



**GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL**

Approved Minutes

Meeting #577

Thursday, December 7, 2017, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Science Theatre 147

***Voting Members***

E. Cannon, Chair	M. Deol	S. LeBlanc	L. Reid
S. Alexander	S. Eaton	A. Levey	M. Reid
G. Armstrong	R. El-Hacha	K. Lukowiak	L. Rigg
S. Barker	F. Finley	M. Lysack	W. Rosehart
T. Beattie	S. Franceschet	E. McCauley	A. Saweczko
B. Becker	M. Ghaderi Debkordi	L. McCoy	D. Tapp
M. Bennett	N. Golob	G. McQueen for J. Meddings	A. Tehrani
S. Boysen	S. Greenway	B. Maini	M. Topps
J. Brown	S. Grewal	T. Miller	J. Towers
D. Bruckner	W. Hartwell	N. Mohammadi	H. Warsame
B. Cave	S. Hoenle	B. Paris	J. Watson-Hamilton
S. Chalhoub	C. Hurrell	S. Park	P. Werthner
J. Cobb	M. Hynes	N. Peters	R. Woodrow
L. Dalgetty	J. Jenkins	Q. Pittman	D. Wulff
K. Dang	D. Kenyon	J. Priest	H. Zareipour
	M. Konnert	L. Radtke	

***Guests***

- N. Arthur, Academic Co-Chair, Research and Scholarship Committee – present for Item 13
- N. Chick, Academic Director, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning – present for Item 6
- K. Jackson, General Counsel – present for Items 4 and 9
- E. Kurz, Academic Co-Chair, Teaching and Learning Committee – present for Item 14
- S. Skone, Associate Vice-President (Research) – present for Item 7
- R. Thompson, Academic Co-Chair, Academic Planning and Priorities Committee – present for Item 12

***Observers***

- C. Johns, Senior Director, Academic and International Strategies
- C. McVie, Provost's Office
- S. Miller, Faculty Association
- J. Olfert, Students' Union
- P. Reicher, Associate Vice-President (Communications)

***Secretary***

S. Belcher

***Scribe***

E. Sjogren

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

**1. Remarks of the Chair**

The Chair included the following in her remarks:

- The Vice-Chair is away for this meeting, which means the meeting will deviate slightly from the Agenda
- Leslie Reid has been appointed as the Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), and Jim Dewald has been reappointed as the Dean of the Haskayne School of Business
- A ceremony was held on November 16, 2017 to launch the University's Indigenous Strategy, and the strategy was presented to federal government officials last week
- The recommendations in the Naylor report on federal support for fundamental science research are being considered by the federal government and by stakeholders, and the government is being encouraged by institutions, groups and individuals to make impactful decisions regarding how the recommendations will be actioned
- The federal government is conducting a review of the copyright legislation, including consideration of fair dealing. This impacts persons at post-secondary institutions, who are both users and creators of content.
- The provincial government has decided to continue the post-secondary tuition freeze for 2018-2019, but the University will receive backfill funding to compensate for the freeze
- The provincial government's reviews of post-secondary funding and mandates are continuing, and the budgeting process is underway

**2. Remarks of the Vice-Chair**

*Item withdrawn.*

**3. Question Period**

There were no questions.

**4. Safety Moment**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Karen Jackson, General Counsel, spoke to the General Faculties Council (GFC) on the topic of "Christmas Shopping Safety".

**5. Approval of the November 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Minutes of the General Faculties Council meeting held on November 9, 2017 be approved.

**Carried**

## **6. Approval of Revisions to the University of Calgary Teaching and Learning Grants**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Leslie Reid, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), and Nancy Chick, Academic Director, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents reviewed the two proposed revisions to the University of Calgary Teaching and Learning Grants: 1) re-naming the practice stream to “Development and Innovation” in order to clarify that a range of activities with aim to enhance students’ learning will be supported; and 2) taking some prohibitions out of the budget guidelines in order to allow more flexibility in using the grant funds to support teaching and learning practices
- There were no questions

### **Moved/Seconded**

That the General Faculties Council (GFC) approve the revisions to the University of Calgary Teaching and Learning Grants, as presented to the GFC and as recommended by the Teaching and Learning Committee.

**Carried**

## **7. Approval of the University of Calgary Canada Research Chairs Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Ed McCauley, Vice-President (Research), and Susan Skone, Associate Vice-President (Research), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponents reviewed the development of the University’s Canada Research Chairs (CRC) Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan, and confirmed that the University is meeting the requirements of the CRC program. It was reported that the plan will both enable the University to achieve its targets for the four designated groups (women, Aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities and visible minorities) and to retain scholars.
- The proponents reported that the University will be filling numerous CRC positions in the coming year, and so the targets should be achievable. Persons in the designated groups will be encouraged to apply, and prioritized hiring will be employed if a person in a designated group is short-listed.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - Chair holders, and potential chair holders, self-identify whether they are in one of the four designated groups. Self-identification will be encouraged.
  - CRCs can be filled with internal candidates
  - An individual can be counted toward more than one target, e.g. an Aboriginal woman
  - No current chair holders will be terminated in order to re-hire to meet the University’s targets. Projections indicate that pro-active recruitment to the hiring pool for open positions, and prioritized hiring, will be sufficient. The proponents emphasised that the selection committees will evaluate candidates appropriately and based on academic merits, and that prioritized hiring practices will not prevent the selection committees from hiring in the best interest of the University.

