

Attendance

Ex-Officio Members (voting)			
President:	Annette Trimbee GFC Chair		
Provost:	Craig Monk		
VPs:	Maureen Lomas	Lara McClelland	
Deans:	David Danto	Deric Olsen	Eva Revitt (<i>interim</i>) (left at 4:48 pm)
	Richard Perlow	Lisa Rochman	Christy Raymond
	Melike Schalomon		
Registrar and AVP, Strategic Enrollment	Julie Green		
Statutory Members (voting)			
Students:	Chioma Uzor (arrived 3:43 pm)	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 Appointed Members (voting)			
Deputy Provost	Edvard Lorkovic		
AVPs:	Craig Kuziemyky	Chandelle Rimmer (<i>interim</i>)	Terri Cardinal
General Counsel:	Jason Fung		
GMUFA President:	Darren Tellier		
Faculty:	Katie Biittner	Cristina Anton	Bill Thompson
	Subhadip Ghosh	John McMillan	Lun Li
	Sharon Johnston	Martin Tucker (arrived 3:31 pm)	Joan Morrison
	Alison Pitcher	Kenneth Ristau	
Students	Layal Zidan	Olad Ayodeji	
Alumni:	Kyra Droog		

Office of University Governance (non-voting)			
Sumiko Yip University Secretary	Marco Turlione Scribe	Christian Zukowski	Ginikachi Ugwuegbu
Leah Stock			
Guests			
Jillian Pratt	Jason Cobb	Scott Johnson	Matthew LaGrone
Mark Beliveau	Larissa Williams	Parvin Sedighi	Chris Harrison
Absent, with Regrets:			
Lara McClelland	David Danto	Richard Perlow	Brendan Boyd
Eric Legge	Gregory Springate	Dawn Sadoway	Kelly Morris
Chandelle Rimmer	Darren Tellier	Katie Biittner	Cristina Anton
Alison Pitcher			

PRESENTERS FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Name	Agenda Item
N/A	N/A

