

March 28, 2022
Open Session
3:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Kule Lecture Theatre

Members Present:

<i>Vice-Chair</i>	Kim Harcombe
<i>Vice-Presidents</i>	Maureen Lomas, Myrna Khan, Craig Monk
<i>Academic AVPs and Deans</i>	Allan Gilliland, Karen Keiller, Craig Kuziemsky, Christy Raymond, David McLaughlin, Heather McRae, Cassie Prochnau, Melike Schalomon, Tim Tang
<i>Student Members</i>	Ruan Bouwer, Freya Cartujano, Raymarck Unera
<i>Faculty Members</i>	Fernando Angulo-Ruiz, Calin Anton, Cristina Anton, Mary Asirifi, Ion Bica, Katie Biittner, Brendan Cavanagh, Lucio Gelmini, Bob Graves, Erin Gray, Jim Head, Robert Irwin, Dave Kato, Emily Khalema, Kari Krell, Tiffany Kriz, Eric Legge, Joanne Loh, Lee Makovichuk, Lucille Mazo, Kathy Miller, Peter Myhre, Tory Pino, Eva Revitt, Vahid Rezaia, Chandelle Rimmer, Tara Stieglitz, Chris Streimer, Josh Toth, Martin Tucker, Andrea Wagner, William Wei, Rene Wells.
<i>GMUFA President</i>	Rafat Alam
<i>Alumni Member</i>	Laura Gilmour

Resources:

Sumiko Yip, Marco Turlione, Brian Kurylo, Bronwyn Sneffjella (recording)

Regrets:

Annette Trimbee, Cynthia Zutter, Myles Dykes

Guests:

Sherif Elbarrad, Jason Fung, Marg Leatham, Stacey Martin, Tony Norrad, Helen Ngan-Pare, Robert Sabulka

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION

#	Item
1.0	Call to Order
	The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm
1.1	Land Acknowledgement
	Vice-Chair, K. Harcombe, commenced with the acknowledgment of traditional Indigenous lands and introduced Knowledge Keeper Cynthia Jim who provided a blessing.
1.2	Approval of Agenda and Consent Items (MOTION)
	MOTION#GFC-01-03-28-2022: Moved by M. Schalomon and seconded that the General Faculties Council approves the March 28, 2022, meeting agenda and consent items.
	Motion passed.
	Consent items:
1.2.1	GFC Minutes of February 14, 2022
	GFC Executive Minutes of January 31, 2022

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION

#	Item
---	------

- 1.2.2 GFC Executive Minutes of March 14, 2022 (draft)
1.2.3

2.0 Reports

2.1 President's Report

K. Harcombe, Vice-Chair of GFC, provided a brief verbal update on behalf of A. Trimbee, President, and Chair of GFC. A written report accompanied the meeting materials.

- Please join upcoming events on the vision and strategic directions. The directions take a phased approach over the next ten years. Metrics are being developed considering the directions, as well as Investment Management Agreements.
- Colleagues in MacEwan International and the Ukrainian Resource Development Centre (URDC) are leading work to support Ukraine. Community members are invited to Friday sessions hosted by URDC weekly.
- It is Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Week. President Trimbee's column in MacEwan Today focuses on EDI issues and there will be a more detailed report on makeup of MacEwan's employees.
- The 50th Anniversary celebration on 104th Avenue is taking place on April 28-30 and registration for events is open.

Discussion occurred:

- Alumni welcome reception is taking place for students who missed convocation during pandemic.
- There is government money for new programs, are we positioned to take advantage of it? In MacEwan's budget, there is an ongoing commitment to hiring tenure-track faculty members. For example, hiring in Continuing Education might offer expanded micro-credits. Budgeting approach needs to run through GFC to engage it earlier in the conversation.

2.2 Provost's Report

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

Board of Governors meeting (on behalf of President)

- Some key Board approvals include the Board approved a letter of intent to begin development of an Accelerated Accounting Competencies Diploma, schematics for the new School of Business building, and the 2022-2023 budget and three-year financial plan which includes focus on priorities related to teaching and learning.

Provost's academic planning presentation

- The "how" of initiatives needs leadership within academic governance. Administration can do a lot, but only academic governance can consider equity admissions or creative ways to offer programs, for example.

Update on decanal searches

- Dr. Richard Perlow has been hired as Dean of School of Business.
- Dr. David Danto has been hired as Dean of Health and Community studies.
- The search committees benefitted from community feedback.

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION

#	Item
---	------

- Expect more hiring of Associate Deans to make shared services model work and support strategic initiatives at the local level.

Investment Management Agreement:

- Negotiations are ongoing with the Ministry
- It appears the metrics will on work integrated learning, domestic enrollment, and student feedback about whether program was relevant to later employment. These metrics will develop over the next years, with increased targets, and more “at-risk” funding at stake. There will be a role for academic governance to play as this develops, and next GFC will have a formal motion on the draft IMA.

Discussion occurred:

- Negotiations with Ministry on IMAs to provide flexibility so metrics can be met.
- Increasing amounts of funding at risk year-after-year as more metrics added.
- Sometimes metrics like growth in enrollment vs. student satisfaction can conflict with each other so approach needs to be balanced over the ten-year plan.
- Policy considerations on scholarships should be discussed at GFC.
- There is no bonus funding related to the IMA, but Ministry has created a pot of money for certain programs responding to unmet demand in the workforce.
- Need to come to better understanding of what “counts” as work integrated learning. Some kinds of student research like a project with a community partner can count.
- Waiting for more information from government about deconsolidation.

