



GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL

Approved Minutes

Meeting #580

Thursday, March 8, 2018, 1:30 p.m.

Science Theatre 147

Voting Members

E. Cannon, Chair
D. Marshall, Vice-Chair
T. Afyouni
G. Armstrong
C. Ayachit
S. Barker
B. Barton
T. Beattie
B. Becker
J. Brown
D. Bruckner
B. Cave
J. Cobb
D. Cramb
A. dela Cruz
M. Drefs
R. Ellaway
J. Ellis
S. Franceschet
M. Gavrilova
S. Greenway
S. Grewal

W. Hartwell
W. Herzog
S. Hoenle
K. Huggard
C. Hurrell
M. Hynes
P. Johnson
V. Jones
D. Kenyon
M. Konnert
J. Lock
J. Lockyer
K. Lukowiak
E. McCauley
S. McFarlane
B. Maini
J. Meddings
T. Miller
D. Moynagh
L. Ocampo
D. Paskevich
S. Premji
J. Priest

J. Rabi
L. Radtke
L. Reid
M. Reid
J. Revington
L. Rigg
B. Rosehart
B. Saifeddine
A. Saweczko
J. Sieppert
R. Sigurdson
F. Smith
D. Sumara
D. Tapp
T. Tombe
M. Topps
H. Warsame
S. Weaver
R. Woodrow
L. Young
H. Zareipour

Guests

Bruce Evelyn, Vice-Provost (Planning and Resource Allocation) – present for Item 7
Jeff Lee, Office of Institutional Analysis – present for Item 7

Observers

K. Jackson, General Counsel
C. Johns, Senior Director - Academic and International Strategies
C. McVie, Provost's Office
J. Olfert, Students' Union
J. Ruwanpura, Vice-Provost (International)

Secretary

S. Belcher

Scribe

E. Sjogren

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Remarks of the Chair

The Chair included the following in her remarks:

- The federal budget has been announced, and it is positive for the post-secondary sector. Commitments include increased funding for the Tri-Council, the Canada Research Chairs program, and the Canada Foundation for Innovation.
- The provincial budget will be announced on March 22, 2018
- The President is participating in the City of Calgary's CEO Roundtable, which is considering ways to refresh the City's economic strategy and will make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council
- The University is considering opportunities to increase the University's involvement in and use of the Research Park lands and buildings located immediately north of the main campus
- Development of the University District is underway, and information can be obtained from the project's Discovery Centre
- Jill Wyatt has been announced as the new Chair of the University's Board of Governors. She has a strong education and community leadership background, and will lead the University's Presidential search process.

2. Remarks of the Vice-Chair

The Vice-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- The metrics associated with the Academic and Research Plans will be presented at the next meeting of the General Faculties Council (GFC)
- There is the possibility that the provincial budget may result in an increased number of technical program student spaces, and the University is preparing for this
- Announcements regarding the appointments of the Dean of the Faculty of Environmental Design and the Vice-Provost (Libraries and Cultural Resources) will be made next week

3. Question Period

In response to a question, the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and the Dean and Vice-Provost (Graduate Education) explained that the fee systems for international post-secondary students differ across the country, and reported that the University's differential fees system for international students will be under review in the near future.

4. Safety Moment

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. D'Arcy Moynaugh, Chief Information Officer, spoke to GFC on the topic of "Snow Shovel Safety".

5. Approval of the February 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. One revision to the minutes was reported.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the General Faculties Council meeting held on February 8, 2018 be approved, with the reported amendment.

Carried

6. Election of Two Academic Staff Members to the Presidential Search Committee

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The following persons were elected:

David Hansen, Science
Brenda Hemmelgarn, Medicine

7. Benefits to Post-Secondary Education Project

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Bruce Evelyn and Jeff Lee presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reported that the provincial government's Benefits to Post-Secondary Education Project (BPSEP) uses Statistics Canada data to analyse and compare median earnings for graduates of Alberta's publicly-funded post-secondary institutions in order to facilitate understanding of labour market outcomes for graduates
- The presenters explained that the data was compiled by tracking students who graduated between 2005 and 2013, and who appear in the Statistics Canada tax records. Only the highest degree received was considered, and individuals that are self-employed or earned part of their degree at an institution outside of Alberta were excluded.
- The presenters highlighted the data for the University by credential and by Faculty, and specifically noted that the data shows that the graduates of co-op programs have higher median incomes
- Discussion included:
 - That the data for graduates with Master's degrees includes graduates with a Master of Business Administration (MBA), which may explain why the salary for Master's degree graduates nine years post-graduation appears higher than for Doctoral degree graduates
 - That the data is limited in the sense that it includes income from all income types, not just income earned from employment in the field of study, and that the BPSEP did not exclude graduates who only work part-time
 - That, while the provincial government did not provide data on the median earnings of persons with high school education only, it is accepted that post-secondary education has a positive impact on salary
- In response to a question, the presenters explained that graduates with a Doctor of Medicine (MD) are considered self-employed and so were excluded from the BPSEP

- The presenters referred the members of the GFC to the following websites for more information:
 - <https://www.ucalgary.ca/utoday/issue/2018-02-20/>
 - <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/9871460137185>

8. Standing Reports

- a) Report on the February 16, 2018 GFC Executive Committee Meeting
- b) Report on the February 12, 2018 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Meeting
- c) Report on the February 20, 2018 Research and Scholarship Committee Meeting
- d) Report on the February 22, 2018 Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting
- e) Report on the February 28, 2018 Senate Meeting
- f) Policy Development Update

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

In response to questions arising from the Research and Scholarship Committee report, it was stated that:

- The annual performance review process for academic staff members is under review, and consideration is being given to how this process is a factor in some staff becoming involved with predatory journals and conferences. Efforts are being made to raise awareness of predatory journals and conferences, so that academic staff members can avoid these.
- The new annual reporting system will be tested for workability and for its appropriateness for all disciplines, before it is implemented

9. Other Business

The Chair announced that a link to the 2018 GFC Member Survey will be sent to members tomorrow, with the request that the survey be completed by April 6, 2018. The results will be shared with GFC at the June meeting.

10. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the General Faculties Council adjourn the March 8, 2018 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.