

ATTENDANCE

Members	Annette Trimbee (Chair); Travis Hatt (Vice-Chair); Craig Monk; Maureen Powers-Lomas; Lara McClelland; Kevin Friesen; Deric Olsen; David Danto; Christy Raymond; Richard Perlow; Lisa Rochman; Karen Keiller; Julie Green; Chioma Uzor; Alem Tesfay; Ion Bica; Treena Swanston; Shannon Digweed; Robert Wiznura; Eric Legge; Joshua Toth; Alain Beauclair; Lynne 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 Kuziemytsky; 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; Leah Stock; Christian Zukowski; Angela Miao; Cameron McCubbing; Austin Hohlbein
Guests	Zoey Shaw
Regrets	Annette Trimbee, Craig Kuziemytsky; Tina Bott; Eric Legge; Stefan Cartledge; Treena Swanston; Katie Biittner; Richard Perlow; Shannon Digweed; Hellen Gateri; Murli Muralidharan; Wayne Williams; Terri Cardinal; Andrew Patterson; Anna Rissanen; Martin Tucker; Darren Tellier

MINUTES**1.0 Call to Order**

C. Monk, as Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:16 pm, noting that quorum was present.

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

M. Hills 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 December 1, 2025, as presented.

The Consent Agenda included the following items for information:

- Executive Committee Minutes from November 24, 2025.

MOTION#GFC-01-02-09-2025/26:

Moved by A. Skye 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 Acting Chair reported on the following:

- Noted that the upcoming Provincial budget will be presented soon. The University must continue to focus on growth while also securing consistent funding to support the School of Business and the future science building. Continued investment in mental health supports for students on campus was also highlighted as a priority.
- Black History Month events were held across campus, organized by the Black Students' Association and Office of Human Rights. The events served not only as a celebration but also as an opportunity to reaffirm MacEwan's commitment to supporting Black communities both on campus and beyond
- Upcoming events include the Leadership Unplugged program, which will feature the CEO of the Brick, as well as the Artist Amble, a collaboration with partners in downtown Edmonton to bring musical activities to campus.
- The 39th Allard Chair in Business has been awarded to Brent Hesje, former CEO and current Board Chair of Fountain Tire. His selection continues the strong tradition of distinguished leaders serving this role.

2.2 Provost's Report

The Acting Chair reported on the following:

- Students will now be able to filter course sections during registration by start time, delivery mode, and sections that use no-cost textbooks. Information gathered on no-cost textbooks and open education resources will also be used by department administration to support future planning.
- For the 2026/27 academic year, classes will begin on September 2, prior to Labour Day. This schedule was approved in June 2025 and aligns with the start dates of other post secondary institutions and Edmonton Public Schools.
- Work will continue to strengthen quality assurance processes, particularly in relation to external accreditation, to ensure proposals are thoroughly reviewed and free of factual errors.

2.3 GFC Executive Committee Report

T. Hatt reported on the following:

- The Executive Committee last met on February 2, where it approved the Open Agenda for the February 9 GFC meeting.
- Discussion also took place regarding the FFAC Bylaws, including how best to balance student representation and recruitment while updating FFAC governance to better align with GFC.

2.4 Academic Planning and Quality Assurance Report

I. Bica reported on the following:

- The Committee last met on January 12 and approved two items.
- The Committee approved the terms of reference for the Academic Quality Assurance Unit Self-Study, in accordance with Unit Review Procedure. The proposed schedule had previously been approved by the Committee in September.
- The Committee also approved the suspension of the Occupational Health Nursing Certificate due to declining enrollment and high attrition rates, and the program no

longer being cost recoverable. Students have been informed, and plans are in place to support currently enrolled students in completing the certificate. Increased competition from shorter, lower-cost alternatives and a broader range of health professionals entering the field have also contributed to the decision. The School of Continuing Education is exploring possible alternative offerings in that area.

2.5 Scholarly Activity Report

C. Anton reported on the following:

- The Committee last met on January 19, where it approved the Neuroscience Research Group and received an update regarding on a change in the lead of the Black Community Research Group.
- The Office of Research Services is currently working to define research impact at MacEwan and to better articulate the impact research in disciplines where outcomes may be less tangible, such as the humanities or mathematics. T
- Members were encouraged to share examples of their research impact with the Office of Research Services.

2.6 Teaching and Learning Report

M. Hills reported on the following:

- The Committee last met on January 19 and approved the terms of reference for the Course Modalities Working Group, the AI Competency Framework, and the Academic Teaching Subcommittee 2025/26 workplan
- The AI Competency Framework will be made broadly available, likely through the Centre for Teaching and Learning website, and members were encouraged to review it. It was also noted that nominations for the Teaching Awards have nearly doubled compared to previous years, with nominees in all four award categories.
- As part of the Student Course Feedback Survey Review held three focus groups, two with faculty and one with students. A summary report from the consultant will be presented at the next committee meeting and brought forward to GFC for discussion.

2.7 Council on Student Affairs Report

B. Thomson reported on the following:

- The Council last met on January 26 and discussed the mental health supports and resources available to students, as well as planning for the upcoming Mental Health Week.
- The Office of Human Rights, in collaboration with students, is planning a Human Rights Learning Series that will continue throughout the year.

3.0 Other Business

3.1 Revised Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications Council Bylaws

D. Olsen presented the item. Highlights included:

- FFAC bylaws were updated to address outdated provisions and to align with GFC and the governance structures of other Faculties and Schools.
- Sessional representation was increased to allow representatives from all six departments, reflecting the high number of sessional instructors within FFAC.
- The number of student representatives was reduced due to low participation in recent years; though the Faculty remains open to increasing representation if

interest grows. It was also noted that student engagement tends to be stronger at the department level and through departmental student advisory councils.

MOTION#GFC-02-02-09-2025/26:

Moved by B. Thomson and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the revised Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications Council Bylaws, as presented.

Motion Carried.

4.0 Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:41 pm.
