



## GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL

### Approved Minutes

Meeting #610

Thursday, November 4, 2021, 1:30 p.m.

By Zoom platform

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#### ***Voting Members***

E. McCauley, Chair	M. Cassis	F. Jalilehvand	R. Plume	D. Stewart
Teri Balsler, Vice-Chair	O. Chapman	N. Jarvis	T. Poffenroth	M. Tarailo-Graovac
F. Abdi	P. Chopra	A. Jenney	J. Poissant	P. Toohey
B. Adams	R. Clements	J. Koo	J. Priest	M. Van Hee
T. Akhtar	R. Cockett	R. Lauer	A. Qayyum	A. Viczko
O. Alp	A. Dambrowitz	J-R. Leblanc	S. Raj	R. Walker
J. Anderson	A. Dela Cruz	S. LeBlanc	L. Reid	S. Weaver
D. Ashby	J. Dewald	K.Y. Lee	M.J. Romaniuk	R. Weller
J. Ayala	V. Fast	M. MacKenzie	W. Rosehart	P. Werthner
S. Barker	M. Fraser	J. Meddings	A. Schmal	D. White
M. Bauer	W. Ghali	N. Molina	N. Schmidt	B. Wylant
T. Beattie	C. Graham for B. Mayer	A. Musgrove	J. Seidel	R. Yates
J. Bergerson	K. Hecker	J. Pablo	C. Seneviratne	M. Zhang
C. Bousman	C. Hogan	A. Paquette	T. Shandro	M. Zytaruk
W. Bridel	M. Hogan	R. Pereyra	R. Sigurdson	
I. Brodie	C. Hurrell	E. Perrault	D. Sinasac	
A. Burns	M. Husein	Q. Pittman	D. Slater	

#### ***Guests***

- N. Barraza, Office of Sustainability – present for Item 11
- C. Gerlach, Academic Co-ordinator, Sustainability – present for Item 11
- J. Perdue, Associate Vice-President (Sustainability) – present for Item 11
- J. Quin, Senior Director - Student Services – present for Item 10
- B. St-Amand, Director - Strategic Projects and Global Initiatives, UC International – present for Item 12
- K. Wiens, Manager - Student Wellness Support – present for Item 9

#### ***Observers***

- J. Alho, Associate Vice-President - Government and Community Engagement
- A. Bik, Students' Union
- M. Hart, Vice-Provost (Indigenous Engagement)
- C. Johns, Provost's Office
- J. Krygier, Faculty Association
- M. Kularatne, Students' Union
- C. McVie, Provost's Office
- A. Morris, Co-Interim Vice-President (Advancement)
- J. Ruwanpura, Vice-Provost (International)
- M. Smith, Vice-Provost (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion)
- W. Therrien, President's Office
- R. Thompson, Associate Vice-President (Research)

#### ***Secretary***

C. Tutt

#### ***Scribe***

E. Sjogren

#### ***Staff***

S. Faisal

T. Hodzic

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

**1. Conflict of Interest Declaration**

No conflicts were declared.

**2. Inclusive Practice Moment**

Nicole Schmidt and Renzo Pereyra, President and Vice-President (Academic) of the Students' Union (SU), presented a Territorial Acknowledgment and then shared about the SU's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)-related initiatives, including the Q Centre, anti-racism training for SU staff and members of the Students' Legislative Council and student clubs, participation in the University's Walking in Parallel Paths program, several awards including the SU Pride Scholarship, the SU COVID-19 relief fund, the SU's EDI Taskforce which in part reviews SU policies with an EDI lens, and advocacy on topics such as Open Educational Resources, tuition, student mental wellness, and the University's Credit Granted (CG) system.

**3. Remarks of the Chair**

The Chair included the following in his remarks:

- Donovan Ashby, the new Postdoctoral Association representative, and several undergraduate student representatives were welcomed on this occasion of their first General Faculties Council (GFC) meeting
- Advocacy about the value of the University and for investment in the post-secondary sector continues at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels
- Members were thanked for their United Way contributions to date. The 2021 campaign is at 21% of the goal, and involvement is encouraged as there is need in the community.

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

The Vice-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- Searches are currently underway for a Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Dean of the Cumming School of Medicine, Dean of the Faculty of Kinesiology, and Vice-Provost (Student Experience)
- Visits to various units across the University have been occurring, and those have been helpful for talking about ideas for moving forward post-COVID-19, thoughts about the Growth Through Focus five areas of focus (Cities and Communities, Democracy and Social Change, Digital Worlds, Energy Transformation, and Health and Life), and visions for the University. Town hall meetings on these topics will be planned and members of the University community will be invited to these.
- A link to a 2022-23 Priorities Survey has been sent to all members of the University community, and persons are asked to respond
- Plans for the Winter 2022 semester are being finalised. The University is seeking to balance the return to campus and accessibility for people who cannot attend in person. Persons will need to be vaccinated or exempt to attend campus in person. Data show that 95% of students have had some component of in-person learning in the Fall 2021 semester and that 96% of the University community is fully vaccinated.
- An in-person convocation ceremony will be held next week

**5. Question Period**

In response to questions, it was reported that:

- The forecast \$100-120 million University budget cut is cumulative from 2019 to 2022, and not for this year. Representatives of the University are meeting with the provincial government, and it is hoped this advocacy may minimize the upcoming budget cut.
- 5% of students are learning fully online this semester
- There might be some shifts to the plans for the Winter 2022 semester, but most decisions have been made. There are some requests for accommodation that are currently being addressed, and there will be some registration changes up until the add/drop date.

**6. Safety Moment**

Mike Van Hee, Interim Vice-President (Finance and Services) - Services, gave a presentation on the Contractor Safety Management Program, noting that the University is responsible for the safety of workers on campus and is seeking consistency in how safety is managed.

**7. Approval of the October 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Minutes of the General Faculties Council meeting held on October 7, 2021 be approved.

**Carried****8. Election of Two Academic Staff Members to an Advisory Selection Committee for a Vice-Provost (Student Experience)**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Chair reported that this election will be held by an electronic vote immediately following the meeting, to ensure accurate vote count and proper participation, and that the results of the election will be posted on the GFC D2L by end of day on November 5
- The Chair announced that one name has been removed from the ballot
- There were no nominations from the floor

*Secretary's Note: The following persons were elected:*

Melissa Boyce, Faculty of Arts

Arindom Sen, Schulich School of Engineering

**9. Student-at-Risk Annual Report**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Susan Barker, Vice-Provost (Student Experience), and Kevin Wiens, Manager - Student Wellness Support, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters provided an overview of the 2021 Student-at-Risk Annual Report, including that the Student-at-Risk process is part of a coordinated-care model with Student Enrolment Services and the Student Conduct Office, the number of reports of students at risk in 2021 was similar to the number in 2019, reports come from students, instructors, staff and Campus Security, persons also reach out for informal consultations about student behaviour, and that the Student-at-Risk Policy provides information on obtaining assistance for a student exhibiting worrying behaviours
- In response to a question, it was indicated that reports of students-at-risk decreased during the COVID-19 shut-down and then increased again after the return to campus

**10. Student Non-Academic Misconduct Annual Report**

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

Highlights:

- The presenters provided an overview of the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Annual Report, including that COVID-19 has made 2020-2021 an unusual year but year-to-year comparisons are still made, more online incidents of non-academic misconduct occurred this year and these are challenging to prevent and address, resources and workshops for faculty and students have been developed and participation in these is increasing, and a non-academic misconduct reporting tool has been created
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - The increase in participation in the five workshops offered by the Student Conduct Office (Bystander Intervention, The Comments Section, Conflict Coaching, Conflict Management, and Understanding Anger) can be attributed to promotion efforts and word-of-mouth
  - The harm reduction training of the Upstanders program is a holistic 20-hour suite that includes the workshops offered by the Student Conduct Office
- It was observed that the use of the name “Upstanders program” is problematic and it was suggested that less-ableist language should be used

**11. 2021 Institutional Sustainability Report**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Joanne Perdue, Associate Vice-President (Sustainability), and Craig Gerlach, Academic Co-ordinator, Sustainability, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters provided an overview of the 2021 Institutional Sustainability Report, noting that progress is being made towards the goals of the University’s Sustainability Strategy

- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - The University's energy, water and waste statistics were impacted by the COVID-19 shut-down
  - Participation in sustainability-related experiential learning and cocurricular programs was lower in 2021, also due to the impacts of COVID-19
  - The goals of the Sustainability Strategy align with those of the University's other strategic plans, including the Indigenous Strategy, and there are good working relationships between the persons responsible for overseeing the implementation of these

## **12. International Research**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Janaka Ruwanpura, Vice-Provost (International), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter gave an update on international research-related matters at the University, including that:
  - The Vice-Provost (International) now also holds the title of Associate Vice-President Research (International) in order to provide a bridge between the offices of the Provost and Vice-President (Research)
  - The integrated Research and International offices are producing an international research agreement database, an international research funding opportunities database/calendar, a map of international research publications and funding, an expertise directory, and international research key performance indicators, and have established the International Research Partnerships and Innovation Unit (IRPIU)
  - Having the dedicated IRPIU will lead to outcomes including expanded global research connections and outputs, increased partnerships with like-minded institutions, the development of resources and tools for researchers, and learning about international research centres, institutes and labs set up by other universities
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - Meetings with the research facilitators in the Faculties will occur, to raise awareness of the services offered by the IRPIU
  - The IRPIU will begin with two staff, a Manager and an International Research Facilitator, and these positions are funded by an Incremental Project Grant from the University's Research Support Fund. There will be additional external funding opportunities to pursue, including federal programs, in order to grow the unit.

## **13. Continuing Education Enrolment Report**

Sheila LeBlanc, Director - Continuing Education, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter noted that the University's Framework for Growth speaks to the value of lifelong learning and provided an overview of the Continuing Education 2021 Enrolment Report, including:

- Continuing Education's programming ranges from workshops to intensive longer-term programs, and 967 credentials were awarded
- Enrolment included 9,438 unique learners, with the majority from the Calgary area (69%) and the others from Alberta (16%), Canada (9%) and international (6%) locations, and 94% of the learning took place online
- Most of the learners were from the mid-career age brackets, and 16% of the enrolment count was University employees accessing the Tuition Support Program
- Continuing Education offers programming across four portfolios: professional certification and technology programs, corporate training and seminars, personal interest and wellness, and preparatory programs (including upgrading and English language learning)
- The Continuing Education Capability Centre provides operational supports, including the Destiny One registration system which is also implemented for the non-credit continuing education programs in seven other Faculties/units
- Discussion included:
  - Continuing Education is positioned to collaborate in the Future Focused Program Delivery goal of the University's Framework for Growth
  - The Destiny One registration system was funded centrally for two years, but a go-forward funding model is now needed. Continuing Education is a revenue-generating unit and can provide a baseline service, but additional funding is needed in order to continue to serve a variety of learners.
  - Continuing Education was praised for its work in providing valuable programs that more than achieve the goals set by the provincial government

#### **14. Standing Reports**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda as 'In Package Only' for information:

- a) Report on the October 20, 2021 GFC Executive Committee Meeting
- b) Report on the October 18, 2021 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Meeting
- c) Report on the October 8 and 19, 2021 Teaching and Learning Committee Meetings
- d) Report on the October 21, 2021 Research and Scholarship Committee Meeting
- e) Report on the October 22, 2021 Board of Governors Meeting

#### **15. Approved Revisions to the Academic Staff Criteria and Processes Working Group Terms of Reference**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda as 'In Package Only' for information.

#### **16. Other Business**

There was no other business.

17. **Adjournment**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the General Faculties Council adjourn the November 4, 2021 meeting.

**Carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

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Cherie Tutt  
Meeting Secretary