OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda  
   David Turpin

2. Comments from the Chair (no documents)  
   - Delegation of Authority to GFC Executive  
   David Turpin

CONSENT AGENDA

[If a member has a question or feels that an item should be discussed, they should notify the Secretary to GFC, in writing, two business days or more in advance of the meeting so that the relevant expert can be invited to attend.]

3. Approval of the Minutes of March 30, 2020

4. New Members of GFC

ACTION ITEMS

5. University of Alberta Charter of Student Rights and Responsibilities – Akanksha Bhatnagar  
   André Costopoulos
   
   Materials will be posted when available
   
   Motion: To Endorse

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. Academic Governance Emergency Protocols (Standing Item)  
   David Turpin
   
   A. Report of the GFC Executive Committee
   
   B. Decision Tracker Document
   
   C. Upcoming Considerations for GFC
   
   • Letter Template – Discussion (Melissa Padfield) – Template will be posted when available
   
   • COVID – Scenario Planning Update (Andrew Sharman) – no documents
   
   • Engaging GFC and Next Steps (Dave Turpin) – no documents

7. Micro Credentials (no documents)  
   Steven Dew  
   Tammy Hopper

8. Question Period  
   David Turpin
   
   8.1. Question Received from Elected Member of GFC
INFORMATION REPORTS

[If a member has a question about a report, or feels that a report should be discussed by GFC, they should notify the Secretary to GFC, in writing, two business days or more in advance of the meeting so that the Committee Chair (or relevant expert) can be invited to attend.]

9. Report of the GFC Academic Planning Committee (no documents)
   - The report from the meeting of April 15, 2020 will be available at the next meeting of GFC

10. Report of the GFC Academic Standards Committee (no documents)
    - The report from the meeting of April 16, 2020 will be available at the next meeting of GFC

11. GFC Nominations and Elections (no documents)
    - Get Involved

12. Information Forwarded to GFC Members Between Meetings
    - Email: Provost Review Feedback

CLOSING SESSION

13. Next Meeting of General Faculties Council: May 25, 2020

Presenter(s):
David Turpin             President and Vice-Chancellor
Akanksha Bhatnagar      President, Students' Union
André Costopoulos       Vice Provost and Dean of Students
Steven Dew              Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Tammy Hopper            Vice-Provost (Programs)

Documentation was before members unless otherwise noted.

