



General Faculties Council  
 Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, November 26, 2018  
 Council Chamber, 2-100 University Hall (UNH)  
 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**ATTENDEES:**

**Statutory Members:**

**Ex-Officio:**

David Turpin, Chair  
 Dale Askey  
 Deborah Burshtyn  
 Katy Campbell  
 Lesley Cormack  
 André Costopoulos  
 Greta Cummings  
 Steven Dew  
 Gitta Kulczycki  
 Dennis Kunimoto  
 Frank Marsiglio  
 Kerry Mummary  
 Norman Neumann  
 (delegate)  
 Melissa Padfield  
 Matthias Ruth  
 Andrew Sharman  
 Kelly Spencer  
 Jacqui Tam  
 Jennifer Tupper  
**Elected Faculty:**  
 W. Ted Allison  
 Jeff Birchall  
 Piet Defraeye  
 Ryan Dunch  
 Tarek El-Bialy  
 Dean Eurich  
 Mary Forhan  
 Bill Foster  
 Michael Frishkopf  
 Lesley Harrington  
 Pierre Lemelin  
 Leijun Li  
 Pirkko Markula  
 Rob McMahan  
 Lynn McMullen  
 Sean McMurtry  
 Al Meldrum  
 Sue-Ann Mok  
 Roger Moore

Shannon O'Byrne  
 Christina Rinaldi  
 Carolyn Sale  
 Richard Schulz  
 John Seubert  
 Carrie Smith  
 Kim Solez  
 Susan Sommerfeldt  
 Jorge Sousa  
 Lisa Stein  
 Eleni Stroulia  
 Bruce Sutherland  
 Amy Tse  
 Benjamin Tucker  
 Dilini Vethanayagam  
 Akiko Watanabe  
 Jonathan White  
 Lynne Wiltse  
 Ian Winship  
**Students:**  
 Masoud Aliramezani  
 Sasha van der Klein  
**Appointed Members:**  
 Joel Agarwal  
 Bishoi Aziz  
 Akanksha Bhatnagar  
 Katherine Binhammer  
 Amlan Bose  
 Andre Bourgeois  
 Tiffany Bruce  
 Meijun Chen  
 Melinda Chisholm  
 Natalie Diether  
 Shannon Erichsen  
 Shawn Flynn  
 Gautam Gaur  
 Kevin Kane  
 Maryam Kebbe  
 Hyejun Kim  
 Brandi Kobes  
 Janice Kung  
 Braulio Marfil-Garza  
 Mpoee Mogale

Carmel Montgomery  
 Ivy Porter  
 Sabitha Rajaruban  
 Shuaa Rizvi  
 Nathan Sunday  
 Andrei Tabirca  
 Amanda Wakaruk  
 Rachel Wang  
 Janet Williamson  
 Donna Wilson  
 Allan Yilun Wu  
 Ding Xu  
 Janet Yao

**REGRETS:**

Jason Acker  
 Ayman Adwan  
 Miray Aizouki  
 Saleema Allana  
 Erin Allin  
 Chris Andersen  
 Vahid Ayan  
 Matthew Barnett  
 Allen Berger  
 Robert Bilak  
 Stanford Blade  
 Abigail Bridarolli  
 Yiming Chen  
 David Chung  
 David Cooper  
 Julia Craig  
 Neal Davies  
 Victoria deJong  
 Joseph Doucet  
 Duncan Elliott  
 Nadir Erbilgin  
 Levi Flaman  
 Fraser Forbes  
 Adam Gaudry  
 Tahra Haddouche  
 Robert Haennel  
 Osman Hojanepesov  
 Ryan Holowaty

Mariam Hosseiny  
 Albert Hu  
 Basil Hubbard  
 John Hussein  
 Taher Jafferjee  
 Shanthi Johnson  
 Reed Larsen  
 Eva Lemaire  
 Cindy Liang  
 Mark Loewen  
 Susanne Luhmann  
 Frank Marsiglio  
 Laurie Mereu  
 Pierre-Yves Mocquais  
 Vivian Mushahwar  
 Syed Mustafa  
 Alice Nakamura  
 Anthony Nguyen  
 Paul Paton  
 Dustin Sandler  
 Georg Schmolzer  
 Marc Secanell  
 Luke Statt  
 Brent Swallow  
 Erin Wright

**Staff:**

Meg Brolley, GFC  
 Secretary  
 Marion Haggarty-France,  
 University Secretary  
 Heather Richholt, Scribe

**Observers:**

Katherine Belcourt  
 Langston Brasen  
 Nathan Fung  
 Tibetha Kemble  
 Adam Lachaz  
 Zhihong Pan  
 Norma Rodenberg  
 Fred Tappendum  
 Anthony Thai

## **OPENING SESSION**

### 1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Dew/Agarwal

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Agenda.

**CARRIED**

### 2. Approval of the Minutes of October 22, 2018

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Stroulia/Dunch

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Minutes of October 22, 2018.

