



GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL
Approved Minutes

Meeting #568

Thursday, November 17, 2016, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Kinesiology B 126

Voting Members

D. Marshall, Vice-Chair

A. Abdelhafiz

A. Afshar

S. Alexander

S. Barker

B. Barton

J. Beaudoin

J. Bergerson

D. Bruckner

J. Cobb

D. Cramb

L. Dalgetty

J. Dewald

P. Doyle-Baker

M. Drefs

M. Foley

P. Friedrichsen

T. Gabriele

S. Grewal

W. Hartwell

T. Hickerson

S. Hoenle

S. Hossack

C. Hurrell

M. Hynes

J. Jenkins

V. Jones

B. Keay for L. Rigg

M. Konnert

P. Kusalik

S. LeBlanc

A. Levey

J. Lockyer

A. Lunz

L. McCoy

S. McFarlane

C. Mannion

C. Martini

M. Migotti

T. Miller

A. Offenbecker

Q. Pittman

S. Premji

C. Reveen

J. Revington

J. Reynolds

P. Rogers

W. Rosehart

A. Saweczko

M. Shearer

J. Sieppert

B. Singh

S. Sirianni

E. Storey

D. Tapp

Z. Tasnim

L. Taylor

J. Towers

R. Wallace

W.D. Walls

H. Warsame

J. Watson Hamilton

R. Woodrow

L. Young

Guests

L. Falkenberg, Chair of the Energizing *Eyes High* Secretariat – present for Item 7

V. Rendell, Director of Academic Relations – present for Item 5

S. Sethi, Legal Counsel (Policy) – present for Item 6

J. Stein, Director of Risk Management and Insurance – present for Item 6

Observers

X.Y. Fang, Graduate Students' Association

J. Krygier, Faculty Association

K. Jackson, University General Counsel

J. Morgan, Students' Union

D. Parthenis, University Relations

S. Strasser, Gauntlet

Secretary

S. Belcher

Scribe

E. Sjogren

The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Remarks of the Vice-Chair

The Vice-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- Consultation meetings with various stakeholders, including faculty and graduate students, have been taking place regarding possible changes to the Post-Secondary Learning Act (PSLA) respecting labour relations. It is anticipated that changes to the PSLA could be legislated sometime between April-June 2017.
- The provincial government's review of tuition and mandatory non-instructional fees is underway. Feedback from a variety of stakeholders is being collected through an online survey and formal written submissions. The Comprehensive Academic and Research Institutions will be preparing a joint submission.
- The provincial government's review of the post-secondary funding model will have a narrower consultation, and any decisions will be made in parallel with decisions regarding tuition and mandatory non-instructional fees
- Consultation for the University's proposed Sexual Violence Policy includes posting the document on the University's website with a request for feedback. During this 30-day period, discussions with the Faculty Association and the University's Alberta Union of Provincial Employees (AUPE) chapter will occur.
- The University's Indigenous Strategy is in development. Dialogues with stakeholders are taking place, and the feedback will be used in drafting the strategic framework. It is anticipated that the Indigenous Strategy will move through the approval process in March-April 2017.
- It is possible that the provincial government's budget might be announced in February 2017. Internally, the University's budgeting process is underway. The University's budget will begin working its way through the approval process in the new year.

2. Question Period

In response to a question, it was reported that the AUPE's concerns with the Sexual Violence Policy relate to how the policy fits with the AUPE's Collective Agreement and other University policies.

3. Safety Moment

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Dianne Tapp, Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, spoke to GFC on the topic of Winter Driving Tips.

4. Approval of the October 13, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Two amendments to the Minutes were requested.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the General Faculties Council meeting held on October 13, 2016 be approved, with the requested amendments.

Carried

5. **Approval of the Procedure for Adding an Academic Appointment to a Senior Leadership Team Position**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Valerie Rendell, Director of Academic Relations, and Dru Marshall, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), were present for this item.

The proponents reviewed the revisions to the proposed procedure since the last time GFC saw this item. There were no questions.

Moved/Seconded

That the General Faculties Council (GFC) approve the Procedure for Adding an Academic Appointment to a Senior Leadership Team Position, in the form provided to the GFC, and as recommended by the GFC Executive Committee.

