

June 14, 2021
Open Session
3:00 PM – 4:30
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</i>	Wanda Costen, Allan Gilliland, Karen Keiller, Craig Kuziemy,sky,
<i>Deans</i>	Christy Raymond, David McLaughlin, Heather McRae, Cassie Prochnau, Tim Tang, Melike Schalomon
<i>Student Members</i>	Cassey Fallis, Alycia Stewart
<i>Faculty</i>	Fernando Angulo-Ruiz, Calin Anton, Cristina Anton, Ion Bica, Brendan Cavanagh, Jeffrey Davis, Sherif Elbarrad, Sharilee Fossum, Lucio Gelmini, Bob Graves, Erin Grey, Kimberley Harcombe, Travis Hatt, Lynne Honey, 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 Rezania, Chandelle Rimmer, Gregory Springate, Tara Stieglitz, Josh Toth, Martin Tucker, Jill Vihos, Nataliya Zhadorohzna, Cynthia Zutter
<i>Alumni</i>	Sarah Kowalevsky

Resource Members:

Gwen Bauer **Marco Turlione**

Bronwyn Sneffjella (recording secretary)

Regrets:

Myles Dykes

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 #01-06-14-2021**

D. Kato/C. Kuziemytsky

The General Faculties Council approves the June 14, 2021 open meeting agenda and consent items as amended.

Motion carried

The consent items consisted of the following:

1.2.1 Minutes of May 3, 2021

- Correction to item 3.3 in minutes of May 3, 2021, to indicate SAMU is working on student rights piece following from new Student Code of Conduct.

1.2.2 GFC Executive Minutes of April 19, 2021**1.2.3 GFC Executive Minutes of May 31, 2021****2.0 Reports****2.1 President's Report**

A. Trimbee, President and Chair, welcomed new members to the GFC:

- Tim Tang, AVP, Students
- Dr. Christy Raymond, Dean, Faculty of Nursing
- Myles Dykes, President, SAMU
- Cassey Fallis, VP Academic, SAMU

She also thanked the following members cycling off the GFC:

- Dr. Cristina Anton
- Thomas Chase (student)
- Dr. Jeff Davis
- Dr. Sherif Elbarrad
- Mr. Travis Hatt
- Dr. Emilie LeBel
- Dr. Nataliya Zadorozhna

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION**A. Trimbee reported on the following:**

- Recognition of the discovery of the remains of indigenous children at the site of the former Kamloops Residential School
- Update on the strategic vision work and alignment with Alberta 2030
- Appointment of MacEwan's first Chancellor, Dr. Anthony Fields
- Awarding of MacEwan's First Honorary Doctorates
- Convocation Summer 2021 will be "curbside" again but enhanced by addition of Chancellor. Celebratory pieces will be filmed.
- A number of new senior administrative staff have joined the leadership team or are acting in new capacities. Tim Tang has joined MacEwan as AVP, Students, and Christy Raymond has joined as Dean, Nursing. Craig Kumziemsky, AVP, Research will serve as interim Dean of the School of Business. Dean Fred McGinn will not be taking a second term as Dean and will join his faculty colleagues in Health and Community Studies, and Cassie Prochnau will serve as interim Dean. Dean Wanda Costen will be leaving for Queen's University. In addition, we have a new AVP, Infrastructure Management, and AVP, Finance.

2.2 Provost's Report**C. Monk, Provost & VP, Academic reported on the following:**

- Fall course delivery, noting strong enrolments and impacts on scheduling in-person courses. Many offerings will continue to be online or hybrid to allow flexibility should physical distancing be needed again.
- Faculty efforts to go hybrid have provided flexibility and lessons we can take forward, but we'd need to look at coordinated hybrid delivery for future years. Academic Affairs will support a longer-term project.
- Last, GFC Executive was consulted on and supported a recommendation based on legal advice to update the wording in the preamble of the questionnaire we give students at the end of courses to allow us to investigate and potentially take disciplinary action in extreme instances such as hate speech, harassment, and threats. Given the importance of free speech, the standard must be very high to break anonymity.

2.3 Executive Committee Report**D. Kato reported on the following GFC Executive Committee activities from its May 31, 2021 meeting:**

- On behalf of the General Faculties Council, GFC Executive approved the graduands list.
- Supported proposed revisions to the preamble which precedes the Student Evaluation of Teaching survey to include note that MacEwan may investigate in cases where student feedback may constitute hate language, threats, or similarly extreme commentary.

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- Approved the new Grading Procedure, subject to the approval of associated Policy on Grading by the General Faculties Council

2.4 Academic Planning and Quality Assurance Committee Report

I. Bica provided the following report:

2.4.1 Proposed Suspension of Engineering Transfer Program (MOTION)**MOTION: GFC#-02-06-14-2021**

I. Bica/M. Schalomom

That the General Faculties Council approve suspension of the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Transfer

Motion carried

**Note, a secret ballot was requested and so an online vote was conducted within Webex's voting feature.*

I. Bica introduced the proposed suspension of the Engineering Transfer Program as recommended by the Committee on Academic Planning and Quality Assurance. Answers to detailed questions were provided by M. Schalomom, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Discussion occurred

- J Davis and S. Lorimer (guest) provided statements against suspension of the program.
- Themes addressed in open discussion included assessment of the data and rationale provided in the business case, nature of consultation and decision-making at the Faculty level, support from past students for the program and high quality of teaching, cost of program and high use of resources, desirability of allocation of resources into senior BSc courses, impacts to Departments providing service courses to the program, application and enrollment numbers, impact of decisions at University of Alberta upon MacEwan University, and student needs.

