



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Academic Planning Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Wednesday, October 11, 2017
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Steven Dew, Chair
Benjamin Angus
Marina Banister
Darcy Bemister
Katy Campbell
Walter Dixon
Shannon Erichsen
Gitta Kulczycki
Christopher Mackay

Roger Moore, Vice-Chair
Jerine Pegg
Babak Soltannia
Eleni Stroulia
Non-voting:
Lisa Collins

REGRETS:
Jason Acker

Florence Glanfield
Sarah Stahlke

STAFF:

Meg Brolley, Coordinator
Marion Haggarty-France,
University Secretary
Andrea Patrick, Scribe

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Banister/Dixon

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of September 13, 2017

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Moore/Banister

THAT the GFC Academic Planning Committee approve the Minutes of September 13, 2017.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair

The Chair reported that Roger Moore had been elected committee Vice-Chair by acclamation.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Peter Loughheed Leadership College (PLLC) - Next Steps

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President

Purpose of the Proposal: To give APC the opportunity to reflect on the recent review of PLLC commissioned from Dr Peter Mackinnon, and the response to that review prepared by PLLC Vice-Principal Dr Martin Ferguson-Pell, and to engage in discussion about opportunities for the future evolution of PLLC and for leadership initiatives more broadly at the University of Alberta.

Discussion:

President Turpin provided members with an overview of the history of establishment of the Peter Lougheed Leadership College (PLLC), noting that it was created with funding provided by government and donors. He noted the concerns expressed by the community on how it was handled as an administrative initiative and further referenced the certificate which came forward to GFC for approval.

The President referred to the report by Peter MacKinnon, and the response from PLLC, included in the committee's materials. In addition, the President noted that the term of the current principal, the Honorable Kim Campbell, would end in June 2018, and that provincial funding for this initiative would expire in 2025.

Dr Turpin noted that as the university embarks on the search for new principal, it is timely to look at the PLLC's mandate, direction, sustainability, and to use this to inform what characteristics would be needed in a new leader. He indicated that PLLC could be used as a broader umbrella to accommodate and facilitate other activities and opportunities for better collaboration. He mentioned a few potential opportunities such as the Global Academic Leadership Development Program, Executive Education, faculty and staff professional development activities. He noted that a small working group would be established to provide some strategic ideas and that feedback from campus stakeholders including deans and GFC would be sought.

During the discussion, members discussed the importance of a timely strategy, the role of principal at the PLLC, and provided comments on the stretch experience and PLLC's programming. Other comments were made on whether the focus of leadership being taught at the PLLC could include non-profit and public sectors, and how its programming interacts with leadership programs provided by individual Faculties. Questions arose concerning enrolment data for the PLLC, Peter Lougheed Hall residence rates, its unique governance model, financial sustainability, and whether revenue generation is being considered.

Members also provided several suggestions for the direction of the PLLC, including providing more specific leadership mentorship experiences and a public service component.

The President noted that consultation with deans has begun and they have signaled a willingness to collaborate on the future of the PLLC.

5. Deferred Maintenance

There were no documents.

Presenter(s): Andrew Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations); James Allen, Associate Vice-President (Operations and Maintenance); Philip Stack, Associate Vice-President (Risk Management Services)

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss deferred maintenance at the University of Alberta.

Discussion:

Vice-President (Facilities and Operations) Andrew Sharman informed the committee that the university receives targeted money for deferred maintenance from the Government of Alberta. The Government definition of deferred maintenance is maintenance that was not performed when it should have been or was scheduled but did not occur. Therefore, it is delayed or deferred to a future period.

Mr Allen provided a presentation to members highlighting institutional priorities including life, health and safety, and alignment with institutional plans. He reported on challenges faced by the institution including significant repairs to the buildings completed between 1951-1975, and the costs associated with maintaining newer, more complex buildings.

Mr Stack reviewed of the impacts of deferred maintenance on research equipment noting that, although user fees may cover core facility maintenance, most Principal Investigators (PIs) are responsible for the maintenance of research equipment through research grants. He clarified that some grants do not include funding specifically for maintenance of research equipment. He reported that the risks associated with this include loss of research and harm to the institutional reputation. He provided members with an overview of mitigation strategies including alarm systems and third party audits.

During the discussion, questions arose about how the university might reduce deferred maintenance costs as well as clarification around centralized IT support. In addition, members discussed comparator institutions and whether deferred maintenance projects could be handled in-house.

6. Update on the Budget

There were no documents.

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

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

The Chair reported that the provincial reviews of tuition regulation and funding model are ongoing. He stated that the institutional budget for 2018-2019 is being prepared and that it will include a three year overview of the budget. A new budget model is in development to provide an aligned strategy for the allocation of funding.

During the discussion, questions arose about activities-based vs performance-based funding, as well as the method to determine how costs would be distributed.

The Chair noted that the new budget model will be brought before the committee as it develops.

7. Annual Report on Undergraduate Student Financial Support

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Lisa Collins, Vice-Provost and University Registrar; Fiona Halbert, Assistant Registrar, Student Financial Support

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss the Annual Report on Undergraduate Student Financial Support as per APC's mandate. This Report provides a snap shot of the current state of undergraduate financial supports issued by the Office of the Registrar (RO) in the 2016/2017 fiscal year.

Discussion:

Ms Collins provided a summary of the Annual Report on Undergraduate Student Financial Support including sources of funding, individual areas of focus of funding, and impact.

On the issue of comparator institutions, Ms Collins noted that data is scarce and that it is difficult to compare the data from institution to institution. Ms Halbert noted that the report only captures data that is accessible and that Faculty-based support, as well as government student loans, are not included within the report.

Members provided a number of comments and questions including clarification of international student support, how the impact of financial support is measured, and clarification on how data is collected

8. Proposed Changes to the GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC) Terms of Reference

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

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

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss and provide input into the proposed changes to terms of reference for the GFC Academic Planning Committee.

Discussion:

The Chair provided a summary of some of the proposed changes to the committee terms of reference including the inclusion of research into the mandate of the committee and the subsequent name change to the Academic Research and Planning Committee.

The Chair, noting the time, indicated that full discussion on this item would resume at the next meeting.

University Secretary Marion Haggarty-France encouraged members to read the ad hoc Report on these proposed changes and to engage with colleagues on those changes in preparation for the discussions to come.

9. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

10. Items Approved by GFC Academic Planning Committee by e-mail Ballots

There were no items.

11. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

12. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.