

ATTENDANCE

Members	Annette Trimbee (Chair); Travis Hatt (Vice-Chair) Craig Monk; Lara McClelland; David Danto; Karen Keiller; Deric Olsen; Richard Perlow; Christy Raymond; Lisa Rochman; Melike Schalomon; Jason Fung; Terri Cardinal; Allison Drew-Hassling; Julie Green; Craig Kuziemy; Ed Lorkovic; Kate McIntosh; Alain Beauclair; Ion Bica; Michael Brundin; Stefan Cartledge; Paul Chahal; Andrea Cheuk; Shannon Digweed; Mahmoud Elsaadany; Mohamad El-Hajj; Subhadip Ghosh; Vivian Giang; Fiona Gironella; Makarand Gulawani; Lynne Honey (<i>Dep. 4:37</i>); Sharon Johnston; Emily Khalema; Lana Kry; David Laing; Eric Legge; Debbie Lenton; John McMillan; Mackenzie Martin; Arka Mukherjee; Andrew Patterson; Tory Pino; Alison Pitcher; Vahid Rezania; Cristina Ruiz Serrano; Logan Sibley; Aimee Skye; Scott Spidell; Treena Swanston; Darren Tellier; Bruce Thomson; Kalyani Thurairajah; Leanne Topola; Barry Williams; Tim Williams; Wayne Williams; Tara Winsor; Robert Wiznura; Chioma Uzor; Elizabeth Russell; Vincent Trinh; Kristian Artezuela; Manojna Tumma (<i>Arr. 4:13 pm</i>); Avarey Frayn; Rhodora Funcion
Secretariat	Sumiko Yip; Austin Hohlbein; Christian Zukowski; Angela Miao; Cameron McCubbing; Kirsten Weeks
Presenters	Tom Snow;
Guests	Mike Annett; Mark Beliveau; Helen Frost; Helen Ngan-Paré; Melissa Hills; Breanna Kruger; Shawn McMillian; Jillian Pratt; Shweta Sharma; Larissa Williams
Regrets	David Danto; Lara McClelland; Terri Cardinal; Ion Bica; Sharon Johnston; Debbie Lenton; Scott Spidell; Tim Williams; Wayne Williams

MINUTES

1.0 Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:14 pm, noting that quorum was present.

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

T. Hatt provided the Land Acknowledgment.

1.2 Indigenous Invocation

T. Snow provided an Indigenous Invocation.

1.3 Open and Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda includes the adoption of the following motion:

- That the General Faculties Council approve the minutes from the meeting on
June 4, 2026, as presented

The Consent Agenda included the following items for information:

- Executive Committee Minutes: June 1, 2026
- The 2026/27 GFC Membership

MOTION#GFC-01-09-21-2026/27:

Moved by R. Wizurna 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 was submitted to the Ministry of Advanced Education identifying 12 program areas considered important to supporting Alberta's growth. In July, the University received confirmation that 11 of the 12 identified program areas had been accepted for funding.
- The University renewed its longstanding Memorandum of Understanding with the Ukrainian Foundation. Endowments held with the Foundation total approximately \$12.5 million.
- The provincial government convened an expert panel on artificial intelligence to consider the evolving role of AI in the post-secondary sector, including the core AI competencies students may be expected to develop.

2.2 Provost's Report

The Provost reported on the following:

- The Book of the Year program is now in its third decade. This year's selection is *Endling* by Ukrainian-Canadian author Maria Reva.
- Significant work has been undertaken to reduce course waitlists. Waitlisting has decreased by 10% for first-year students and by 6% across the overall student population.
- Members were reminded that students cannot be required to pay additional costs, beyond tuition and approved fees, to access materials necessary to complete graded course requirements. Students must have an option to participate in graded activities without being required to purchase additional materials, in accordance with the Post-secondary Learning Act.

2.3 GFC Executive Committee Report

T. Hatt reported on the following:

- The GFC Executive Committee last met on September 14, 2026.
- The Committee approved the appointment of Faculty-at-Large members to GFC standing committees and recommended the proposed revisions to the GFC Bylaws for approval by GFC.
- The Committee also discussed the Human Rights and Accessibility Policy and its accompanying procedures in preparation for their consideration through the academic governance process.

2.3.1 General Faculties Council Bylaw Updates

S. Yip reported on the following:

- The Office of University Governance conducted an environmental scan and benchmarking review to inform the proposed updates to the GFC Bylaws.
- Members discussed the proposed wording in Sections 7.1.4 and 9.9.2 and identified areas requiring further consideration by the GFC Executive Committee.
- A motion was subsequently introduced to refer the proposed revisions to the GFC Bylaws back to the GFC Executive Committee for further review.

MOTION#GFC-02-09-21-2026/7:

Moved by A. Skye and seconded that the General Faculties Council refer the proposed revisions to the GFC Bylaws back to the General Faculties Council Executive Committee for review.

Motion Carried.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Human Rights and Accessibility Policy

A. Drew-Hassling reported on the following:

- The Policy underwent a comprehensive review as part of the regular policy review cycle.
- Four key themes emerged through the consultation process: consistency across the institution, the practical application of legal concepts, privacy and confidentiality as core principles, and procedural practicality.
- The Policy was revised to maintain alignment with the Alberta Human Rights Act, which informed the language and terminology used throughout the document.

MOTION#GFC-03-09-21-2026/7:

Moved by C. Kuziemyky and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve and recommend the proposed Human Rights and Accessibility policy revisions to the Board of Governors.

Motion Carried.

3.1.1 Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities and Non-Disability Grounds Procedures

A. Drew-Hassling reported on the following:

- The two accompanying procedures were presented for information to provide additional context for the proposed Human Rights and Accessibility Policy.
- Pending final approval of the Policy by the Board of Governors on October 22, 2026, the two procedures will be presented to the GFC Executive Committee for approval by eVote.

3.2 General Faculties Council Orientation

S. Yip reported on the following:

- An overview of GFC's role and responsibilities within MacEwan University's bicameral governance structure was provided.
 - The orientation also outlined MacEwan's academic governance processes and the ways in which GFC members can actively participate and contribute to the work of GFC.
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4.0 Other Business

- **Alternative Workload Disclosure:** An update was provided on the availability of alternative workload opportunities across the University. Subject to the review and ranking of applications to determine those that can be supported, at least 75 opportunities will be available: 40 in the Faculty of Arts and Science, 16 in the Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications, nine in the Triffo School of Business, six in the Faculty of Nursing, and four in the Faculty of Health and Community Studies.
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5.0 Adjournment of Open Session

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:20 pm.

Next Meeting: October 26, 2026