- The CRC Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan will be implemented in tandem with the University's normal hiring policy. Faculty selection committees will follow their regular autonomous hiring process, but the University will need to regularly report to the CRC program on the University's progress toward meeting CRC program requirements and the University's targets.
- The President of the Faculty Association noted that allocating a chair for a specific demographic may contravene the Collective Agreement
- The Chair noted that, over time, the CRC Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan hiring practices may influence how the University conducts all hires

**Moved/Seconded**

That the General Faculties Council (GFC) approve the University of Calgary Canada Research Chair Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan, in the form provided to the GFC.

**Carried****8. Approval of the Academic Schedule for 2022-2023**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Angelique Saweczko, Registrar, presented this item.

## Highlights:

- The proponent reviewed the proposed Academic Schedule for 2022-2023, and reported that no revisions to the previously-approved schedules are necessary
- There were no questions

**Moved/Seconded**

That the General Faculties Council (GFC) approve the Academic Schedule for 2022-2023, in the form provided to the GFC.

**Carried****9. Recommendation of the New Agreement (January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2022) with the State of Qatar to Deliver Nursing Programs**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Karen Jackson, General Counsel, and Dianne Tapp, Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, presented this item.

## Highlights:

- The proponents reviewed the history of the University of Calgary in Qatar (UCQ), and highlighted the programs being delivered. The proponents noted the differences between the old and new agreements, and emphasised that a current priority of UCQ is to help Qatar build capacity in nursing leadership.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - While the UCQ graduates are hireable in the surrounding countries, there is demand for registered nurses in Qatar and it is the intent of Qatar to retain the graduates. Students are not recruited internationally.

- The UCQ programs have not been negatively impacted by the recent diplomatic crisis between Qatar and several other countries

**Moved/Seconded**

That the General Faculties Council (GFC) recommend that the Board of Governors approve the material terms and conditions of a new agreement between the University of Calgary and the State of Qatar for the delivery of nursing programs in Qatar, as presented to the GFC.

**Carried**

Sandra Hoenle abstained.

**10. National Survey of Student Engagement Results**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Leslie Reid, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), presented this item.

**Highlights:**

- The GFC received a presentation highlighting the University's 2017 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) results, including comparisons of the University's data with the Canadian Top 5 average. The presenter reported that the engagement indicators are grouped into four theme areas (academic challenge, learning with peers, experiences with faculty, and the campus environment), and that the University's next steps include holding retreats to analyse and interpret the data and to develop NSSE action plans.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - Other users of the NSSE data include Maclean's magazine
  - The Office of Institutional Analysis distills the University's NSSE data by Faculty, but data for large programs may be provided upon request
  - The NSSE report refers to "fourth year" students, but this is misleading as this grouping includes all final-year students including those in their fifth, or later, year
- The GFC discussed:
  - Factors that may explain the differing responses between first-year and final-year students, such as that first-year students receive a lot of support upon entering the University (e.g. Orientation) but then are left to be independent in later years
  - Factors that may influence students' responses to the survey, such as that final-year students may be concerned about entering a weak employment situation
  - That the Employee Engagement Survey collects similar information to the NSSE. The Chair remarked that it is important for employees who feel pride and confidence in the University to project this as this can impact students' experience.

**11. Report on the November 17, 2017 GFC Executive Committee (EC) Meeting**

A report on the November 17, 2017 meeting of the EC was circulated with the Agenda. Elizabeth Cannon, Chair of the EC, was present to answer questions.

There were no questions.

**12. Report on the November 6, 2017 and November 27, 2017 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC) Meetings**

A report on the November 6, 2017 and November 27, 2017 meetings of the APPC was circulated with the Agenda. Robert Thompson, Academic Co-Chair of the APPC, was present to answer questions.

There were no questions.

**13. Report on the November 21, 2017 Research and Scholarship Committee (RSC) Meeting**

A report on the November 21, 2017 meeting of the RSC was circulated with the Agenda. Nancy Arthur, Academic Co-Chair of the RSC, was present to answer questions.

There were no questions.

**14. Report on the November 23, 2017 Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) Meeting**

A report on the November 23, 2017 meeting of the TLC was circulated with the Agenda. Ebba Kurz, Academic Co-Chair of the TLC, was present to answer questions.

In response to a question, it was reported that the Academic Regulations stipulate that a student must ask for permission from the instructor before they can record a lecture with a cellphone. If a student is registered for accommodation in this regard, the instructor will be informed by Student Accessibility Services.

**15. Policy Development Update**

A report on the policies and procedures moving through the development process was circulated with the Agenda, for information only.

**16. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**17. Adjournment**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the General Faculties Council adjourn the December 7, 2017 meeting.

**Carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.