



**MINUTES: OPEN SESSION**

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

**MOTION#GFC-01-10-25-2021:** Moved by D. Kato and seconded that the General Faculties Council approves the October 25, 2021, open meeting agenda and consent items.

**Motion carried**

Consent items:

**1.2.1 Previous Minutes: September 13, 2021**

- \*Amendment to previous minutes to clarify MacEwan will apply principles of Scarborough Charter

**2.0 Reports****2.1 President's Report**

A.Trimbee, President and Chair, reported on the following:

- Strategic vision was approved by the Board of Governors on October 7, 2021. GFC will be involved again when a dashboard is developed.
- GFC has received for information a report to the Board on progress on the President's goals.
- School of Business has been accredited by the European Foundation for Management Development.
- Thanks to Terri Suntjens and Tim Tang and his team for the successful activities and events to recognize the September 30 Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Many Indigenous persons and other community members came here to recognize the day as MacEwan remained open.
- Please respond to the upcoming survey on equity, diversity, and inclusion. It will support institutional work on these values.
- A new Investment Management Agreement is anticipated from government related to research and commercialization.
- With recent departure of two senior leaders, the VP team is being adjusted to look more like other universities. MacEwan will be recruiting a General Counsel, shifting from the VP & General Counsel, and distributing the VP portfolio to other leaders.
- With more activity on campus, there have been a few Covid cases.
- Convocation will take place in person. Please mark your calendars and attend. As a reminder for future convocations, GFC members are encouraged to nominate honorary doctorate candidates.

Discussion occurred:

**MINUTES: OPEN SESSION**

#	Item
---	------

- We are at the early stages with defining what a micro-credential is and developing them, but academic governance must be involved.
- On anticipated Investment Management Agreement metrics, we will have time to develop a response. MacEwan is grouped with comprehensive universities, but with an undergraduate mandate research and commercialization looks different here.
- The annual report on President’s goals will not be on the website and is not intended as a public document, but members may share with their Councils.

2.2 Provost’s Report

C. Monk, Provost and VP, Academic, reported on the following:

- Academic hiring – 25 faculty positions being sought in 2021-2022 with advertisements launching November 1 and December 1 to get to market. Sim to complete interviews by March 2022. Advertisements have been rewritten to provide more tools to search committees to screen in applications of equity-deserving candidates.
- The Offices of Human Rights, Diversity, and Equity and Sexual Violence Prevention, Education and Response are moving to Student Affairs expanding excellent avenues for training and future outreach opportunities.
- MacEwan will be launching an Expert Guide. It will improve internal connection between colleagues and with other academic institutions, the public, and the media.

Discussion occurred:

- The change to the financial year end from June to March will not impact timing of faculty recruitment. Moving financial year back provides financial information earlier allowing more certainty when planning upcoming hiring.
- New term faculty positions associated with kihêw waciston ideally will lead to options based on grassroot faculty and school hiring priorities. The Provost’s Office is working with the Faculty Association on the possibility of tenure-track cross-appointments but those would need agreement from faculties and schools.

2.3 Executive Committee Report

K. Harcombe, Faculty Co-Chair, GFC Executive Committee, reported on the following:

- Newly appointed members will be joining the GFC standing committees, completing their membership.
- There are ongoing discussions at GFC Executive about how motions come items are coming to GFC Executive to put on agenda, versus substantive – putting together schedule with constraints.

**MINUTES: OPEN SESSION**

#	Item
2.4	<p>Academic Planning and Quality Assurance Committee Report</p> <p>I. Bica, Faculty Co-Chair, reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two new members, Katie Biittner and Fernando Angulo, have joined the Committee (both GFC members).</li><li>• The Working Group on Minors has done good work over the summer which is planned for consultation at Deans' Council on November 8, 2021 before returning to the Committee for consideration and possible recommendation to GFC.</li><li>• The Committee will also be establishing Quality Assurance Protocol Working Group which will work to replace our current documentation based on feedback in the Second Comprehensive Evaluation.</li></ul> <p>2.4.1 Second Comprehensive Evaluation</p> <p><b>MOTION#GFC-02-10-25-2021:</b> Moved by I. Bica and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the Second Comprehensive Evaluation Institutional Response for submission to the Campus Alberta Quality Council. <b>Motion carried.</b></p> <p>I. Bica introduced the item. C. Monk spoke to the Institutional Response to the evaluation developed by the Provost.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• External reviewers observed the Committee while working and then engaged the members in discussion. They were pleased with the quality of work.</li><li>• There is great alignment between the external reviewers' feedback and the self-study. The only outlier issue is that tenure and promotion is defined in collective bargaining, not academic governance as is often the case at other universities.</li></ul> <p>Discussion occurred:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evaluation report recommends review of administrative units in Academic Affairs. Ought not to duplicate Audit Services though Audit may consult, etc.</li><li>• Need to consider the role and participation of academic governance in the quality assurance process to ensure it is robust.</li></ul>
2.5	<p>Academic Standards, Curriculum, and the Calendar Committee Report</p> <p>K. Harcombe, Faculty Co-Chair, reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Workplan for the Committee to include discussion on administrative vs. academic decisions related to the Calendar.</li><li>• Calendar Advisory Group is currently being chaired by D. McLaughlin.</li></ul>

**MINUTES: OPEN SESSION**

#	Item
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2.6 Teaching and Learning Committee Report

C. Zutter, Faculty Co-Chair, reported on the following:

- Committee discussed incorporating Distinguished Teaching Award Committee as a subcommittee and work on the related policy. Any changes to the policy will need to come to GFC for approval.
- Will review the student survey on online learning to create some recommendations. There is another Committee working on Moodle, as well.
- Teaching and Learning Services will also be consulting with the Committee to get feedback with respect to faculty needs.