Meeting REGRETS to:     Heather Richholt, 780-492-1937, richholt@ualberta.ca
Prepared by:            Yimmie Sonuga, GFC Secretary and Manager, GFC Services
University Governance   www.governance.ualberta.ca
ATTENDEES:
Statutory Members: Nadir Erbilgin
Ex-Officio: Fay Erbilgin
David Turpin, Chair
Chris Andersen
Dale Askey
Stanford Blade
Lesley Cormack
Greta Cummings
Neal Davies
Steven Dew
Joseph Doucet
Fraser Forbes
Robert Haennel
Brenda Hemmelgarn
Shanthi Johnson
Matina Kalcounis-Rueppell
Gitta Kulczycki
Maria Mayan
Brooke Milne
Pierre-Yves Mocquais
Kerry Mummery
Melissa Padfield
David Percy
Matthias Ruth
Andrew Sharman
Kelly Spencer
Catherine Swindlehurst
Demetres
Tryphonopoulos
Jennifer Tupper
Elected Faculty: Susan Sommerfeldt
Jason Acker
Cathy Adams
J Nelson Amaral
Nicholas Beier
Heather Coleman
Piet Defraeye
Gary Etzen
Tarek El-Bialy
Anastasia Elias
Duncan Elliott
Appointed Members: Nadir Erbilgin
Adarsh Badesha
Fay Erbilgin
Matthew Barnett
Mary Forhan
Akanksha Bhatnagar
Bill Foster
Katherine Binhammer
Michael Frishkopf
Amlan Bose
Basil Hubbard
Melinda Chisholm
Nat Kav
André Costopoulos
Eva Lemaire
Natalie Diether
Pierre Lemelin
David Draper
Kathleen Lowrey
Fahed Elian
Susanne Luhmann
Shannon Erichsen
Pirkko Markula
Shawn Flynn
Lynn McMullen
Ian Gatera
Al Meldrum
Tahra Haddouche
Sue-Ann Mok
Jill Hall
Roger Moore
Olivia Harris
Sarah Moore
Abigail Isaac
Shannon O’Byrne
Peter Johnson
Christina Rinaldi
Kevin Kane
Dan Romanyk
Simran Kaur Dhillon
Victoria Ruetao
Alana Krahn
Carolyn Sale
Rajesh Kumar
Georg Schmolzer
Janice Kung
Richard Schulz
Rowan Ley
John Seubert
Christopher Lupke
Susan Sommerfeldt
Habba Mahal
Eleni Strouila
Mlmd Nazarahari
Kisha Supernant
Alesha Reed
Alan Underhill
Amber Sayed
Kristof Van Assche
Lindy Schaffrick
Dilini Vethanayagam
Sarah Severson
Akiko Watanabe
Andrei Tabirca
Jonathan White
Shahed Taghian
Lynne Witte
Dehaghani
Ian Winship
Frederick Tappenden
Minn-Nyoung Yoon
Samantha Tse
Yan Yuan
Janet Williamson
Students: Joel Agarwal
Donna Wilson
Jared Larsen
Adrienne Wright
Dylan Ashley
Larry Zhong
REGRETS:
Ayman Adwan
W. Ted Allison
Meijun Chen
Yiming Chen
Osman Gareau
Rojin McVea
Vivian Mushahwar
Anthony Nguyen
Dhan vanth Soora
May Tse
Guest:
Bill Flanagan, President-Elect
Staff:
Marion Haggarty-France,
University Secretary
Yimmie Sonuga, GFC
Secretary
Heather Richholt,
Assistant GFC Secretary
Ann Hodgson, University
Governance
Julie Zinken, University
Governance
Erin Plume, University
Governance
Laura Riley, University
Governance
Edyta McLoughlin
University Governance
Brad Hamdon, General
Counsel
Before the meeting was called to order, the Chair welcomed, and introduced, President-Elect Bill Flanagan, who was in attendance for the virtual meeting of GFC. He acknowledged and thanked members of the University community for:

- their efforts in working together, collegiately, to respond to the unprecedented pressures of these extraordinary times; and
- modelling the way with empathy and kindness.

The Chair then noted he had received a request from a member to rescind motions made by General Faculties Council Executive Committee (GFC Executive), under their delegated authority in accordance with section 4.1 of their Terms of Reference, to move to a credit/no-credit grading scheme for Winter 2020.

The Chair then provided the following context to frame a pre-meeting discussion on this matter, given the risk of procedural wrangling, around the motion, derailing such a discussion:

- that the aforementioned motions passed, by GFC Executive Committee, where taken with full authority, delegated to the Committee, following the consideration of a number of University-wide enterprise risks.

The Chair then led a discussion on the recent Covid-19-related Emergency Academic Governance Protocols. During the discussion, members raised comments including, but not limited to, the following:

- that the decisions were made keeping in mind the university’s primary institutional goals of health and safety, and academic integrity;
- that accreditation bodies were working to make changes to accommodate credit/no-credit grades;
- that there would be explanatory transcript notations regarding the winter 2020 grading scheme;
- that discussions about how to minimize the negative impacts of the mid-semester switch to online course delivery, are occurring across many Canadian universities;
- the negative impacts that changing the University’s current course could have on the student body given the diversity of their:
  - access to internet connectivity;
  - financial means;
  - living situation;
  - family demands; and
  - mental and physical health, during these extraordinary times.
- efforts to avoid inflated grades in relation to privilege;
- efforts to reduce stress and anxiety for students and instructors;
- social justice and equity, and the principles expressed in the Institutional Strategic Plan For the Public Good;
- that top University of Alberta students should have the choice to be given a letter grade, in order to better compete with top students from other universities;
- that some students were counting on this semester to boost their GPA for admission to another programs and could not necessarily afford to enroll in another semester for the same reason;
- concerns with eligibility for scholarships and admissions consideration by other universities;
- complaints about the lack of student consultation in making this decision;
- the student-led petition to allow students to choose letter grades or credit/no-credit; and
- concerns that GFC Executive made the decision when it should have been debated by full GFC.

