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General Faculties Council (GFC)  
Approved Open Session Minutes

Monday, November 14, 2022  
Council Chamber, 2-100 University Hall (UNH)  
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

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## **OPENING SESSION**

Before calling the meeting to order, the Vice-Chair made the following territorial acknowledgement:

We are privileged to reside on lands in Treaties 6, 7, 8 and the homeland of the Metis. To respect these agreements and to honour our relations with these Nations, we recognise this territory as we convene today. This is a sign of our commitment to working and living in good relations with Indigenous Peoples and nations who, through the treaty process, generously offered their lands.

### 1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Verna Yiu, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Vice-Chair of GFC

#### *Discussion:*

The Vice-Chair noted that the meeting had been shortened to allow for consultation on the University Strategic Plan starting at 3:30 p.m. She also noted that the two items that were deferred at the last meeting of GFC, the presentation on online and continuing education, and a report on progress from the College Deans would come back to GFC in the New Year.

A member made a notice of motion for debate at the next meeting of GFC as set out in the GFC Meeting Procedural Rules (8.7).

<b>Notice of Motion:</b> To reinstate the mandatory 30 minute question period for GFC meetings.
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A member made a motion to add a committee of the whole discussion item to the agenda before the action items. She said that GFC had been circumvented with the new procedure for the College Dean Selection and that it was urgent for GFC to discuss the procedure and make recommendations before the December 9th meeting of the Board of Governors where the Board would hear GFC's request to pause implementation of the procedure. She also suggested that GFC could adjourn to another time for the discussion if there was not enough time on the agenda today.

Members discussed the proper placement of a committee of the whole discussion item and whether the discussion could happen today or at a future meeting after the Board had decided whether to pause implementation.

The proponent explained that it would be too late to have the discussion at a later meeting because the College Dean Selections were already in progress and if GFC was to make recommendations to the Board, they should be presented along with GFC's recommendation to pause implementation.

A member proposed an amendment to the motion to place the committee of the whole discussion after the action items.

General Counsel and University Secretary Brad Hamdon explained that according to GFC's Meeting Procedural Rule 6.3, GFC should first decide whether to add the item to the agenda and then the Chair would decide where on the agenda the item would be placed.

Members voted on the proposed addition to the agenda which required a two-thirds majority. The motion was announced to have failed but a member noted that a mistake was made in the calculation. Because the results of the voting tool had already been dismissed and were not recoverable, they could not be verified. In addition, several members noted that their votes were not registering in the voting tool. The Vice-Chair called for a re-vote and again, several members noted that their votes did not register in the voting tool. A member suggested a roll call vote to save time. GFC Secretary Kate Peters explained that a roll call vote with a membership of 162 would take considerably more time.

The Vice-Chair asked for a vote by show of hands by members in the room and by members on Zoom. A member raised a point of order noting that voting should be simultaneous so that members were not influenced by how others were voting and that GFC was becoming a farce. The Vice-Chair thanked members for their patience and understanding. The vote was carried out and the motion to add a committee of the whole discussion to the agenda was defeated.

The motion was moved and seconded.

**Motion from the floor:**

THAT the General Faculties Council add a committee of the whole discussion item to the agenda, before the action items, to discuss the College Dean Selection Procedure.

**DEFEATED**

The motion was moved and seconded

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the agenda.

**CARRIED**

2. Report from the President

The Vice-Chair noted that the President's report was in the meeting materials.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

3. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of October 17, 2022

The item was deferred.

**ACTION ITEMS**

4. Sexual and Gender-based Violence Policy

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Kathryn Todd, Deputy Provost (Academic); Jax Oltean, Senior Legal Counsel

*Discussion:*

K Todd explained that after GFC recommended approval of the proposal at their September 19, 2022 meeting, the Board Human Resources and Compensation Committee suggested some revisions related to faculty and staff, and the potential power imbalance in a teaching or supervisory relationship as well as to comply with requirements of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* of Alberta. She noted that there was broad support for the revisions to the Policy and that there were no additional changes to the Student Conduct Policy suite and the Sexual and Gender-based Violence Procedures.