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION

#	Item
1.0	Call to Order
	The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:15 pm, noting that quorum was present.
1.1	Land Acknowledgement
	I. Bica provided the land acknowledgement
1.2	Open and Consent Agenda (MOTION)
	MOTION #GFC-01-06-09-2024/25: Moved by C. Raymond and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the open and consent agenda as presented. Motion Carried.
	*The consent agenda consisted of the minutes from the meeting on May 5, 2025, for approval and the Executive Committee minutes from April 28, 2025, for information.
2.0	Reports
2.1	President's Report
	The Chair report on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued engagement with the Mintz Panel includes two submissions since April addressing hiring, recruitment, and the need to reduce regulatory burdens. Concerns were raised about government overreach and excessive reporting requirements. The Panel's report is expected to impact the 2026/27 budget. Funding challenges were highlighted, including that provincial funding currently covers around 42% of institutional costs and has remained static since 2019. MacEwan has advocated for a funding model using a 2025/26 baseline, with incentive funding to support growth and strategic priorities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional highlights included strong spring and summer enrolment and the successful hosting of Canada’s leading community-based conference, C2UExpo, which showcased student work and faculty partnerships in wellness and housing. • The launch of <i>Pedagogical Inquiry and Practice</i>, a Centre for Teaching and Learning led journal, reflects institutional expertise in teaching and learning.
2.2	<p>Provost’s Report</p> <p>C. Monk reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final tenure and promotion results were very strong, with a 96% success rate for tenure and 94% for promotion. All recommendations were accepted, with one exception where the final decision differed from the Promotion Committee. • Recruitment efforts exceeded expectations, with 45 new tenure-track hires confirmed, up from the original plan of 30, plus three-term appointments. One offer remains outstanding, and one hire has been deferred to 2026. • There were 47 permanent appointments made, including 13 sessional colleagues, highlighting the competitiveness of sessional appointments. • Faculty hiring in the Faculty of Health and Community Studies included the appointment of Dr. Alessio Ponzio, who will join as Canada Research Chair, succeeding Senator Kris Wells.
2.3	<p>GFC Executive Committee Report</p> <p>P. Chahal reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee met on June 2 and approved the GFC Agenda for the June 9, 2025, meeting. • GFC Executive Committee received updates on the Additional Appointed Members, the Vice-Chair and GFC Board of Governors Representative appointments. It also reviewed the GFC evaluation feedback results, the Bachelor of Social Work Action Plan and the 2026/27 Academic Schedule.
2.4	<p>Academic Planning and Quality Assurance Report</p> <p>I. Bica reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee met on May 12 and recommended the Bachelor of Social Work Action Plan for approval by the GFC. • Program reviews for the Bachelor of Communication Studies and Bachelor of Music were considered. Committee feedback for Communication Studies has been finalized and submitted to the Dean and Chair of the Self-Study Committee. The Music program review remains in progress. • The suspension of the Public Relations Diploma was approved by the Committee, following the previous recommendation to create a Public Relations Major, which was recently approved by the Board. Admissions to the major will open in 2026. • Two new minors were approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Urban Wellness Minor which is focused on policy, governance, and contemporary challenges in urban environments. The program will complement the ongoing work of the Research Institute for Urban Wellness. ○ Indigegogy minor, an interdisciplinary program grounded in Indigenous knowledge. The curriculum emphasizes place-based learning, relational ethics, and cultural revitalization.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee also approved the Financial Economics Stream which provides students with theoretical and applied knowledge in financial economics, emphasizing quantitative and qualitative analysis using existing faculty resources. The Human Resources Management Diploma review was also approved. As required by MacEwan’s curriculum policy, all non-degree programs must undergo review every seven years. Updates were received for the Hospice Palliative Care and Gerontology programs, both scheduled for review in 2025/26. They will be submitted together once complete.
2.4.1	<p>Action Plan: Bachelor of Social Work Program Review (MOTION)</p> <p>MOTION #GFC-02-06-09-2024/25: Moved by P. Chahal and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the Bachelor of Social Work Program Review Action Plan, as presented.</p> <p>Motion Carried.</p> <p>I. Bica presented the item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee expressed appreciation for the significant effort involved in the review process and was pleased with the outcome. A comprehensive 16-page document of recommendations and feedback was provided to the Dean, developed collaboratively with Committee members. The Faculty of Health and Community Studies incorporated critical feedback into its action plan, which reflects a clear and strategic vision. Key areas addressed include curriculum enhancements, course content, and digital competencies. A new approach to field placements has been introduced, strengthening partnerships, increasing placement opportunities, and addressing challenges related to retention and workforce sustainability. The plan emphasizes data collection and management to enable tracking of action items and support evidence-based decision-making. The School of Social Work continues to advocate for improved student mental health supports and enhanced coursework to address evolving needs.
2.5	<p>Academic Standards, Curriculum, and the Calendar Report</p> <p>P. Kerr reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee met on May 12, and approved the admission criteria for the new Bachelor of Public Safety, set to launch in 2026. The degree offers both a general stream and the ability to embed existing certificates and diplomas. The proposal includes standardized criteria across Faculty of Health and Community Studies programs, including Community Justice and Corrections, Investigative Studies, Police Studies, and Emergency Communications. All related changes are identical across programs and were approved by the Committee. A name change from ‘University Preparation’ to ‘Academic Upgrading’ was approved to align with sector terminology and enhance clarity for students. Proposed revisions to the Assessment Policy were approved. Key changes include shifting responsibility for deferred exams and final assessment from Exam Services to faculties and schools and updates to student declaration processes.
2.5.1	<p>2026/27 Academic Schedule (MOTION)</p>