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.
In response to a request from a member to add a motion to the agenda, in accordance with section 6.3 of the General Faculties Council (GFC) Meeting Procedural Rules, the Chair asked for a motion to amend the agenda, as posted on March 23, 2020.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor, Chair of General Faculties Council (GFC)

Motion: Sale/El-Bialy

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the addition of the following motion to the Agenda:

THAT the General Faculties Council revokes the decision taken by GFC Executive at a “special” meeting of 19 March 2020 that “All students will receive a credit (CR) or no credit (NC) grade for all Winter 2020 courses. No letter grades will be assigned.”

DEFEATED

Motion: Dew/Kulczycki

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the Agenda as posted.

CARRIED

2. Report from the President

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor, Chair of GFC; Andrew Sharman, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)

Discussion:
The Chair asked Mr. Sharman, in his role as administrative lead of the Covid-19 Public Health Response Team (PHRT), to give an update.

Mr. Sharman spoke about the university's collaboration with Alberta Health Services to prepare the Butterdome as a backup treatment center, and efforts regarding the use of facilities and concentration of janitorial work to keep those areas still in use as safe as possible.

The Chair noted that the university's request to deficit finance severance payments was refused by the provincial government which meant, sadly, that an additional 600 staff positions would have to be cut.

CONSENT AGENDA

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Consent Agenda Mover and Seconder: Dew/Padfield

3. Approval of the Minutes of February 24, 2020

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the open session minutes of February 24, 2020

CARRIED

4. Academic Governance Schedule 2020-2021
ACTION ITEMS

5. **Off-cycle Appointment of Elected Undergraduate Students to General Faculties Council**
   Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

   **Presenter(s):** Jonathan White, Chair of GFC Nominating Committee

   **Purpose of the Proposal:** Upon approval, the recommendation will allow for the off-cycle appointment of elected undergraduate students to General Faculties Council (GFC) for the replenishment of in-year vacancies; and align current student election practice with the new GFC Principles for Committee Composition.

   **Discussion:**
   There was no discussion.

   **Motion:** Padfield/Dew

   THAT General Faculties Council approve the off-cycle appointment of elected undergraduate students to GFC for the replenishment of in-year vacancies, as recommended by the GFC Nominating Committee, to take effect upon approval.

   CARRIED

6. **Proposed Suspensions of Majors in the Bachelor of Music Program, Augustana Faculty**
   Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

   **Presenter(s):** Demetres Tryphonopoulos, Dean, Augustana Faculty; Karsten Mündel, Associate Dean, Academic, Augustana Campus

   **Purpose of the Proposal:** The proposal is before GFC to seek a recommendation to the Board of Governors to suspend the Bachelor of Music ‘Piano’ and ‘Voice’ majors.

   **Discussion:**
   Dr. Tryphonopoulos gave a brief overview of the proposal. Dr. Mündel explained some of the changes that had been made at Augustana Campus, and how this proposal fit into curriculum renewal and streamlining efforts.

   A member expressed that the Faculty of Arts was supportive of the proposal.

   **Motion:** Dew/Padfield

   THAT General Faculties Council recommend that the Board of Governors approve the suspension of admissions to the Bachelor of Music in ‘Piano’ and ‘Voice’ majors, as recommended by the GFC Academic Planning Committee, as submitted by Augustana Faculty, and as set forth in Attachment 2, to take effect for Fall 2021.

   CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. **University of Alberta Non-Credit Credential Framework- Micro Credentials**
   Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

   **Presenter(s):** Tammy Hopper, Vice-Provost (Programs); Christie Schultz, Assistant Dean, Academic, Faculty of Extension
Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss and receive feedback on the proposed development of a Non-Credit Credential Framework for approval by GFC.

Discussion:
The presenters gave an outline of the work that was underway to create a framework and explained how it would support the creation and continuity of non-credit credential offerings across campus. They noted that the framework was scheduled to come back to GFC for approval in May.

8. Budget (no documents)
   - Update
   - Investment Management Agreements

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor, Chair of GFC; Steven Dew, Provost and Vice-President (Academic); Gitta Kulczycki, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)

Discussion:
Dr. Dew spoke about the provincial budget which had been released after the last meeting of GFC. His points revolved around the following topics:

- performance based funding;
- the disproportionate cut to the Campus Alberta Grant, which he confirmed was both larger than expected and larger than other institutions in the sector received;
- that the University was required to balance the budget, in-year, and could not draw on reserves or use carry forwards;
- that the inability to use deficit funding for severance costs would result in higher numbers of staff layoffs;
- that cuts across Faculties and Administrative Units would be differentially applied; and
- that Tuition and Fees would not be revisited as part of the internal revised-Budget approval process.

