

ATTENDANCE

Members	Annette Trimbee (Chair); Travis Hatt (Vice-Chair); Craig Monk; Maureen Lomas; Lara McClelland; Kevin Friesen; Deric Olsen; David Danto; Christy Raymond; Richard Perlow; Lisa Rochman; Karen Keiller; Julie Green; Chioma Uzor; Elizabeth Russell; Ion Bica; Treena Swanston; Shannon Digweed; Robert Wiznura; Eric Legge; Joshua Toth; Alain Beauclair; Lynee Honey; Tina Bott; Melissa Hills; Aimee Skye; Tim Williams; Paul Chahal; Hellen Gateri; Murli Muralidharan; Khalaf Al-Jarrah; Francoise Cadigan; Paul Kerr; Melanie Gates; David Laing; Wayne Williams; Scott Spidell; Debbie Lenton; Ed Lorkovic; Chandelle Rimmer; Craig Kuziemy; Terri Cardinal; Allison Drew-Hassling; Jason Fung; Cristina Ruiz Serrano; Mohamad El-Hajj; Stefan Cartledge; Katie Biittner; Cristina Anton; Andrew Patterson; Barry Williams; Bruce Thomson; Vivian Giang; John McMillan; Anna Rissanen; Lun Li; Sharon Johnston; Martin Tucker; Michael Brundin; Kenneth Ristau; Darren Tellier; Vincent Trinh; Olad Ayodeji; Manojna Tumma; Milan Regmi; Kyra Droog
Secretariat	Sumiko Yip; Austin Hohlbein; Cameron McCubbing; Angela Miao; Christian Zukowski;
Guests	Vanessa Boila; Mark Beliveau; Scott Johnson; Jesse Luyendyk; Larissa William; Mike Annette; Helen Frost; Jillian Pratt; Parvin Sedighi
Regrets	Mohamad El-Hajj; Bruce Thomson; Vivian Giang; Tim Williams; David Danto; Travis Hatt; Olad Ayodeji; Chandelle Rimmer; Travis Hatt; Shannon Digweed; Hellen Gateri; Terri Cardinal; Anna Rissanen; Lun Li

MINUTES**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

S. Yip 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 May 4, 2026, as presented.

The Consent Agenda included the following items for information:

- Executive Committee Minutes: April 27, 2026

MOTION#GFC-01-06-08-2025/26:

Moved by L. Honey 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:

- A proposal for targeted enrolment was submitted to support growth in several programs and accommodate more than 10,000 students, in anticipation of changes to the provincial funding framework.
- Preparations for Convocation are underway, with increasing graduand numbers resulting in the addition of a seventh ceremony. Honorary doctorate recipients announced for 2026 include Diane Bergeron, Eric Newall, Ron Triffo, and Douglas Roche.
- Recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award, Emerging Leader Award, and other awards have been announced, with recognition events and celebrations forthcoming.

2.2 Provost's Report

The Provost reported on the following:

- Testing of the new Student Feedback Survey platform remains on schedule, with implementation anticipated for Fall 2026.
- Significant academic leadership and faculty appointments were highlighted, including the hiring of more than 31 faculty members (19 tenure-track), the promotion of 20 faculty members effective July 1, the reappointments of three Associate Deans, the appointment of eight new Department Chairs, the appointment of Dr. Kate McIntosh as AVP Student Experience and Development, and the promotion of Dr. Melissa Hills to Associate Dean, Teaching and Learning.
- Planning is underway to recruit additional Canada Research Chairs, with a goal of reaching five positions by 2028/29. It was also announced that Dean Perlow will not be seek a second term as Dean of the Triffo School of Business, and a search process is underway for his successor.

2.3 Academic Planning and Quality Assurance Report

I. Bica reported on the following:

- The Committee met on May 11, 2026 and reviewed several items, including the approvals of a new History Honors program, which is expected to launch in 2027/28 and support increased student engagement and academic excellence in the discipline.
- The Committee considered several program review items, including the postponement of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Self-Study due to a recent review in 2019, and postponement of the Occupational Health Certificate Self-Study as the program is currently suspended and expected to be discontinued.
- The Committee also reviewed the Baccalaureate Program Review for the Bachelor of Child and Youth Care, with feedback from members subsequently shared with the Dean by the Committee Chair.

2.3.1 New Certificate: Sustainability Studies

I. Bica reported on the following:

- The proposed certificate is intended to respond to growing demand for sustainability studies through an interdisciplinary approach that aligns with MacEwan's strategic vision and sustainability objectives.
- The certificate will be offered to both students and working professionals, shifting from a noncredit to a for-credit program.

MOTION#GFC-02-06-08-2025/26:

Moved by A. Skye and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve and recommend the Board of Governors approve the proposed Sustainability Studies certificate, as presented

Motion Carried.

2.3.2 Baccalaureate Program Review: Bachelor of Communication Studies – Action Plan

I. Bica reported on the following:

- The Action Plan was developed based on the Self-Study, external review, and Dean's response with a focus on enhancing student flexibility and the overall student experience while strengthening the program's profile both within and beyond MacEwan.
- Following approval of the Action Plan, responsibility for implementation will rest with the Dean.

MOTION#GFC-03-06-08-2025/26:

Moved by D. Olsen and seconded that General Faculties Council approve the Baccalaureate Program Review Action Plan for the Bachelor of Communication Studies.

Motion Carried.

2.3.3 Baccalaureate Program Review: Bachelor of Music – Action Plan

I. Bica reported on the following:

- The Action Plan was developed based on the Self-Study, external review, and Dean's response, with the goal of improving program accessibility while maintaining the high academic standards and excellence associated with the Bachelor of Music program.
- Following approval of the Action Plan, , responsibility for implementation will rest with the Dean.