Discussion occurred:

- Faculty are encouraged to check Teaching and Learning Services programming guide for monthly professional development offerings. Recently, hired two Education Developers, plus two term positions to support technical training.
- Institution has six-year plan to upgrade 140 classrooms to “asynchronous classroom” capacity. It’s an expensive project and so piloting in two labs to test. It’s important GFC support plan (i.e., in budget) to bring the whole campus up to good standard instead of overbuilding limited spaces with limited usership. CIO is a member of the Teaching and Learning Committee and so can communicate through that Committee to get formal input.
- Pedagogical implications of technology on learning should be considered.

2.7 Scholarly Activity Committee

C. Monk, Administrative Co-Chair, reported on the following:

- The Grant Adjudication Committee, a new subcommittee of the Scholarly Activity Committee is up and running reviewing applications.
- Representatives from the Library reported on the newly launched data repository, Dataverse (attachment for information). It is an option to house data. It’s primarily meant for faculty but could be accommodated for student researchers under supervisor’s account.

Discussion occurred:

- It may be possible to use for data from external collaborators as long as there is an internal MacEwan partner. But, would need to assess how the external partner manages their own data to make sure their policies align with ours and any applicable legislation of policy.

**MINUTES: OPEN SESSION**

#	Item
2.8	<p>Council on Student Affairs</p> <p>J. Loh, Faculty Co-Chair, reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Committee reviewed its workplan<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Want to pick up work on Student Success Measures</li><li>• Tim Tang provided an update on student mental health work which will come to the Council on Student Affairs later, and likely GFC as well</li><li>• Anticipate several Student Advisory Committee procedures from faculties and schools</li></ul></li><li>• Received initial proposal to rescind Student Life and Governance Policy</li><li>• Discussed Student Awards and Bursaries. Council was asked for 1) support and input into evaluating adversity and restrictive criteria, and 2) help with adjudicating files.</li></ul>

**3.0 Academic Schedule 2022-2023 (MOTION)**

**MOTION #GFC-03-10-25-2021:** Moved by M. Tucker and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the academic schedule for 2022-2023.

**Motion carried**

D. McLaughlin, Registrar and AVP, Planning and Analysis, provided a background.

- Addition of September 30 Day for Truth and Reconciliation lends more complexity to already complex schedule.
- The solution proposed, to add exams on Sundays, is sustainable in the long run. Future analysis shows the solution works in all but one year in future. In addition, may need to determine additional approach when September 30 occurs on a weekend.
- Each year, the Registrar provides the next year's schedule for approval, plus tentative draft schedules for the following two years, for information.
- Registrar started with assumption we would have to break academic schedule regulations to make this work due to same issues as have previously arisen when trying to create the calendar – tension between option of starting before Labour Day or going until after January 1. The proposed solution helps to mitigate this problem and account for addition of September 30 as a non-instructional day.

Discussion occurred:

- Members discussed previous conversation on how to approach September 30 Day of Truth and Reconciliation at September 13, 2021 GFC meeting. No motion was passed, but administration understood the consensus was a non-instructional day but not a holiday.
- Registrar has counted the instructional hours across blocks of days to make sure it is consistent and will work over multiple years.
- Institution already deals with exceptions for religious observance for other days of the week, so it has been considered, and believe schedule can accommodate those exceptions.
- important that we use the day for one of learning about the history of residential schools and the genocide towards First Nations, Metis and Inuit and I think we can do so most

**MINUTES: OPEN SESSION**

#	Item
	meaningfully through this approach. Having Sunday as an additional day of the exam period is worthwhile if it means that Sept 30 can be a day of non-instruction.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communication will be critical. Must socialize to students September 30 is NOT a holiday, rather, a day without classes with opportunities to do other special activities.</li></ul>

**4.0 Annual Report**

S. Yip, Director of Strategic Initiatives provided an update on MacEwan's Annual Report to government.

- GFC has been provided the working draft to-date. There is additional information to be added but is being brought in current form in October as there is no November GFC meeting this year.
- The document links to the 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 financial plan.
- It has been referred to GFC for information. If there any inaccuracies or corrections, please contact Provost's Office as reporting from Academic Affairs is being coordinated there. Feedback is requested by October 31, 2021.

**5.0 Adjournment**

The open session was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

*Move into closed session.*