Members asked questions and expressed comments including but not limited to:

- lowering expenditures as a performance metric and the implications to grant and endowment funding;
- the rationale for the disproportionate cuts;
- comparisons with provincial funding per student at the University of Toronto and University of British Columbia who have much higher tuition rates;
- the potential implications of the Covid-19 pandemic on international enrollment targets; and
- whether or not the hiring freeze on operating funded positions would affect research grants.

9. Question Period

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): David Turpin, President and Vice-Chancellor, Chair of GFC

Discussion:
Submitted questions were addressed in the discussion regarding decisions made by GFC Executive Committee with delegated authority.

There were no questions from the floor.

INFORMATION REPORTS

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

10. Report of the GFC Executive Committee
11. **Report of the GFC Academic Planning Committee**

12. **Report of the GFC Academic Standards Committee**

13. **GFC Nominations and Elections**
   - Get Involved (link to governance website)

14. **Report of the Board of Governors**

15. **Information Forwarded to GFC Members Between Meeting**
    - Email from GFC Secretary
    - Questions for GFC

**CLOSING SESSION**

16. **Adjournment**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.
### New Members of GFC

**MOTION I: TO APPOINT/REAPPOINT:**

The following undergraduate student representatives to serve on GFC for terms commencing May 1, 2020 and ending April 30, 2021:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lucas Marques</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Xinxin Zhang</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts</td>
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<td>Yiming Chen</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts</td>
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<td>Talia Dixon</td>
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<td>Chris Beasley</td>
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<td>Nicole de Grano</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts</td>
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<td>Ana Oliveira</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts</td>
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<td>Daniela Carbajal</td>
<td>Augustana Faculty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marwan Burhani</td>
<td>Faculty of Business</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyler Saretzky</td>
<td>Faculty of Business</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purna Hariharan</td>
<td>Faculty of Engineering</td>
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<td>Zaryab Khan</td>
<td>Faculty of Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amlan Bose</td>
<td>Faculty of Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dhir Bid</td>
<td>Faculty of Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karl Buchanan</td>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacob Park</td>
<td>Faculty of Medicine &amp; Dentistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abner Monteiro</td>
<td>Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport &amp; Recreation</td>
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<td>Eric Einarson</td>
<td>Faculté Saint-Jean</td>
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<td>Samar Barazesh</td>
<td>Faculty of Science</td>
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<td>Emily Kimani</td>
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<td>Adarsh Badesha</td>
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<td>Rahul Korde</td>
<td>Faculty of Science</td>
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<td>Simran Dhillon</td>
<td>Faculty of Science</td>
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<td>Christian Fotang</td>
<td>Faculty of Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Devshri Lala</td>
<td>Faculty of Science</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1. Since last reporting to GFC, the Executive Committee met on April 6, 2020.

2. Items Approved With Delegated Authority

   Agenda Title: Academic Governance Emergency Protocols
   -Recommendations from the Covid-19 Public Health Response Team (PHRT) on Academic Impacts

   CARRIED MOTIONS:
   THAT General Faculties Council Executive, acting with delegated authority from General Faculties Council approve the following changes to the University of Alberta admissions process regarding the academic records, subject to the following constraints:

   1. In the event that an applicant to an undergraduate or graduate program at the university (domestic or international) is unable to provide final documentation due to school closures or exam cancellations that result from the COVID-19 pandemic, the University of Alberta may accept the grades and existing interim documents presented at the time of their initial offer as meeting the requirements to clear individual admission conditions. This provision applies to applicants to the Spring/Summer 2020 and Fall/Winter 2020/2021 semesters.

   2. For students applying to undergraduate or graduate programs, grades issued by the University of Alberta for courses taken in Winter 2020 will not be included in the calculation of admission GPAs. Grades of CR from Winter 2020 will contribute to the credit requirements for admission and will be accepted as satisfying program prerequisites.

   Grades of NC from Winter 2020 will not contribute to credit requirements for admission. Courses for which students have received a grade of NC will not satisfy program prerequisites.