MOTION#GFC-04-06-08-2025/26:

Moved by D. Olsen and seconded that General Faculties Council approve the Baccalaureate Program Review Action Plan for the Bachelor of Music.

Motion Carried.

2.4 Academic Standards, Curriculum and the Calendar Report

S. Cartledge reported on the following:

- The Committee met twice to approve 11 items, discussed one item, and approved and recommended one item for GFC consideration.
- Admission requirement changes were approved for several programs, including the Bachelor of Social Work, Bachelor of Early Childhood Curriculum Studies, Bachelor of Applied Human Service Administration, Acupuncture Diploma, Massage Therapy Diploma, Educational Assistant Certificate, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Behaviour Analysis.
- The Committee also received two annual reports from its subcommittees for information.

2.4.1 2027/28 Academic Schedule

S. Cartledge reported on the following:

- Minor revisions were made to the academic schedule, including the addition of an extra day to examination periods to accommodate an increasing number of final assessments.
- Preliminary planning for the 2028/29 academic schedule identified an imbalance in teaching hours, with Tuesday/Thursday classes receiving more instructional time than Monday/Wednesday/Friday classes.
- It was emphasized that the 2028/29 academic schedule remains under development and will be subject to further consultation and refinement before being brought forward for approval.

MOTION#GFC-05-06-08-2025/26:

Moved by C. Kuziemy and seconded that the General Faculties Council approves the 2027/28 Academic Schedule.

Motion Carried.

2.4.2 Enrolment Policy

S. Cartledge reported on the following:

- The proposed Enrolment Policy consolidates four existing policies into a single umbrella document that outlines enrolment definitions, restrictions, and requirements.
- An accompanying procedure was also approved by the GFC Executive Committee to support the implementation of the policy.
- The new policy is scheduled to take effect September 2026.

MOTION#GFC-06-06-08-2025/26:

Moved by M. Tucker and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the proposed Enrolment Policy, as presented.

Motion Carried.

2.4.3 Classification of Enrolment Procedure

S. Cartledge reported on the following:

- The procedure was approved by the GFC Executive Committee and consolidates several existing procedures into a single document.
- It establishes the criteria used to determine enrolment status, including full-time designation, co-op and work experience placements, and non-post-secondary credits.

2.5 Scholarly Activity Report

C. Anton reported on the following:

- The Committee received three annual reports from its subcommittees outlining grant and scholarship activities over the past year, with each noting increased workloads driven by high application volumes.
- The Committee also reviewed a proposed framework for measuring research impact at MacEwan, recognizing the diverse ways research contributes to the institution and the broader community.
- It was noted that the development of a research impact framework is being driven, in part, by anticipated government requirements for reporting on research outcomes and impact.

2.6 Teaching and Learning Report

M. Hills reported on the following:

- The Committee received several annual reports from its subcommittees for information.
- A faculty forum on mēskanās was held to gather feedback and identify opportunities for improvement.
- Additional forums are planned to support ongoing engagement and feedback from faculty members.

2.6.1 Course Modalities Working Group: Report and Recommendations

M. Hills reported on the following:

- The report and recommendations were presented for consideration and will return to the Committee in the fall for approval. The proposed changes are intended to improve transparency and clarity regarding course delivery modalities and related requirements.
- Discussion highlighted concerns that permitting in-person major assessments in asynchronous courses could create barriers for students living outside Edmonton or those with limited travel options. It was suggested that any in-person assessment requirements be clearly communicated before students enroll.
- The recommendations respond to previous student concerns about misleading course modality labels and are intended to provide clearer expectations for both students and faculty.

3.0 GFC Elections and Appointments

3.1 Additional Appointed GFC Members

MOTION#GFC-07-06-08-2025/26:

Moved by T. Swanston and seconded that the General Faculties Council appoint the following members as additional appointed members of the General Faculties Council:

- Faculty of Arts and Science: Logan Sibley (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029), and Kalyani Thurairajah (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029);
- School of Business: Subhadip Ghosh (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027);
- School of Continuing Education: Andrea Cheuk (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029)
- Faculty of Health and Community Studies: Mackenzie Martin (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028), Fiona Gironella (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028);
- Library: Alison Pitcher (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029);
- Alumni Association: Rhodora Funcion (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027);
- SAMU: Kristian Artezuela (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027), Avarey Frayn (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027), Vincent Trinh (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027), and Manojna Tamma (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027).

Motion Carried.

3.2 Academic Staff Representative

MOTION#GFC-08-06-08-2025/26:

Moved by M. Hills and seconded that the General Faculties Council appoint Vanessa Boila or Tory Pino as the Academic Staff Representative to the General Faculties Council for a term beginning on July 1, 2026, and concluding on June 30, 2029, based on the outcome of the election.

Motion Carried.

S. Yip presented the item:

- Tory Pino was elected Academic Staff Representative to the General Faculties Council.

3.3 2026/27 GFC Vice-Chair Appointment

MOTION#GFC-09-06-08-2025/26:

Moved by S. Spidel and seconded that the General Faculties Council appoint Travis Hatt or Andrew Patterson as vice-chair of the General Faculties Council for the 2026/27 academic year, based on the outcome of the election.

Motion Carried.

S. Yip presented the item:

- Travis Hatt was elected GFC Vice-Chair for the 2026/27 academic year.

4.0 Other Business

- No other business was discussed.

5.0 Adjournment of Open Session

Next Meeting: September 21, 2026