

**May 3, 2021**  
**Open Session**  
3:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
Webex Meeting

## **Minutes General Faculties Council Meeting #10**

### **Members**

#### **Present:**

<i>Chair</i>	Annette Trimbee
<i>Vice-Chair</i>	Dave Kato
<i>VPs</i>	Sharilee Fossum, Myrna Khan, Craig Monk, Michelle Plouffe
<i>Academic AVPs and Deans</i>	Wanda Costen, Allan Gilliland, Karen Keiller, Craig Kuziemy, Fred McGinn, David McLaughlin, Heather McRae, Cassie Prochnau, Melike Schalomon
<i>Student Members</i>	Myles Dykes, Cassey Fallis, Alycia Stewart
<i>Alumni</i>	Sarah Kowalevsky
<i>Faculty</i>	Fernando Angulo-Ruiz, Calin Anton, Cristina Anton, Katie Biittner, Brendan Cavanagh, Jeffrey Davis, Sherif Elbarrad, Sharilee Fossum, Lucio Gelmini, Bob Graves, Erin Grey, Kimberley Harcombe, Travis Hatt, Robert Irwin, Emily Khalema, Kari Krell, Emilie LeBel, Eric Legge, Joanne Loh, Lee Makovichuk, Kathy Miller, Peter Myhre, Etanyankara Muralidharan, Tory Pino, Eva Revitt, Vahid Rezaia, Chandelle Rimmer, Gregory Springate, Tara Stieglitz, Josh Toth, Martin Tucker, Jill Vihos, Nataliya Zhadorohzna, Cynthia Zutter
<b>Resource</b>	Gwen Bauer Bronwyn Snelfella (recording)
<b>Members:</b>	Marco Turlione
<b>Regrets:</b>	Thomas Chase, Ion Bica

**MINUTES: OPEN SESSION****1.0 Call to Order and Agenda**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

**1.1 Treaty Land Acknowledgement**

- President and Chair A. Trimbee commenced with acknowledgement of traditional indigenous land.

**1.2 Approval of Agenda and Consent Items (MOTION)**

**MOTION #01-05-03-2021:** Moved by D. Kato and seconded that the General Faculties Council approves the May 3, 2021, open meeting agenda and consent items as presented.

**Motion carried**

The consent items consisted of the following:

**1.2.1 Minutes of March 22, 2021****2.0 Reports****2.1 President's Report**

A. Trimbee highlighted the following:

- The outcome of Alberta 2030 sector review looks positive for MacEwan and could lead to less oversight. The issue of “deconsolidation” of the budgets of research-intensive universities from the provincial budget was raised, but currently discussion does not include undergraduate universities. MacEwan played positive role in shaping the system review and generally decisions are good news.
- Strategic vision exercise is in phase two. In recent weeks, the President met with community members and other external stakeholders. Over the summer a vision will be developed with the draft to be consulted with GFC in the Fall.
- MacEwan successfully proposed four microcredentials to be funded by government.
- MacEwan celebrated the launch of the new Bachelor of Fine Arts, which is a unique degree in Alberta and in Canada.
- In early June, the Board is set to approve MacEwan's first Chancellor and first slate of honorary doctorate recipients. The recommending committees include GFC members.
- Convocation will be a “curbside” style again but has both personal and livestream elements.

*Budget Report from the President:*

The draft institutional budget was circulated to the GFC membership and presented by A. Trimbee.

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- As previously announced in the Provincial budget, MacEwan did not receive additional budget cuts. In addition, it is anticipated that no cuts will occur in the next two years. This has led to a growth trajectory including increased enrollment in upcoming years.
- At a high level, areas for investment include continued academic hiring and infrastructure related to teaching.
- Anticipate item at GFC in Fall 2022 to discuss budget principles involve the Council earlier in budget planning process.

**A. Trimbee took questions from the floor.**

- The goal of commercialization in Alberta 2030 is aspect of wider concern that Canada. An area of strength for MacEwan is social innovation.
- MacEwan will remain an undergraduate university (per the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*) in the new PSE system model.
- There is not yet a clear definition of micro-credential. There are differences in how provincial PSE sectors across Canada define it. In the case of the four micro-credentials proposed to government, they are non-credit and were approved at School of Continuing Education Council.
- With the changes to the PSE sector, institutions will keep their Boards, however possibility of a wider sectoral board is likely and to be seen what decision-making or oversight rests at each level.
- If deconsolidation happens and were applied to MacEwan, would impact level of control and oversight at a high level. It could remove institutions one or two steps from government.