2.4.2 Proposed Film Minor (MOTION)

M. Schalomom/P. Myhre

MOTION That the General Faculties Council approve the proposed Film Minor, effective Fall 2022.

Motion carried

I. Bica introduced the proposed interdisciplinary minor as recommended by the Committee on Academic Planning and Quality Assurance. Answers to detailed questions were provided by A. Gilliland, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications, and M. Schalomom, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science.

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Discussion occurred:

- Shared between Department of Communications (FFAC) and Department of English (FAS). Cost neutral - has faculty to teach and equipment in place.

2.4.3 Proposed Minor in Songwriting (**MOTION**)

I. Bica/M. Tucker

MOTION That the General Faculties Council approve the proposed Film Minor, effective Fall 2022.

Motion carried

I. Bica introduced the proposed minor as recommended by the Committee on Academic Planning and Quality Assurance. Answers to detailed questions were provided by A. Gilliland, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications, and C. Rimmer, Section Head, Voice.

Discussion occurred:

- Minor fills gap at MacEwan and in Canadian Post-Secondaries, providing combination of music skills and business skills to help singer songwriters develop their craft and their ability to be professionally successful.
- General concern about developing a process/criteria to determine what minors should be offered, and how many.
- Noted by School of Business representatives, because program contains a marketing component, consultation and cross-pollination needed between Fine Arts and Business to make even stronger.
- Has been made low cost to implement through restructuring capstone.

2.4.4 Expansion of Minor in Digital Experience Design (**MOTION**)

I. Bica/A. Stewart

MOTION That the General Faculties Council approve the proposed expansion of the Digital Experience Design Minor, effective Fall 2022.

Motion carried

I. Bica introduced the proposed expansion of minor as recommended by the Committee on Academic Planning and Quality Assurance. Answers to detailed questions were provided by A. Gilliland, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications and R.

Discussion occurred:

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- Minor already offered as an out of faculty option, proposal is to expand it into it's home Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications.
- The Faculty has majors in Journalism and Communications and you can minor in the opposite, this minor one adds another option available in both majors, and also eventually in the anticipated new major in Public Relations.
- Opening very limited number of seats, to be cost neutral. If expanded, would need to be resourced.

2.4.5 Departmental Structure in Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications **(MOTION)**

I. Bica/P. Myhre

MOTION That General Faculties Council recommend to the Board of Governors implementation of the proposed Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications department effective April 1, 2022, with the following six departments:

1. Department of Arts and Cultural Management
2. Department of Communication
3. Department of Design
4. Department of Music
5. Department of Studio Arts
6. Department of Theatre

Motion carried

I. Bica introduced the restricting was recommended by the Committee on Academic Planning and Quality Assurance. Answers to detailed questions were provided by A. Gilliland, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications and R.

Discussion occurred:

- Department structure proposes separate Department of Fine Arts and Design into two departments of Design and Studio Arts respectively.

2.5 Academic Standards, Curriculum, and the Calendar Committee Report

K. Harcombe provided the following report:

The Committee met twice since the last GFC meeting. It approved minor addenda and errata to the calendar and changes the admission criteria for BFA and Social Work EDI statements. In addition, it has begun some discussion on general admission criteria, starting with looking at English-30-2 vs English 30-1 and we'll be sure to report any finding and recommendations related to this to the GFC.

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION**2.5.1 Revisions to Grading Policy****MOTION#GFC-08-14-06-2021**

K. Harcombe/E. Gray

That the General Faculties Council approve the revised Grading Policy.

Motion carried

K. Harcombe provided a brief overview. The Committee was happy with the balance between student success and faculty autonomy achieved in the policy. Detailed answers were provided by M. Merrigan, Associate Registrar, Students.

Discussion occurred:

- Minor amendment pages correction page 76 to Centre for Professional Nursing Education.
- MacEwan does not publish averages grades, as some institutions do, which makes it difficult for faculty to compare. In proposed policy Chairs are responsible to ensure grades are consistent.

2.6 Teaching and Learning Committee

C. Zutter provided the following report:

- The Committee met once since the last GFC meeting.
- The Committee considered and endorsed proposed changes to the preamble in the student evaluation of teaching, approved by GFC Executive Committee.
- Course outline addendum regarding online courses will continue for current year.
- Institutional Learning Outcome will be recommended for inclusion in the Calendar.
- The working group reviewing Proctorio will be returning with recommendations to the Committee, which in turn will look at defining what “exceptional circumstances” the software would be used in.

2.7 Scholarly Activity Committee

K. Miller provided the following report:

- K. Miller and C. Kuziemyk have been visiting Faculty Councils, discussing scholarship at MacEwan as an initial engagement step.
- Office of Research Services are providing grant application workshops.

2.8 Council on Student Affairs

J. Loh provided the following report:

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION**2.8.1 Student Advisory Committee Policy**

J. Loh/M. Dykes

MOTION That the General Faculties Council approve the revised Student Advisory Council Policy.

Motion carried

J. Loh provided a brief overview, with detailed information from C, Prochnau, Interim AVP, Students and Teaching. The policy is being updated as part of regular policy review cycle. It gives faculties and schools more autonomy in their procedures.

Discussion occurred:

- The Council on Student Affairs found the revisions positive. They did raise concern of risk of students sanctioning other students, but it was clarified that SAMU doesn't have jurisdiction and such issues would be covered in Student Misconduct policies.

3.0 Adjournment

The GFC adjourned at 6:03 pm.