

Arts and Science Faculty Council

Minutes of Council

Meeting #: 47
Date: April 22, 2022
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: WebEx
Motion #s: 446-452

Present:

Schalomon, M (Chair)	Davies, K Davis, J	Indratmo Intungane, D	Moscicki, M Mugo, S	Symbaluk, D Tcaciuc, A
Toth, J (Vice-Chair)	El-Hajj, M	Irangu, J	O'Connor, J	Tessier, A
Bruins-Smith, T (Secretary)	Elliott, C	Irwin, B	Overend, A	Wagner, A
Taylor, K (Secretary)	Elmorsy, M	Islam, S	Pang, C	Witherell, R
Amundson, L	Einarsson, R	Ivanescu, C	Panjvani, C	Woywitka, R
Anton, Ca	Epp, M	Jarick, M	Patterson, A	Zadorozhna, N
Anton, Cr	Falconer, R	Jung, S	Peace, K	
Avalos, E	Farvolden, P	Kenney, J	Penney, A	Other - Voting
Badalova, L	Ferede, E	Kim-Bernard, K	Powell, R	Beke, N
Bailey, C	Flaherty, L	Korpesho, E	Prichard, L	Foster, A
Bereska, T	Forth, A	Krys, L	Prince, P	Fritz, T
Bica, I	Franczak, B	Lakowski, R	Ramsey, C	Minaker, J
Blittner, K	Friesen, K	Lee, R	Rezania, V	Milner, K
Blatz, C	Gelmini, L	Legge, E	Rice, J	Wiznura, R
Bott, T	Giacomin, M	Llano, J	Ross, M	
Bowles, V	Gibbs, M	Locky, D	Ruiz Serrano, C	Ex Officiis and
Boyd, B	Gonzalez-Lucena, F	Long, J	Saberi, M	Delegates
Buro, K	Gulayets, M	Lorimer, S	Shaw, R	Chartrand, J
Carroll, M	Hackett, E	Lorkovic, E	Sibley, L	McKenzie, D
Cartledge, S	Hamilton, T	Macauley, M	Skeffington, J	McLaughlin, D
Cobzas, D	Hannan, S	Macdonell, C	Skelhorne, A	
Copland, S	Harcombe, K	Martin, D	Skye, A	Public Members
Corrigall, K	Hayman, S	McKenzie, H	Soroski, J	Jeffrey, L
Corlett, H	Hills, M	Mensah, C	Stepnisky, J	Rose, D
Coulson, J	Hilts, R	Mewhort, R	Striemer, C	Tang, T
Cowling, E	Hollingshead, D	Miller, J	Su, W	
Das, M	Honey, L	Mills, S	Summers, K	
	Howell, A	Milne, E	Swanston, T	

Regrets

Alam, R	Brookwell, B	Judge, K	Meleshko, R	Stewart, A
Bernstein, N	Fallis, C	McFadyen, D	Perschon, M	
Bratt, S	Haines, J	McKeown, N	Schmaltz, R	

Move into Session: The meeting was called to order by Melike Schalomon at 10:00 am.

Item I Adoption of Agenda

Motion #446 Move to approve the agenda as amended. **Consensus**
Biittner/Legge

Item II Approval of Minutes of Faculty Council #46, February 28, 2022

Motion #447 Move to approve the Minutes. **Consensus**
Biittner/Legge

Item III Items Arising from the Minutes

- None

Item IV Presentations:

a) Dean's Report

- There is no evidence of significant outbreaks on campus since administration lifted the masking and vaccination requirements. The Dean encourages everyone to continue to clean their hands, and wear masks in public spaces when they are unable to social distance.
- Progress has been made on moving towards the Faculty's course modality targets:

Course modalities	Faculty target	Fall scheduled distribution
<i>Face to face</i>	60%	76%
<i>Hybrid</i>	30%	15%
<i>Online</i>	10%	8%

- The winter course modality numbers are similar.
- The university plans for more courses to be offered in hybrid and online modalities next year. The Dean's Office recognizes course modality targets cannot be achieved across the board. Variability will be needed among the disciplines and will differ between 100-400 level courses. In-person scheduling of hybrid classes will be less flexible with the Office of the University Registrar (OUR) deciding which days will be in-person and which days will be online to maximize classroom space. Online portions will be asynchronous to allow students to enroll in multiple classes for the same time and weekday.
- Faculty members raised questions about the hybrid modality, noting:
 - GFC's definition for hybrid does not match next year's plan,
 - the impacts from a pedagogical perspective are unknown

- concerns about students being allowed to enroll in two classes during the same period,
- concerns about the university providing additional proctoring support for online exams to mitigate cheating. Mechanisms were requested to ensure midterms do not overlap as well.
- The Dean noted this model will evolve with a university-wide discussion to determine what works and what does not work. GFC will likely decide what proportion of instructional hours should be face to face for hybrid courses. Arrangements can be made for Exam Services to proctor exams. Faculty members can schedule their exams to be held in-person, even for an online course, provided students are given adequate notice.
- Faculty members with additional questions about course modality are encouraged to speak with the Dean or their GFC representative. Issues about hybrid courses can be discussed at department curriculum meetings and should be brought forward to Faculty GFC representative for discussion at GFC meetings.
- A one-day retreat has been scheduled on May 4th to have department Chairs and the Dean's Office staff discuss how to implement the Strategic Vision within the Faculty. These discussions will continue as the Chairs work with their departments in the next few months.
- The Faculty has received permission to submit a proposal to the Alberta government to develop a program of study where students may select a double major with one major in Arts and the other in Science.
- The recent Faculty election had good participation with 68% of eligible voters submitting a ballot. Nearly 25% of tenure-track or tenured faculty members stood for election.