**2.2 Provost's Report****C. Monk highlighted the following:**

- The institution has received the Investment Management Agreement (IMA) for 2021. The new mandate, approved by GFC and the Board, appears in the IMA. The IMA is achievable, with a focus for the first year on enhancing Work Integrated Learning (WIL) opportunities linked to 5% of institution's grant funding. MacEwan performs well on WIL so we have a good starting point. 72% of programming has some WIL component.
- External reviewers from Campus Alberta Quality Council were at MacEwan for a virtual site visit in April as part of the 2nd institutional Comprehensive Evaluation. They will produce a report and recommendation that will hopefully lead to greater institutional autonomy with respect to program quality assurance.
- On academic career progression and development, the University reviewed 33 applications for tenure and promotion and the successful ones will be effective July 1. Nominations have been received for Distinguished Teaching and Distinguished Researcher Awards, and a new Canadian Research Council Chair announcement is upcoming. 19 new

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faculty have been hired-to-date in 2020-2021 with 10 more searches ongoing.

C. Monk took questions from the floor.

- With respect to WIL, there are different possible approaches (ex. cooperative education, courses, internships, etc.) and it could be problematic if institutions compete for same opportunities or if they err towards unpaid options.
- The IMA is not tightly defined, so what counts as WIL is a work in progress and there should be room to correct if needed. Needs to be better understood in the academy what counts – possible project – however it will be interpreted broadly and no sense funding at risk. There may also be opportunities to find additional funding to support WIL enhancement, for example from Federally funded sources.
- The institution became investing more heavily in WIL and career development support before the IMA so already ramped up to build relationships with hiring organizations, etc. May be opportunity to reinvigorate or recast existing relationships to find opportunities for students.
- With respect to a specific question on WIL in Engineering, challenges related to a shorter transfer program in comparison to 4-year degree though it has included activities such as site visits. Academic Planning and Quality Assurance Committee will come forward with a recommendation on the future of the program.
- Possible to look for creative opportunities for WIL.

2.3 Executive Committee Report

D. Kato provided brief comments on activities of GFC Executive Committee.

- GFC Executive Committee discussed options to increase number of academic integrity adjudicators for appeal hearing panels. Will seek to recruit and train interested GFC members to expand the pool.

2.4 Academic Planning and Quality Assurance Committee Report

C. Monk provided the following report:

- External reviewers from Campus Alberta Quality Council attended the last meeting of the Committee, to observe the discussion of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program Review. The external reviewers provided very positive comments to the Committee.

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- Proposal to suspend the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Transfer Program will be addressed at the next Committee meeting in May and is anticipated to come to GFC on June 14, 2021.

Discussion occurred:

- The Academic Planning and Quality Assurance Committee has a wide mandate, any future recommendations about significant changes to its mandate, ex., whether it would be separated into two committees, would be taken up by Executive Committee.

## 2.5 Academic Standards, Curriculum, and the Calendar Committee Report

K. Harcombe indicated there were no Committee activities to report since last GFC.

## 2.6 Teaching and Learning Committee

C. Zutter provided the following report:

- Group testing Proctorio remote proctoring software meeting this week to begin trial use of program
- The Committee received a presentation on Universal Design

## 2.7 Scholarly Activity Committee

K. Miller provided the following report:

- Herself and Craig Kuziemy are continuing to visit Faculty and School Councils to discuss scholarship at MacEwan. They are starting to address questions like how to grow scholarship? What it looks like in the MacEwan context? And, how to view challenges through a creative lens?

## 2.8 Council on Student Affairs

J. Loh indicated there was nothing to report since last GFC meeting, but that the Council on Student Affairs would meet in two weeks.

# 3.0 Regular Business

## 3.1 Revisions to Final Assessment Policy (**MOTION**)

**MOTION: GFC-02-03-05-2021:** Moved by C. Prochnau and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve revisions to the Final Assessment Policy.  
**Motion carried**

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C. Prochnau presented the item. The revisions are in part to align with current practice. It applies to all assessments to try and mitigate faculty being inundated with requests. Forms for final assessment changes will go to the Office of Exam Services under the associated procedure.

Discussion occurred:

- Intent is to make the process more centralized to take weight off faculty shoulders to set up additional exam times.
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**4.0 Adjournment**

The GFC adjourned at 4:38 p.m.