"** means the *Post-secondary Learning Act*, S.A. 2003, c. P-19.5, as the same may be amended from time to time;
- (e) **"student"** has the meaning ascribed to that term in the PSLA; and
- (f) **"University"** means the University of Alberta, a body politic and corporate continued under the PSLA.

5.2 For the better understanding and interpretation of these Terms of Reference, **"student academic affairs"** refers to activities directly related to a student's education and learning, specifically those undertaken as part of their regular course work or program of study.

*Approved by General Faculties Council (GFC):
April 27, 2026*