GFC changed the allocation of seats. The elected seats were re-distributed to 10 for the Faculty of Arts and Science, but two appointed seats (in addition to the current one appointed seat) were allocated to the Faculty. This brings the total number of seats to 13.

- The Faculty has had a successful hiring season. Six new appointments were made. The selection committee made its recommendation to the Provost for the Interdisciplinary Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Urban Wellness. The Dean is currently negotiating with a candidate. Hopefully a new appointment can be announced soon.
- Fifteen sessional extended appointments were made across seven departments in early March.
- Faculty and staff are encouraged to attend the university's 50th Anniversary celebration Apr 29 and 30 including the Visions of Brilliance Showcase.
- A long-term service recognition of faculty members who have celebrated service milestones in the past two years and this year will be held in either May or June. Faculty members were asked to show the Arts and Science Faculty spirit when our students participate in an in-person convocation on June 22nd.

b) Accommodations and Access and Disability Resources (Tim Tang and Danica Rose)

- Tim Tang, Associate Vice President, Student Services, and Danica Rose, Chair - Learning Specialists, Access and Disability Services, addressed Faculty Council about ADR services. ADR identifies and removes barriers to full student participation with their education. ADR acts as a conduit between the student and the institution and has seen an increase of 10% more students annually requesting accommodation services for the past five years. ADR is also seeing more students with complex conditions and multiple diagnoses.
- Concerns about providing long-term success were raised, noting the ADR presentation was silent in this regard. ADR does not provide treatments but instead it provides academic support and refers students to longer-term support, such as psychiatric services, when needed.
- A faculty member questioned whether the increase in accommodations is unintentionally doing a disservice to students who will not have such accommodations available after they leave the university. This is not the case. Employers also have a duty to accommodate. Creating a flexible learning environment does not lower academic standards. Instead, it empowers students to meet course learning outcomes. Faculty members who pursue and adopt Universal Design for Learning (UDL) into their courses are empowering students to be successful by reducing barriers. Since UDL facilitates accessible learning for all students, it is a support for all students.
- The ADR PowerPoint presentation is shared in the [meeting materials folder](#).

Item V Items for Action

a) Curricular Items – (Rob)

Motion #448	That Arts and Science Council approve MATH 229, MATH 325, MATH 329, MATH 428, and MATH 429Physical Sciences	
Wiznura/Ramsey		Consensus
Motion #449	That Arts and Science Council approve changes to CHEM 263	
Wiznura/Ross		Consensus
Motion #450	That Arts and Science Council approve changes to PSYC 312, PSYC 337, PSYC 350, PSYC 355, and PSYC 367	
Wiznura/Skye		Consensus
Motion#451	That Arts and Science Council approve changes to the Mathematical Sciences Major, the Mathematics Major, the Mathematics Honours, and the Mathematics Minor.	
Wiznura/Franczak		Consensus

b) Additional Appointed members to GFC – process

Motion #452

That henceforth, any additional appointed member on GFC per GFC Bylaw article 5.1.4.4 will be appointed by Executive Committee for a three-year term (unless different terms are required to ensure regular rotation), considering various balancing criteria, including but not limited to disciplinary coverage and principles of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.

Toth/Overend

Referred back to Executive Committee to revise for next meeting

- Faculty members spoke against the motion, stating the decisions made at GFC are too important to have this position be appointed rather than elected.
- The Vice-Chair explained that the motion was worded to appoint the position to ensure FAS members on GFC are as representative of the composition of FAS as possible.
- Another faculty member asked for clarity on which problem the motion is attempting to solve before they could vote. Is it one of timing? Is it to meet an EDI requirement?
- A concern was raised about the additional burden put on specific people who are regularly appointed to committees to ensure EDI requirements are met.
- The additional seats will appear as appointed seats no matter how the Faculty opts to fill them. People in the appointed seats have the same responsibility as elected members. They can vote on the same motions, excluding motions to appoint people to GFC.

Item VI Items for Information

a) Executive Committee Minutes #48-49

- Provided.

b) Fundraising campaign (Rob Wiznura)

- The Associate Dean, Operations promoted the ease of making a payroll deduction to support education at MacEwan. Faculty members are being encouraged to donate to the Students First initiative as part of the university's 50th anniversary.

Item VII Other Business

Interdisciplinary Dialogue (Aidan Forth)

- Faculty members were encouraged to hear City of Edmonton Mayor Amarjeet Sohi speak in the Kule Theatre as part of the Interdisciplinary Dialogue – Recovery series.

Vision, Mission, and Values (Joanne Minaker)

- Faculty members are encouraged to provide feedback on the Faculty's Vision, Mission, and Values. Materials were sent out via the Chairs regarding development of the Vision, Mission, and Values. The Google feedback form will be open until May 2nd.

Item VIII Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Subsequent electronic vote

Ratification of appointed GFC members

Executive Committee seeks ratification for the following appointments to GFC:

- 3-year term – William Thompson, English
- 2-year term – Lucio Gelmini, Physical Sciences
- 1-year term – Vahid Rezania, Physical Sciences

Approved