University Chancellor Peggy Garritty was in attendance and was invited to speak to the proposal. The Chancellor spoke about the importance of protecting current and future students and recognizing the power imbalances that often contribute to sexual and gender-based violence.

J Oltean noted that these revisions meet the Minister's letter request that the policy is trauma-informed and survivor-driven.

Members expressed support and appreciation for the level of consultation with students as well as a recognition of the need for education in the community.

The motion was moved and seconded

THAT the General Faculties Council rescind the following component of the motion approved at its September 19, 2022 meeting for Item 10: Revisions to Sexual Violence Policy and new Student Conduct Policy (to replace non-academic portions of the Code of Student Behaviour):

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve the amendments to the Sexual Violence Policy as identified in Attachment 1.

**CARRIED**

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve the revised Sexual Violence Policy ("Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy") as set forth in Attachment 1.

**CARRIED**

5. Proposed Revisions to Terms of Reference – General Faculties Council

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

*Presenter(s):* Andrei Tabirca, Nominated NASA representative to the Board of Governors and GFC Member

*Discussion:*

A member made a motion to extend the meeting for 15 minutes.

The motion was moved and seconded.

**Motion from the floor:**

THAT the General Faculties Council extend the meeting for an additional 15 minutes.

**CARRIED**

A Tabirca introduced his motion to add the Non-Academic Staff Association (NASA) President to GFC's appointed members noting that the Presidents of the University of Alberta Students' Union (UASU), Graduate

Students' Association (GSA) and Association of Academic Staff of the University of Alberta (AASUA) were already members.

Members spoke in favour of the motion.

A member made a notice of motion for debate at the next meeting of GFC as set out in the GFC Meeting Procedural Rules (8.7).

**Notice of Motion:** To add faculty members to the composition of GFC.

The motion was moved and seconded.

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the proposed changes to the GFC Terms of Reference as set forth in Attachment 1, to take effect upon approval.

**CARRIED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### 6. Question Period

*Presenter(s):* Verna Yiu, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Vice-Chair of GFC

#### *Discussion:*

As a follow up to a submitted question about the University Strategic Plan (USP), a member noted the importance of GFC's input and that it was important to also emphasize that by approving the USP, GFC was essentially approving certain budget priorities and decisions.

V Yiu replied that delivering on strategy was important and that the USP should be a long-term plan of 10 years.

A member made a motion to adjourn the meeting noting the question period was important but that the consultation on the USP was also important.

The motion was moved and seconded.

#### **Motion from the floor:**

THAT the General Faculties Council adjourn the meeting.

**CARRIED**

## **INFORMATION REPORTS**

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

### 7. Report of the GFC Executive Committee

### 8. GFC Nominations and Elections

- NC Report to GFC - October 28, 2022
- Current Vacancies

### 9. Report of the Board of Governors

10. Information Items:
  - A. Culture of Care - U of A Safety Action Plan
  - B. Student Financial Support Annual Report To Our Community and Accompanying Overview
  - C. Student Perspectives of Teaching (SPOT) Survey Update
  
11. Information Forwarded to GFC Members Between Meetings
  - Pivot to Remote Meetings
  - [Deadline Attached] GFC Executive Committee Report to GFC

## **CLOSING SESSION**

12. Adjournment
  - Next Meeting of General Faculties Council: January 30, 2023

**ATTENDEES:**

**Statutory Members:**

***Ex-Officio:***

Verna Yiu, Vice-Chair  
Laura Beard (delegate)  
Barbara Billingsley  
Jessica Butts Scott  
Roger Epp  
Todd Gilchrist  
Brenda Hemmelgarn  
Tammy Hopper  
Nathalie Kermoal  
Diane Kunyk  
Elan MacDonald  
Kyle Murray  
Kyra Pyke  
Norma Rodenburg  
Andrew Sharman  
Demetres  
Tryphonopoulos  
Jennifer Tupper  
Frederick West  
Robert Wood

