

GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL

Approved Minutes

Meeting #562

Thursday, February 18, 2016, 1:30 p.m.

Science Theatre 147

Voting Members E. Cannon, Chair D. Marshall, Vice-Chair S. Ahmed G. Assefa S. Barker T. Beattie B. Becker J. Bouchard D. Bruckner D. Cramb	T. Gabriele J. Grant S. Guscott C. Henderson T. Hickerson S. Hossack C. Jaeger V. Jones D. Kenyon C. Klune M. Konnert	D. MacDonald E. McCauley L. McCoy S. McFarlane E. McLachlan J. Meddings M. Migotti R. Newton N. Peters Q. Pittman N. Pollock-Ellwand	R. Sigurdson F. Smith J. Sparling E. Storey L. Taylor R. Thompson F. van der Hoorn J. Watson Hamilton M. Webster P. Werthner I. Winchester
S. Barker	S. Hossack	J. Meddings	
T. Beattie	C. Jaeger	M. Migotti	F. van der Hoorn
B. Becker	V. Jones	R. Newton	J. Watson Hamilton
J. Bouchard	D. Kenyon	N. Peters	M. Webster
D. Bruckner	C. Klune	Q. Pittman	P. Werthner
D. Cramb	M. Konnert	N. Pollock-Ellwand	I. Winchester
A. Cribb	P. Kusalik	L. Rigg	R. Woodrow
L. Dalgetty	S. LeBlanc	W. Rosehart	M. Wright
J. Dewald	C. Lind	A. Saweczko	
M. Foley	J. Lockyer	K. Schnell	
S. Friesen for D. Sumara	M. Lysack	J. Sieppert	

Guests

- V. Pruegger, Director, Office of Diversity, Equity and Protected Disclosure present for Item 6
- J. Quin, Senior Director, Student Services present for Items 6 and 7

Observers

- S. Beatty, Libraries and Cultural Resources
- D. Crowell, Associate Vice-President (Strategic Communications)
- K. Jackson, University General Counsel
- J. Krygier, Faculty Association
- K. McGowan, Students' Union
- J. Ruwanpura, Vice-Provost (International)
- C. Tutt, Governance Coordinator, University Secretariat

SecretaryScribeS. BelcherE. Sjogren

Opening Session

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Remarks of the Chair

Elizabeth Cannon, Chair, included the following in her remarks:

- Erica McLachlan, GSA Vice-President (External), was welcomed to her first meeting as a voting member of GFC
- The federal and provincial governments are working on their respective budgets, and the post-secondary sector has been providing positive messaging relating to the importance of funding post-secondary education, research, mental health, and infrastructure. Because of the current economic climate, there is some uncertainly regarding the funding the University may receive.
- A preliminary consultation relating to the re-energizing of the University's *Eyes High* strategic direction has been initiated, and the parameters for moving forward with this will be determined by June 2016. The formal consultation process will begin in September 2016, with a goal to bring the renewed strategic direction through for approval in March 2017.

2. Remarks of the Vice-Chair

Dru Marshall, Vice-Chair, included the following in her remarks:

- The University's budget continues to move through the consultation process
- A recent meeting of provincial Provosts highlighted that the Ministry of Advanced Education is looking carefully at new program proposals, including close examination of related data and budgets. The potential for professional Masters programs was also considered at this meeting.
- Mexico is a country of emphasis for the University, and the University has an agreement in place
 with the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This relationship will be enhanced with the
 announcement tomorrow of a Mexico Chair program that will bring Mexican professors to
 campus.

3. Question Period

In response to a question, the Vice-Chair confirmed that the provincial government generally does not view positively the reallocation of funding from one program to another, but reported that the University has successfully worked with the provincial government to reallocate program funding in the past.

4. Safety Moment

Robert Thompson, Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors Environment, Health, Safety and Sustainability Committee, spoke briefly to GFC on the subject of smoke detectors. He emphasised that at least one smoke detector should be located on every floor, they should be regularly tested and have batteries replaced, and the detectors should be replaced every ten years. He reported that it is now possible to install interconnected detectors, which means that if one goes off all the detectors in the building will sound an alarm.

In response to a question, Bart Becker, Vice-President (Facilities), reported that the University does have some carbon monoxide detectors, but that these are not widespread.