Carried

6. **International Travel Policy and Procedure**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Suzzi Sethi, Legal Counsel, and Janet Stein, Director of Risk Management and Insurance, were present for this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents reviewed the process that was followed in updating the International Travel Policy and International Travel Procedure, and reported that the approval authority for these is the Provost and Vice-President (Academic). The proponents emphasised that the policy and procedure are meant to advantage students, staff, and academic staff who travel internationally, by enabling the University to provide assistance when needed.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - The basic approval process for international travel for University activities remains the same, and there will continue to be a waiver form for people to sign to acknowledge the risks of travelling to some locations. The proposed new process document includes reference to the assistance the University can provide if people register their travel.
 - The policy and procedure state that academic staff are “strongly encouraged” to register their travel
 - The wording of section 4.12 of the policy was revised, based on feedback during the consultation process, to state that an international traveller may be held “personally responsible to ensure that the University is reimbursed”. The original text stated that international travellers may be held “personally responsible for reimbursing”.
 - Academic staff and graduate students are the only groups who may travel for University activities to an international destination that has a risk rating of extreme risk
 - If a person has registered their international travel, the University will advise the person if the risk rating for the destination has changed
- It was agreed that section 3-n of the procedure should indicate that a visiting-student-outbound may receive a letter of permission from the Registrar or the Faculty, not just from the Registrar. This was previously corrected in the proposed policy.

- The proponents reported that, once the policy and procedure are approved, there will be an e-mail communication to the campus community announcing their implementation

7. Energizing Eyes High Update

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Loren Falkenberg, Chair of the Energizing *Eyes High* Secretariat, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter reviewed the participation in the Energizing *Eyes High* survey, focus groups, and poll to date
- It was reported that:
 - Participation is significantly higher than targeted for the poll and survey
 - The campus-wide focus groups will wrap up at the end of the month, but there are still some Faculty-specific focus groups to be held in early December
 - The members of the *Eyes High* Secretariat will analyse the feedback collected. Documents setting out the feedback received for each of the themes (Research and Scholarship, Teaching and Learning, Integration with Community, Campus Culture, and Student Experience) will be created, and Faculty-specific versions will be produced.
 - Preliminary analysis shows that feedback includes suggestions for small and larger scale revisions to the *Eyes High* strategy, but that revising the *Eyes High* strategy rather than creating an entirely new strategy is supported
 - An energized *Eyes High* strategy for 2016-2022 will be developed and brought through the governance system for approval. There will be an accompanying internal document outlining the methodology used in drafting the strategy.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - Student-only focus groups have been held, and that the overall participation statistics will be analysed to assess student participation
 - Previous weekly polls are now closed, but could be re-opened if members of the campus community wish to continue to respond

8. Report on the October 28, 2016 GFC Executive Committee Meeting

A report on the October 28, 2016 meeting of the GFC Executive Committee (EC) was circulated with the Agenda. Dru Marshall, Vice-Chair of the EC, was present to answer questions. There were no questions.

9. Report on the October 24 and 31, 2016 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Meetings

A report on the October 24 and 31, 2016 meetings of the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) was circulated with the Agenda. Dru Marshall, Co-Chair of the APPC, was present to answer questions. There were no questions.

10. Report on the October 18, 2016 Research and Scholarship Committee Meeting

A report on the October 18, 2016 meeting of the Research and Scholarship Committee (RSC) was circulated with the Agenda. John Reynolds, Co-Chair of the RSC, was present to answer questions. There were no questions.

11. Report on the October 20, 2016 Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting

A report on the October 20, 2016 meeting of the Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) was circulated with the Agenda. Lynn Taylor, Co-Chair of the TLC, was present to answer questions.

In response to a question, it was reported that the paper *Guiding Principles for Meaningful Assessment of Students' Learning* can be provided upon request. It was noted that the TLC is reviewing a shorter version of this paper, and considering how to make this resource meaningful and available.

12. Report on the October 19, 2016 Senate Meeting

A report on the October 19, 2016 meeting of the Senate was circulated with the Agenda. Cynthia Mannion, a GFC member on the Senate, was present to answer questions.

In response to a question it was clarified that the University is ranked the #1 young university in Canada and North America for 2016 by Times Higher Education, and within the top 200 for rest of the world.

13. Report on the October 21, 2016 Board of Governors Meeting

A report on the October 21, 2016 meeting of the Board of Governors was circulated with the Agenda. There were no questions.

14. Approved Faculty of Social Work Faculty Council Terms of Reference

The Faculty of Social Work (FSW) Faculty Council Terms of Reference, approved by the EC on October 28, 2016, was circulated with the Agenda.

In response to questions, it was reported that:

- The undergraduate student members of the Faculty Council will receive training from the Students' Union, and they will be invited to meet with the Dean and Associate Deans of the FSW to talk about the Faculty's governance system
- There are 49 academic staff members in the FSW with appointments of .5 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) or greater, and there are currently no academic staff members with appointments less than .5 FTE

15. Policy Development Update

A report on the policies and procedures moving through the development process was circulated with the Agenda. There were no questions.

16. Other Business

There was no other business.

17. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the General Faculties Council adjourn the November 17, 2016 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.