***Elected Academic Staff:***

Jennifer Branch-  
Mueller  
Cary Brown  
Marie Carrière  
Susan Chatwood  
Pierre Chue  
Chetan Dave  
Bipro Dhar  
Melanie Dreyer-Lude  
Michael Dyck  
Zachary Friggstad  
Michael Hendzel  
Jelena Holovati  
Jessica Kolopenuk  
Hollis Lai  
Jacqueline Leighton  
Pierre Lemelin  
Liran Levin  
Jinfeng Liu  
Christopher Lupke

Derek MacKenzie  
Andrew McGee  
Weimin Mou  
Mario Nascimento  
Pauline Paul  
Graham Pearson  
Jerine Pegg  
Sujata Persad  
Frances Plane  
Spencer Proctor  
Dan Romanyk  
Kent Rondeau  
Carolyn Sale  
Chris Sprysak  
Mani Vaidyanathan  
Richard Wozniak  
Nese Yuksel  
***Students:***  
Bishoi Aziz  
Joannie Fogue  
Gurleen Kaur

**Appointed Members:**

Haruun Ali  
Jill Bagwe  
Cirila Bartley  
Josephine Bolaji  
Marsha Boyd  
Heather Bruce  
André Costopoulos  
Telisa Courtney  
Greta Cummings  
Alexander Dorscheid  
Joseph Doucet  
Ryan Dunch  
Anas Fassih  
Levi Flaman  
Shawn Flynn  
Kyle Foster  
Eva Glancy  
Rachel Hislop-Hook  
Emily Holden  
Leo Huang  
Valentina Kozlova  
Devshri Lala

Warren Leung  
Angie Mandeville  
Lionel Liu  
Adekunle Mofolasayo  
Tessa Monaghan  
Abner Monteiro  
Jennifer Passey  
Hubert Piatkowski  
Jad-Julian Rachid  
Milan Regmi  
Marian Sanchez  
Meruja Selvamanikkam  
Patricia Sherbaniuk  
Sophie Shi  
Pien Steinbusch  
Gordon Swater  
Andrei Tabirca  
Dilini Vethanayagam  
Adrian Wattamaniuk  
Rachel Yang

**REGRETS:**

Bill Flanagan  
Abdul Abbasi  
Simaan AbouRizk  
Sandeep Agrawal  
Hussain Alhussainy  
Saadet Andrews  
Fateh Arslan  
Dale Askey  
Rebecca Avila  
Stanford Blade  
Ahmed Bouferguene  
Jayden Brooks  
Robert Burrell  
Daniela Carbajal  
Jason Carey  
Yiming Chen  
Sharon Compton  
Charvi Dhamija  
Richard Field  
Tahmid Al Hafiz  
Jaida Han  
Carol Hodgson  
Birkman

Christine Hughes  
Shanthi Johnson  
Matina Kalcounis-  
Rueppell  
Simran Kaur Dhillon  
Mobashhir Khan  
Vadim Kravchinsky  
Mohit Kumar  
Ariane Lamoureux  
Precious Majekodunmi  
Priyanka Mittapelly  
Sarah Opena-Sakar  
Elena Posse de Chaves  
Tracy Raivio  
Polina Reisbig  
Christian Reyns-  
Chikuma  
Aminah Robinson  
Fayek  
Keith Rourke  
Dweej Shah  
Srivathsan  
Shanmuganathan  
Subrat Sharma  
Chanpreet Singh  
Allison Sivak  
John Spence  
Rana Sunjog Singh  
Thind  
Frederick Tappenden  
Mirko van der Baan  
Vedant Vyas  
Yifeng Wei  
Shauna Wilton

**Governance Staff:**

Brad Hamdon, General  
Counsel and University  
Secretary  
Kate Peters, GFC  
Secretary  
Heather Richholt,  
Scribe  
Faiza Billo  
Erin Plume