5. Approval of the January 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

In relation to Item 16 of the January 14, 2016 Minutes (Approved Faculty Council Terms of Reference – Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Environmental Design, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Faculty of Nursing, Faculty of Science, and Haskayne School of Business), Stephan Guscott, Students' Union Vice-President (Academic) requested that the following statement be recorded in these minutes: "student representation on Faculty Council in large Faculties with very diverse programs is a challenge, and at the last meeting I mentioned the Faculty of Science as one of several large Faculties facing that challenge, however to find a reasonable solution to encompass those student perspectives on Faculty Council, the Faculty of Science increased the number of students proportional to the number of students in the Faculty as a positive step to mitigate that challenge."

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the General Faculties Council meeting held on January 14, 2016 be approved.

Carried

6. Recommendation to Implement the Recommendations Articulated in the Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence Report

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Dru Marshall, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Jennifer Quin, Senior Director, Student Services, and Valerie Pruegger, Director, Office of Diversity, Equity and Protected Disclosure, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents emphasised that the report relates to student-to-student sexual harassment and sexual violence only. Behaviour by faculty and staff is covered by various agreements and other policies, and so was not included in this report.
- The proponents reviewed the report's recommendations, which include the development of:
 - A standalone student-centred sexual violence policy
 - o An education framework
 - An easily-findable sexual violence resource website
 - Support for ongoing related research
 - A system aligning available student supports
 - An implementation committee to oversee the institution's response to the recommendations in the report
- The proponents indicated that it is important to show students that sexual violence will not be tolerated in any form at this institution
- In response to questions, the proponents indicated that:
 - Post-doctoral scholars could be included in the proposed policy, and could be included in the communication plan, as they are not faculty, staff, or students and so are not covered by the other agreements

- Campus Security is aware of hot spots and times for violence on campus, and is working to improve safety
- The University will have a comprehensive suite of policies and agreements that will address situations such as student aggression against a staff member or staff member aggression against a student
- The implementation committee will consist of faculty, students, and staff, and will include any members of the Ad-Hoc Sub-Committee on the Prevention of Student-to-Student Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence who wish to continue. Anyone interested in volunteering to participate in the work of the implementation committee may contact the proponents.

Moved/Seconded

That the General Faculties Council (GFC) recommend that management proceed to implement the recommendations articulated in the Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence Report, as presented to GFC and as recommended by the GFC Executive Committee.

Carried

7. 2014-2015 Non-Academic Misconduct Annual Report

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Susan Barker, Vice-Provost (Student Experience), and Jennifer Quin, Senior Director, Student Services, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents reported that the Student Non-Academic Misconduct (SNAM) Policy requires that
 an annual report be submitted to GFC, outlining the nature and number of complaints, and any
 decisions and sanctions made under this policy
- The proponents noted that the University now has a Student at Risk Policy in addition to the SNAM Policy, and so this has impacted the data included in this annual report
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - Residence Services will deal with any residence-related misconduct, and that the SNAM Policy process will be invoked, and additional sanctions applied, only if there are broader aspects to the misconduct
 - It is normal for the rate of reporting to fluctuate over the course of the year
 - If an incident is serious, and could lead to a sanction such as suspension, it will be judged by a Hearing Board, which is comprised of the Senior Director (Student Services), a faculty member, and a student
 - Student leaders are educated on the SNAM Policy so that they can ensure that students are made aware of it
 - Letters sent to students under the SNAM Policy refer to the University's ombudsperson,
 as a resource for students to help them understand the process

8. Report on the February 2, 2016 GFC Executive Committee (EC) Meeting

A report on the February 2, 2016 meeting of the EC was circulated with the Agenda. There were no questions.

9. Report on the January 11, 2016 and January 25, 2016 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) Meetings

A report on the January 11, 2016 and January 25, 2016 meetings of the APPC was circulated with the Agenda. There were no questions.

10. Report on the January 21, 2016 Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) Meeting

A report on the January 21, 2016 meeting of the TLC was circulated with the Agenda. There were no questions.

11. Report on the January 25, 2016 Senate Meeting

A report on the January 25, 2016 meeting of the Senate was circulated with the Agenda. There were no questions.

12. 2016-2017 GFC Membership Distribution

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda, for information only.

13. 2016-2017 GFC and GFC Standing Committees Meeting Schedule

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda, for information only.

14. Other Business

There was no other business.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

Susan Belcher University Secretary