**CARRIED**

### 3. Report from the President

The Chair noted with sadness the passing of Richard Fedorak, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and spoke about Dean Fedorak's significant contributions to medicine, teaching and research, and to the university's Signature Area of Precision Health.

The Chair acknowledged that the Office of the Dean of Students was dealing with an increased number of significant mental health issues on campus. The Dean of Students, André Costopoulos, spoke about student mental health and suicide and noted the supports available for students on campus.

The Chair updated members on the university's response to the *Conflicts of Interest Amendment Act* and noted that final documents related to this would come back to GFC and the Board for approval in the new year.

The Chair mentioned *Bill 19: An Act to Improve the Affordability and Accessibility of Post-Secondary Education* and that it would affect tuition and fees starting in 2020/2021. He noted that more details about regulations would be forthcoming.

The Chair noted that with the changes to provincial labour relations legislation, it was important that GFC discuss how to make necessary decisions and ensure appropriate delegations were in place should a disruption occur and GFC could not meet. Discussions about this issue would take place in future meetings.

The Chair asked Eleni Stroulia, Chair of the Executive Transition Committee to provide GFC with an update on the implementation of the recommendations from the 2017 Report of the *ad hoc* Committee on Academic Governance. Dr Stroulia reported on the status of standing committee terms of reference and noted that a discussion on the Council on Student Affairs (COSA) was on the agenda for this meeting. She noted that the curation of delegations of authority may not be completed by the April deadline and that a revised timeline would be forthcoming.

The Chair gave an update on the proposal from the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences for an exemption to fall reading week. He noted that the original motion for approval of the Academic Schedule was flawed and that there were outstanding questions around student consultation. He informed members that the Academic Schedule would return to the GFC Executive Committee in December and that GFC would be updated accordingly.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### 4. New Members of GFC

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Purpose of the Proposal:* To appoint, re-appoint or receive new members of General Faculties Council.

Motion: Dew/Sharman

#### MOTION I: TO APPOINT/RE-APPOINT:

The following undergraduate student representatives at-large to serve on GFC for terms commencing November 26, 2018 and ending April 30, 2019:

- Melinda Chisholm – Business
- Ayman Adwan – Engineering
- Anthony Nguyen – Nursing
- Ivy Porter – Science

**CARRIED**

## **EARLY CONSULTATION**

### 5. Council on Student Affairs (COSA) - Terms of Reference

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair, COSA Working Group; Akanksha Bhatnagar, Students' Union Vice-President (Academic); Masoud Aliramezani, Graduate Students' Association Vice-President (Academic)

#### *Discussion:*

The Chair noted that this item had been deferred from the September GFC meeting.

Dr Hopper noted that the *ad hoc* Committee Report recommended that COSA be brought under the university governance umbrella and that a working group be formed to revise the COSA terms of reference. She pointed to the draft terms of reference and the questions for discussion included in the meeting materials and asked for input from members.

During the discussion, members expressed several comments and questions, including but not limited to: graduate student representation on the Aboriginal Student Council; the importance of the Indigenous student voice; the fact that COSA was originally established at a time when very few students sat on GFC; the number of students currently serving on GFC; the Principles for GFC Standing Committee Composition including non-voting representatives; the lack of delegated authority for COSA; how items and issues would be brought to COSA; the weight of influence that recommendations and advice from COSA would carry; the importance of outcomes; and coordination with the Dean of Students' Advisory Committee.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### 6. Proposed Changes to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program Admissions for Aboriginal Applicants, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Dennis Kunimoto, Interim Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry; Shirley Schipper, Vice-Dean, Education, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry; Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Chair, GFC Academic Standards Committee

*Purpose of the Proposal:* The purpose of this proposal is to remove the limit of five students admitted to the MD program through the Indigenous admissions selection process and allow for all eligible applicants through this process to be recommended for admission to the MD Admissions Committee. In light of the underrepresentation of Indigenous peoples in health professions, and the University's commitment to a respectful, meaningful, and sustainable response to the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, it is recommended that the changes take effect upon approval.

*Discussion:*

The Chair noted that both the GFC Academic Standards Committee (ASC) and the GFC Executive Committee (EXEC) recommend approval of this item. He noted that the EXEC was unanimously in support of this proposal.

Dr Hopper indicated that ASC strongly supported the proposal and chose not to exercise its delegated authority over Faculty specific admissions criteria it felt that the proposal was of broad relevance and strategic importance and should therefore be considered by full GFC. She also highlighted *For the Public Good's* objectives to respond to the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

Dean Kunimoto explained that the Faculty needed to do more to increase the number of Indigenous health professionals and that this would start with admission and then follow through with supports for students in the program.

Dr Schipper noted that this proposal was part of a larger strategy across all of the Faculty's undergraduate programs and that the Faculty Council was in full support of this strategy.

Members asked about the total number of seats in the program, and whether or not there were 'return of service' requirements for those admitted through the Indigenous Admissions process.

Motion: Kunimoto/McMurtry

THAT General Faculties Council approve the proposed changes to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program Admissions for Aboriginal Applicants, as proposed by the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, as recommended by the GFC Academic Standards Committee and the GFC Executive Committee, and as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect as soon as possible.