		<p>MOTION #GFC-03-06-09-2024/25: Moved by C. Kuziemsy and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the 2026-2027 Academic Schedule and corresponding revisions to the Academic Schedule Regulations.</p> <p>Motion Carried.</p> <p>P. Kerr presented the item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2026/27 Academic Schedule was presented for approval earlier than in previous years to support full-year planning. The schedule includes key dates such as start and end of classes and non-instructional days. Tentative schedules for the following three years were included for information only. • The Committee engaged in extensive discussion regarding proposed changes to the Fall Term structure, particularly the impact of scheduling constraints and the desire to eliminate Sunday exams while retaining the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Fall Break. • This preferred option would begin classes on September 2, or the next available day, ensuring the same number of contact hours and enabling the submission of grades before the Winter Break. • Minor updates to the Academic Schedule Regulations are also being proposed. These include starting classes on or after September 2, requiring a minimum eight-day final exam period, and shifting approval timing from September to June. <p>MOTION #GFC-04-06-09-2024/25: Moved by A. Beauclair and seconded to amend the Academic Schedule Regulation clause 2.2, proposing a fixed Winter Term start date of January 4 rather than the first Tuesday following New Year’s Day.</p> <p>Motion Failed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The amendment would standardize the winter break, prevent conflicts with May term start dates, and address concerns related to childcare and student readiness. • Council members expressed concerns about the potential downstream impacts, including effects on Student Research Day, and the disruption of the exam period over the Easter weekend. Members indicated the need for further analysis by the Committee. • The amended regulation changes would not affect 2026/27 or 2027/28 schedules but may impact the 2028/29 and 2029/30 schedules.
2.6	Scholarly Activity Report	<p>C. Striemer reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee met on May 26, and approved the Emerging Scholar Award for faculty within the first five years. The award will require nominees to submit a statement of case, an internal letter and external letter of support. It is expected to launch next year and will align in timing with existing research awards. • An update was received on the Tactical plan, focusing on the dissemination of grant funds related to travel and efforts to refine internal processes.
2.7	Teaching and Learning Report	<p>M. Hills reported on the following:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee met on May 26 and approved revisions to the Academic Technologies Subcommittee Terms of Reference updating its composition and clarifying voting and non-voting members. The subcommittee's scope was also broadened to encompass educational technologies more generally. New Educational Technologies Guidelines were approved to support decision-making related to teaching and learning. These guidelines address usability, accessibility, and security, and are intended to facilitate broader discussions. The potential for a faculty-led review and to bring back the Student Feedback Survey was discussed. Basic information will be presented in Fall 2025 to guide next steps and determine the review approach. Recruitment is underway for the Teaching Awards Committee, with the possibility of a representative from the School of Business joining.
2.8	<p>Council on Student Affairs Report</p> <p>M. Hills reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council on Student Affairs met on May 20 and received a presentation on Flightpath, a new initiative to support first-year students through tools such as a readiness quiz and small group events during their transition to MacEwan. Enhancements to student engagement were discussed, including the addition of two student seats to the committee and the introduction of an orientation for student members. The creation of a more formal pathway for information sharing was explored, with a review of the current engagement model to identify any potential improvements.
3.0	GFC Elections and Appointments
3.1	<p>Additional Appointed GFC Members (MOTION)</p> <p>MOTION #GFC-04-06-09-2024/25: Moved by D. Olsen and seconded that the General Faculties Council appoint the following members as additional appointed members of the General Faculties Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty of Arts and Science: Cristina Ruiz Serrao (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028), Mohamad El-Hajj (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028), Stefan Cartledge (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027), and Andrew Patterson (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027); School of Business: Bruce Thomson (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028), Barry Williams (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026); Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications: Viviane Giang (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028); Faculty of Health and Community Studies: Anna Rissanen (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028); Library: Michael Brundin (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028); Alumni Association: Kyra Droog for a 1-year term (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026); and SAMU: Manojna Tumma (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026), Milan Regmi (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026), Olad Ayodeji (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026), and Vincent Trinh (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026). <p>Motion Carried.</p>
3.2	<p>2025/26 GFC Vice-Chair Appointment (MOTION)</p> <p>MOTION #GFC-05-06-09-2024/25: Moved by L. Zidan and seconded that the General Faculties Council appoint Travis Hatt or Emilene Reisdorfer as vice-chair of the</p>

	<p>General Faculties Council for the 2025/26 academic year, based on the outcome of the election.</p> <p>Motion Carried.</p> <p>S. Yip presented the item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emeline Reisdorfer was elected Vice-Chair for the 2025/26 academic year. elected.
3.3	<p>GFC Board of Governors Representative (MOTION)</p> <p>MOTION #GFC-06-06-09-2024/25: Moved by M. Schalomon and seconded that the General Faculties Council appoint Murli Muralidharan or Ken Ristau as the GFC Representative to the Grant MacEwan University Board of Governors for a term of three years (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028) based on the outcome of the election.</p> <p>Motion Carried.</p> <p>S. Yip presented the item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Murli Muralidharan was appointed as the GFC Representative to the Grant MacEwan University Board of governors.
4.0	Other Business
	<i>(Used for announcements and general questions)</i>
	No other business was discussed.
5.0	Adjournment of Open Session
	The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm.