ATTENDANCE

Members Annette Trimbee (Chair); Travis Hatt (Vice-Chair); Craig Monk; Maureen Powers; Kevin Friesen; Deric Olsen; Christy Raymond; Richard Perlow; Lisa Rochman; Karen Keiller; Julie Green; Chioma Uzor; Elizabeth Russell; Treena Swanston; Robert Wiznura; Eric Legge; Joshua Toth; Lynee Honey; Tina Bott; Melissa Hills; Aimee Skye; Tim Williams; Paul Chahal; Murli Muralidharan; Paul Kerr; Melanie Gates; Scott Spidell; Debbie Lenton; Ed Lorkovic; Craig Kuziemsky; Mohamad El-Hajj; Stefan Cartledge; Cristina Anton; Andrew Patterson; Barry Williams; Vivian Giang; Sharon Johnston; Martin Tucker; Kenneth Ristau; Darren Tellier; Vincent Trinh; Olad Ayodeji; Milan Regmi; Kyra Droog

Secretariat Sumiko Yip; Austin Hohlbein; Cameron McCubbing; Angela Miao; Christian Zukowski

Guests Mark Beliveau; Meagan Auer; Nathalie Landry; Jordan Lang; Michelle Mole; Jillian Pratt; Alem Tesfay; Larissa Williams; Breanna Krueger

Regrets Lara McClelland; David Danto; Bruce Thomson; Ion Bica; Chandelle Rimmer; Lun Li; David Laing; Shannon Digweed; Hellen Gateri; Khalaf Al-Jarrah; Francoise Cadigan; Cristina Ruiz Serrano; Terri Cardinal; Allison Drew-Hassling; Jason Fung; Katie Biittner; John McMillan; Anna Rissanen; Michael Brundin; Alain Beauclair; Manojna Tumma

MINUTES

1.0 Call to Order

Chair called the meeting to order at 3:16 pm.

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Cristina Anton

C. Anton provided the land acknowledgement

1.2 Open and Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda included the adoption of the following motions:

- That the General Faculties Council approve the minutes from the meeting on March 23, 2026, as presented.

The Consent Agenda included the following items for information:

- Executive Committee Minutes: March 16, 2026

MOTION#GFC-01-05-04-2025/26:

Moved by C. Kuziemsky and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the open and consent agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

2.0 Reports

2.1 President's Report

The Chair reported on the following:

- The recent announcement of the Triffo School of Business, recognizing Ron Triffo's long-standing relationship with MacEwan and his contributions as a visionary business leader.
- Participation in the recent Day at the Ledge to support and strengthen MacEwan's relationships with the provincial and federal governments, including discussions regarding the new post-secondary funding model.
- Ongoing exploration of opportunities for MacEwan to expand access to federal research funding, particularly as investment grows in artificial intelligence and defense-related research.

2.2 Provost's Report

The Provost reported on the following:

- The recent expansion of the MacEwan University Health Centre will increase capacity and support growing demand from faculty, staff, and students accessing healthcare services.
- MacEwan continues to see growth in tenure track faculty, with 57.3% of course sections now being taught by tenure track faculty members, and all Faculties exceeding the 50% threshold.
- The Government of Alberta recently hosted an AI Roundtable focused on the post-secondary sector, where discussions reflected a strong consensus that government involvement in AI should remain high level and minimally prescriptive.

2.3 GFC Executive Committee Report

T. Hatt reported on the following:

- The General Faculties Council Executive Committee last met on April 27, 2026, where the Postdoctoral Fellows Procedure was approved.
- GFC will consider the Postdoctoral Fellows Policy, new Finance major, and the Student Course Feedback Survey for approval at today's meeting.

2.4 Academic Planning and Quality Assurance Report

The Provost reported on the following:

- The Committee last met on March 30, 2026, where it approved the suspension of the Asia Pacific Management Diploma and recommended the creation of a new Finance major.
- The suspension of the Asia Management Diploma was driven by enrollment declining by approximately two-thirds since the beginning of the decade.
- The Committee also approved an Accreditation Action Plan for Physical and Occupational Therapist program, supporting continued accreditation through 2031.

2.4.1 New Major: Finance

The Provost reported on the following:

- The new Finance major aligns with the opening of the School of Business building, and responds to strong student demand for the program.

- Recruitment for faculty positions has begun, with one professor scheduled to start on July 1st, 2026 and an additional hire planned for next year.

MOTION#GFC-02-05-04-2025/26:
Moved by M. Tucker and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve and recommend the Board of Governors approve the proposed Finance Major for the Bachelor of Commerce.

Motion Carried.

2.5 Academic Standards, Curriculum and the Calendar Report

S. Cartledge reported on the following:

- The Committee met on March 30, 2026 and considered two items.
- Discussions took place on the Enrollment Policy Suite, which is intended to refresh and consolidate enrollment related policies.
- Planning for the 2028/29 Academic Schedule has begun, including consideration of potential changes to the Fall reading break and the start date of the Winter term.

2.6 Scholarly Activity Report

2.6.1 Postdoctoral Fellows Policy

C. Anton reported on the following:

- The policy was reviewed as part of its regular review cycle and updated to align with new Government of Canada funding requirements.
- New federal requirements included additional vetting related to potential affiliations of concerns involving fellows and certain research areas, such as drone-related research.

MOTION#GFC-03-05-04-2025/26:
Moved by L. Honey and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the Postdoctoral Fellows Policy, as presented.

Motion Carried.

2.6.2 Postdoctoral Fellows Procedure

C. Anton reported on the following:

- Revisions to the procedure include earlier involvement of the Office of Research Services in the process, as well as minor wording updates related to tax information and payments.

2.7 Teaching and Learning Report

M. Hills reported on the following:

- The Committee met on April 13, 2026 and approved the revised Student Course Feedback Survey.
- The mêskanâs Governance Committee framework was also approved, and will provide a venue for faculty to raise concerns related to mêskanâs.

2.7.1 Student Course Feedback Survey

M. Hills reported on the following:

- The Student Course Feedback Survey was brought to GFC on March 23 for discussion
- Following that discussion, minor revisions were made and the revised survey has returned to GFC for approval today.

MOTION#GFC-04-05-04-2025/26:
Moved by P. Chahal and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the revised Student Course Feedback Survey.

Motion Carried.

2.7.2 Student Course Feedback Survey: Implementation Timeline

M. Hills reported on the following:

- Feedback was sought on the proposed implementation timeline for the Student Course Feedback Survey, with the goal of launching the survey in Fall 2026.
- Discussion included concerns that introducing a new survey midway through an academic year could impact faculty preparing promotion dossiers.
- It was also noted that many of the questions were similar to the previous survey, and faculty will have the option to include former questions to support continuity and consistency.

2.8 Council on Student Affairs Report

M. Hills reported on the following:

- The Committee met on April 20, 2026, and received updates on the Classification of Registered Students Policy, Flightpath, and Pride Week.

3.0 Other Business

3.1 2026 General Faculties Council Elections Update

S. Yip reported on the following:

- General Faculties Council Elections are approaching, and Faculties and Schools have been notified of members whose terms are concluding.
- The next GFC meeting will include the election of next year’s Vice-Chair and the Academic Staff representative member.
- Calls for committee assignments will take place over the summer, followed by committee chair elections.

4.0 Adjournment of Open Session

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:27pm.

Next Meeting: June 8, 2026