General Faculties Council May 5, 2025 Open Session 3:13 – 5:19 pm Room 9-201

Attendance

Ex-Officio Member	s (voting)		
President:	Annette Trimbee GFC Chair		
Provost:	Craig Monk		
VPs:	Maureen Lomas	Lara McClelland	
Deans:	David Danto	Deric Olsen	Eva Revitt (interim)
	Richard Perlow	Lisa Rochman	Christy Raymond
	Melike Schalomon		
Registrar and AVP, Strategic Enrollment	Julie Green		
Statutory Members	s (voting)		
Students:	Chioma Uzor	Alem Tesfay	
Faculty:	Paul Chahal GFC Vice-Chair	Ion Bica	Treena Swanston
	Brendan Boyd	Robert Wiznura	Eric Legge
	Josh Toth	Alain Beauclair	Chris Striemer
	Tina Bott	Melissa Hills	Tim Williams
	Gregory Springate	Murli Muralidharan	Khalaf Al-jarrah
	Francoise Cadigan	Caroline Foster- Boucher	Emilene Reisdorfer
	Paul Kerr	David Laing	Dawn Sadoway
	Travis Hatt	Kelly Morris	
Additional Appoint	ted Members (voting)		
Deputy Provost	Edvard Lorkovic		
AVPs:	Craig Kuziemsky	Chandelle Rimmer (interim)	Terri Cardinal
General Counsel:	Jason Fung		
GMUFA President:	Bob Graves		
Faculty:	Katie Biittner	Cristina Anton	Bill Thompson
	Subhadip Ghosh	John McMillan	Lun Li
	Sharon Johnston	Martin Tucker	Joan Morrison
	Alison Pitcher	Kenneth Ristau	
Students	Layal Zidan	Olad Ayodeji	
Alumni:	Kyra Droog		
Office of University	y Governance (non-vo	ting)	
Sumiko Yip University Secretary	Marco Turlione Recording Secretary	Christian Zukowski	Ginikachi Ugwuegbu
Leah Stock			

Guests					
Larissa Williams	Parvin Sedighi	Scott Johnson	Chris Harrison		
Absent, with Regrets:					
Dawn Sadoway	Kyra Droog	Bob Graves	Lun Li		
Terri Cardinal	Gregory Springate	Julie Green	Lara McClelland		
Brendan Boyd	Tim Williams	Khalaf Al-jarrah	Emilene Reisdorfer		
Sumiko Yip					

PRESENTERS FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Name	Agenda Item	
N/A	N/A	

	MINUTES: OPEN SESSION				
#	Iter	Item			
1.0	Cal	to Order			
	The	Chair called the meeting to order at 3:13 pm time, noting that quorum is present.			
	1.1	Land Acknowledgement			
		P. Chahal provided the land acknowledgement.			
	1.2	Open and Consent Agenda (MOTION)			
		MOTION#GFC-01-05-05-2024/25: Moved by C. Raymond and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the open and consent agenda as presented. Motion Carried.			
		*The consent agenda included the minutes from the meeting on March 24, 2025, for approval; and the Executive Committee meeting minutes on March 17, 2025, for information.			
2.0	Reports				
	2.1	President's Report			
		The Chair reported on the following:			
		 The new statutory GFC student members were welcomed and thanked for their commitment to serving. 			
		• Spring Convocation will take place on June 17-19. This event will also mark the conclusion of the inaugural Chancellor's term. A search process for the next Chancellor is currently underway.			
		• The provincial Mintz panel, tasked with reviewing post-secondary funding, recently met with Mount Royal University. Their discussions focused on administrative and regulatory challenges.			
		• Informal mediation has commenced as part of the ongoing bargaining process, with the next session scheduled for May 15.			
	2.2	Provost's Report			

C. Monk reported on the following:

- Student enrolment in the Faculty of Arts and Science is projected to grow significantly, making it half the size of the university. In response, a proposal is being developed to restructure the faculty into two separate entities by 2030: Humanities and Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences.
- This faculty-led initiative will be reviewed by the Committee on Academic Planning and Quality Assurance and will require Board approval. Initial planning could begin as early as August.
- Recruitment efforts have been strong, with 48 successful hires out of 53 searches, exceeding the original target of 35. Three searches were unsuccessful. To support future recruitment, salary expectations will be better aligned with the budget, and postings will be made more transparent to attract strong candidates.
- The new AVP Student Support and Accountability will begin in June. C. Rimmer will remain in the Interim AVP, Student Experience and Development role with a formal search anticipated in the 2025/26 academic year.

2.3 GFC Executive Committee Report

P. Chahal reported on the following:

- The Committee met on April 28, 2025, and approved the following items: revised terms of reference for the Committee on Teaching and Learning and the Council on Student Affairs, the AI Systems Governance Policy, and the GFC agenda for the May 5, 2025, meeting.
- An update was also received on the 2026/27 Academic Schedule and the Committee recommended the 2024/25 GFC Evaluation for approval by GFC.

2.3.1 AI Systems Governance Policy (MOTION)

MOTION#GFC-02-05-05-2024/25: Moved by M. Tucker and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the AI Systems Governance Policy.