   3. For external post-secondary students applying to undergraduate and graduate programs at the University of Alberta, grades for courses taken in Winter 2020 will not be included in the calculation of admission GPAs.

   Passing grades from Winter 2020 will contribute to the credit requirements for individual admissions, provided the grades meet the threshold required for transfer credit as outlined in the University Calendar, and will be accepted as satisfying program prerequisites.

   Non-passing grades from Winter 2020 will not contribute to the credit requirements for individual admissions and will not be accepted as satisfying program prerequisites.

   4. The Duolingo English Test will be made available to all applicants to undergraduate and graduate programs as an additional option to demonstrate English Language Proficiency for Spring/Summer 2020 and Fall/Winter 2020/2021 semesters.

   THAT General Faculties Council Executive, acting with delegated authority from General Faculties Council delegate to the President and Vice-Chancellor the authority to adjust admission offer acceptance and document deadlines for the Fall 2020 admissions cycle in order to facilitate necessary changes resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.
THAT General Faculties Council Executive, acting with delegated authority from General Faculties Council delegate to the President and Vice-Chancellor the authority to adjust admissions-related deadlines for the Spring, Summer and Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 admissions cycles, in consultation with the Deans (departments), to facilitate necessary changes resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Agenda Title: Update and Request for Extension - GFC Executive's ad hoc Committee on Program Approval Processes

CARRIED MOTION: THAT the GFC Executive Committee approve an extension for final recommendations of the ad hoc Committee on Program Approval Processes to be submitted to the General Faculties Council by May 25, 2020.

3. Items Recommended to GFC

Agenda Title: University of Alberta Charter of Student Rights and Responsibilities

CARRIED MOTION: THAT General Faculties Council Executive Committee recommends that General Faculties Council endorse the implementation of the University

4. Items Discussed

- Debrief on Virtual GFC
- Micro Credentials

Terms of reference and records of meetings for this committee can be found at: https://www.ualberta.ca/governance/member-zone/gfc-standing-committees#GFC_EXEC

Submitted by:
David Turpin, Chair
GFC Executive Committee
Excellent, many thanks for your prompt reply.

All the best,
Andrei

Andrei Tabirca, BA, MBA
International Partnerships and Recruitment Specialist
Faculty of Arts
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www.foa.ualberta.ca

The University of Alberta respectfully acknowledges that we are situated on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.

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1(a) In view of the current unprecedented events taking place in Edmonton and across the world, are there any plans or considerations for maintaining monthly online GFC meetings past May 25th? While the existing schedule indicates a break after May, with the next GFC meeting taking place in late September, the rapid changes that the University has made (and may need to make) would indicate that a new approach is worth examining. Yes will we arrange for this question to be discussed at GFC.

2. Furthermore, given the very different environment we are finding ourselves operating in, can we review and re-examine some of the GFC Meeting Procedural Rules? I refer specifically to section 2.3: From time to time the Chair of the GFC may call special meetings of GFC, provided that notice of such meetings is given to members at least one month in advance; this response time seems rather inadequate after the last few months' events. I see this as question 1(b) as this would likely be the mechanism for making that change.

Additionally, do you have any idea if Dean Flanagan will join us at the next GFC session? No, I do not at this time.

Stay safe,
Andrei

Andrei Tabirca, BA, MBA
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The University of Alberta respectfully acknowledges that we are situated on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.

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Yimmel Sonuga B.Com., LL.B. | Pronouns: She/Her
General Faculties Council (GFC) Secretary and Manager of GFC Services
University of Alberta | University Governance
3-04 South Academic Building (SAB) | Edmonton, AB | Canada | T6G 2G7
Tel: 780.492.4733 | yimmie.sonuga@ualberta.ca

The University of Alberta respectfully acknowledges we are situated on Amiskwacîwaskahikan Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.

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To Members of GFC:

Provost and Vice President (Academic) Steve Dew is nearing the end of his five-year term and he has indicated a willingness to renew his appointment. Under UAPPOL policy the Advisory Review Committee for Provost and Vice-President (Academic) seeks your input on this important process. Information regarding the Review Process and a link to the feedback form can be found at: https://blog.ualberta.ca/provost-and-vice-president-review-input-from-the-community-bd340958dcf3.

Please submit your feedback by 4:30 pm, April 9, 2020.
destroyed.