**CARRIED**

7. Proposed Revisions to Standing Committee Terms of Reference - GFC University Teaching Awards Committee (UTAC)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Pierre Lemelin, Chair, GFC University Teaching Awards Committee

*Purpose of the Proposal:* The proposal is before the committee to approve the revised terms of reference for the GFC University Teaching Awards Committee.

*Discussion:*

Dr Lemelin outlined the changes in the proposed terms of reference and spoke to the updated adjudication guidelines provided for information. He noted that the committee had extensive discussion on composition, striving to ensure a balance between adhering to the Principles of Committee Composition and maintaining a broad representation from the university community. In response to comments made at the previous GFC meeting, the committee recommended that GFC seek Indigenous members to serve on all of its committees.

Motion: Lemelin/Dunch

THAT General Faculties Council approve the proposed changes to the GFC University Teaching Awards

Committee Terms of Reference as recommended by the GFC University Teaching Awards Committee and the GFC Executive Committee as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect May 1, 2019

**CARRIED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### 8. Digital Scholarship Centre

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Dale Askey, Vice-Provost (Learning Services) & Chief Librarian

*Discussion:*

Dr Askey provided an overview of the newly approved Digital Scholarship Centre and the union of space, technology, and people. He noted that the collaborative space had a projected soft launch opening of February 2019 with a formal opening in the fall.

Members discussed the pace of technological updates and the potential for the space to be adjusted with the needs of the community; the construction and staffing costs and needs of the new space; and the opportunities for study and collaboration.

### 9. Update on Tri-Council Draft Data Management Policy

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Matthias Ruth, Vice-President (Research)

*Discussion:*

Dr Ruth outlined the university's response to the Tri-Council Draft Data Management Policy. He noted a request for clarification on the responsibilities that would fall to students, staff, and the institution regarding data stewardship, quality control, monitoring and repurposing of data, and training and education.

Dr Dew noted that this policy would have enormous impacts at the individual and the institutional level.

The Chair asked members to imagine the amount of valuable data that exists but is currently impossible to access. He noted that the opportunities for our nation and our institution are immense but that it will take a lot of work for us to get there.

Members discussed the explosion of digitization of information in the humanities, and how to balance the power and responsibility of information.

### 10. New Budget Model

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Gitta Kulczycki, Vice-President (Finance & Administration)

*Discussion:*

Dr Dew gave a presentation on the new budget model and explained that the model is meant to provide clarity on the mechanisms and processes for the assignment of revenues and responsibility for costs across the university's Faculties and administrative units.

The presentation listed the benefits of the new model:

- Bring transparency to the allocation of resources and to decision-making.
- Help us to align spending with strategic academic priorities.

- Create a culture of long-term academic planning.
- Enable all of us to make better decisions.

The Chair noted that implementation of this model would be a multi-year process and that there would be several opportunities for further discussion.

During the discussion members expressed several comments and questions, including but not limited to: the method for determining the percentages for teaching and research; where tuition income for service courses would be directed; where to direct specific feedback; the importance of consultation and transparency on this issue; the size of administrative costs and the UniForum benchmarking project; the fiduciary responsibility of the Board of Governors; consideration of clinical teaching and research; and the importance of efficient administration across the Faculties.

Dr Dew noted that further information and FAQs were available online at: <https://www.ualberta.ca/strategic-plan/institutional-priorities/ualberta-budget-model>

#### 11. Board/GFC/Senate Summit

There were no documents.

*Presenter(s):* David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor

#### *Discussion:*

The Chair reminded members that the Board/GFC/Senate Summit was scheduled for January 25, 2019 and reported that the topic would be public perceptions of universities in an election year. He noted that Bruce Anderson would be speaking and that more information would be sent out in January.

#### 12. Question Period

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

12.1 Question from GFC Elected Faculty Member Dilini Vethanayagam regarding the university's use of Gmail  
*and*

12.1 Response from Brian Stewart, Deputy CIO, on behalf of IST

12.2 Question from GFC Elected Faculty Member Carolyn Sale regarding fair and equitable decision-making for the university's signature areas  
*and*

12.2 Response from David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor

#### *Discussion:*

During the discussion a member commented on ensuring that decision-making regarding Signature Area proposals is fair and equitable and asked that the guidelines for decision-making be made public.

### **INFORMATION REPORTS**

#### 13. Report of the GFC Executive Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

#### 14. Report of the GFC Academic Planning Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

#### 15. Report of the GFC Academic Standards Committee

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

16. GFC Nominations and Elections

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

17. Information Items

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

A. General Appeals Committee (GAC) Annual Report to General Faculties Council (July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017)

B. 2017/18 Annual Report of Student Conduct Responses, Dean of Students' Portfolio

C. Annual Report of the Appeals and Compliance Officer (2017-2018)

D. Annual Report on Undergraduate Financial Support

18. Information Forwarded to GFC Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

**CLOSING SESSION**

19. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.