Motion Carried.

- J. Fung presented the item.
 - In accordance with the Post-Secondary Learning Act, authority over Alrelated matters will be shared across designated areas. The policy defines responsibilities in key areas including academic integrity, teaching and learning, and regulatory compliance.
 - A supporting procedure will clarify roles and ensure alignment with privacy and regulatory standards. It was also suggested that GFC consider developing procedures specifically addressing the use of AI.

2.3.2 2024/25 GFC Annual Evaluation (MOTION)

MOTION#GFC-03-05-05-2024/25: Moved by C. Striemer and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the 2024/25 GFC Annual Evaluation.

Motion Carried.

- 3 Abstained.
- 1 Opposed
- P. Chahal presented the item.



- The 2024/25 GFC Evaluation has been developed to support reflection on GFC's performance, with a focus on four areas: effectiveness, transparency, meeting experience, and opportunities for improvement.
- The evaluation will help assess how well GFC is meeting its mandate and identify potential areas for growth. All individual responses will remain anonymous.

MOTION#GFC-04-05-05-2024/25: Moved by R. Wiznura and seconded that General Faculties Council appoints two members to have direct access to the data collected:

- A person to summarize the data; and
- A person to scrutinize the accuracy of the summary.

Motion Failed.

- Concerns were raised about the importance of GFC maintaining ownership of its data and being responsible for managing access.
- Discussion emphasized the need for clearer guidance on data confidentiality and oversight. It was noted that a designated office is responsible for managing this type of data.

2.4 Academic Planning and Quality Assurance Report

I. Bica reported on the following:

- The Committee met on March 31, 2025, and approved a New Minor in Arts History. The program responds to strong student interest and offers a distinctive academic option. The intended launch is Fall 2026.
- Three diploma reviews were received for information:
 - o The Massage Therapy Diploma: The review is ongoing, with adjustments related to accreditation. A comprehensive review will follow.
 - o The Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy Assistant: The review faced delays due to challenges in assembling a peer review team. An on-site review has now been completed, and accreditation is scheduled for November 2025.
 - Human Resource Management: The program is preparing for its 2027
 accreditation renewal, focusing on aligning with international standards.
 MacEwan International is supporting this work by exploring global partnerships
 and alternative models to meet quality requirements.

2.5 Academic Standards, Curriculum, and the Calendar Report

P. Kerr reported on the following:

- The Committee met on March 31, 2025, and approved changes to admission requirements, including the removal of the English proficiency requirement previously linked to the now discontinued University of Alberta spoken English program.
- Admission Criteria changes to the Bachelor of Psychiatry Nursing program were also approved. Applicants holding a psychiatric nursing diploma or equivalent will now be eligible for direct entry into the degree program, rather than beginning at the diploma level.



2.5.1 2026/27 Academic Schedule Update

P. Kerr presented the item.

- GFC received background information on the Academic Schedule. Of the proposed options, the preferred approach is to begin the term prior to Labour Day, which would require changes to existing regulations.
- The Academic Calendar Advisory Subcommittee reviewed the required revisions, including updates to language, and share the proposed changes with to faculties and schools to raise awareness.
- The Committee will meet on May 12, 2025, to review feedback and finalize a recommendation for GFC approval at the June meeting.

2.6 | Scholarly Activity Report

C. Striemer reported on the following:

- The Committee met on April 7, 2025, and approved the establishment of the Inclusive Experiential Learning and Indigenous Research Group.
- Feedback was provided on the Early Career Research Award, which is intended to support emerging researchers. Discussions are ongoing to finalize the award's parameters, with approval anticipated at the May 26, 2025, meeting.
- An update was shared on the Interactive Digital Display, which will be serve as a platform to celebrate and showcase faculty-authored books, Research Day highlights, and curated collections.

2.7 Teaching and Learning Report

M. Hills reported on the following:

- The Committee met on April 7, 2025, and recommended revisions to its terms of reference to add a second student member. It also approved updates to the teaching award policy expanding the number of awards from four to eight and allowing faculties to establish their own teaching awards.
- An update on the 2024/25 textbook affordability program was provided which supports students by reducing textbook costs and increasing access to digital materials.
- The Universal Design for Learning (UDL) project, originally launched before the COVID pandemic to evaluate inclusive teaching practices, will be repeated using the same survey method. The survey is scheduled to launch next week, with results expected in December 2025.

2.8 | Council on Student Affairs Report

K. Morris reported on the following:

- The Committee met on April 14, 2025, and approved revisions to its terms of reference to add two additional student members.
- The Sexual Violence Policy and Procedure was reviewed, and the Committee was encouraged to provide feedback once the drat is posted publicly in May.
- The 2026/27 Academic Schedule was shared for information. While no feedback was required, the Council expressed appreciation for the transparency of the review process.

3.0	Other Business		
	(Used for announcements and general questions)		
	• The Chair indicated that GFC Elections will be held over the summer and that the Vice-Chair and Board Representative will be elected at the June GFC meeting.		
4.0	Adjournment of Open Session		
	The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:19 pm.		