2.3 GFC Executive Committee Report

K. Harcombe, Vice Chair, reported on the following:

2.3.1 GFC Schedule 2022-2023

- The GFC Schedule for 2022-2023 academic year is included in the package. The new schedule aligns better with the Board of Governors Schedule and allows for better advanced planning.

2.3.2 GFC Reapportionment (**MOTIONS**)

MOTION#GFC-02-03-28-2022: Moved by C. Raymond and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the revised reapportionment ratios, effective for academic year 2022-2023.

Motion carried.

K. Harcombe introduced the item, with detailed information from D. McLaughlin. The overall number of statutory elected faculty seats is reduced by two positions due to elimination of one VP position and the results of the reapportionment including that reduction are a redistribution from Arts and Science (-2) and Business (-1) to Fine Arts and Communication (+1). If passed, then GFC would be asked to consider a corollary motion to add faculty representatives on a discretionary basis under a different section of the Post-Secondary Learning Act (PSLA).

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION

#	Item
---	------

Discussion occurred:

- Clarification that the approach of removing seats and then adding them is to reflect the difference between statutorily required positions and discretionary ones.
- Discussion of whether the proposed distribution was correct, based on the PSLA and MacEwan procedures, as well as relative fairness of the heavy reduction to Arts and Science and impacts of the proposed changes.

MOTION#GFC-03-03-28-2022: Moved by A. Gilliland and seconded that core statutory members of the General Faculties Council defined in PSLA sections 23 (a), (b), and (c) approve the addition of the following 23(d) positions on the GFC:

- The General Counsel
- One (1) academic staff member allotted to the Faculty of Arts and Science, and,
- Two (2) academic staff member allotted to the Faculty of Arts and Science

Motion carried as amended.

Discussion occurred:

- Discussion of mathematical approach to determine proportions
- Proposed amendment that Arts and Science should be allotted two members instead of one to Arts and Science and one to Business.
- In next years, it will be necessary to have a close look at the discretionary membership of the GFC appointed to section 23 (d) overall, to consider whether the additional appointments are being used in the best way.

2.4 Academic Planning and Quality Assurance Committee

I. Bica, Faculty Co-Chair, reported on the following:

- The Committee has established a Working Group on quality assurance which will be responsible for the development of a handbook.

2.5 Academic Standards, Curriculum, and the Calendar Committee

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

- Reviewed proposed changes to admission criteria for the Social Work Diploma and Bachelor of Social Work but requested additional changes.
- Approved Criteria for Pacific and Bachelor Commerce
- Provided feedback on revisions to the policy on Student Leave of Absence

2.5.1 Memo to faculties and School Councils on ELA 30-2 in Admissions

- Concluded analysis of use of English Language Arts 30-2 across admissions and sent memo to Deans requesting they consider its use.

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION

#	Item
---	------

2.5.2 Delegation of Responsibilities related to the Academic Calendar (**MOTION**)

MOTION#GFC-04-03-28-2022: Moved by D. McLaughlin and seconded that the General Faculties Council approve the Proposed Levels of Approval and Responsibility for Calendar Content.

Motion carried.

K. Harcombe presented the item with detailed overview from D. McLaughlin. The analysis undertaken to separate out administrative issues while ensuring meaningful decisions come to academic governance and formalize decision-making. The implementation of the CAT/CIM IT system provides options not available when working with a paper academic calendar, such as ability to make updates and correct errors after publication.

Discussion occurred:

- The curriculum deadline is June 30 but in fact new programs and major changes need to be complete months in advance to meet Ministry timelines. The proposed levels of approval do not cut down on the time in governance but does positively impact production of the academic calendar.
- The current Calendar policy is about the old print version and is out of date.
- The proposed approval levels reflect current customs and is a codification not a major change in process.

2.6 Teaching and Learning Committee

C. Monk, Co-Chair, provided the following report:

- Revisions are being proposed to the policy on Teaching Awards, including the expansion of number and variety of teaching awards. This will be presented to GFC for approval by the final meeting.
- The Committee created a small working group looking at results of Student and Faculty Survey.

2.6.1 Teaching Modalities Definition

S. Bratt presented the item. The purpose of the discussion paper is to understand better and engage discussion on different modes of teaching delivery including online teaching, hybrid teaching, face-to-face teaching, and online synchronous vs asynchronous. Some specific intentions are to reduce the variability experienced by students, for example by establishing a minimum of 30% -50% in-person instruction to count as hybrid teaching.

Discussion occurred:

- After this discussion, will bring the final paper back for approval at a future GFC.
- The paper provides flexibility with minimum definition of in-person within hybrid, especially where multiple sections of a course are offered.
- The paper is trying to set out some broad parameters and provide general guidance to instructors, not give inflexible direction.
- Consideration of upper limit on face-to-face within the hybrid definition.

MINUTES: OPEN SESSION

#	Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It may be valuable for faculty to share teaching space between sections; however, this should not happen through scheduling dictate. • Must be clear in communications with students and not change plans. Split between synchronous and asynchronous can cause confusion. • Modalities have pedagogical consequences, so we need to look at Pedagogy Maybe each discipline needs to discuss pedagogical issues considering the technology. • We speak about flexibility and options, but could it lead to unmet expectations, for example where there is only an online or an-person section • When students sign up for hybrid, do they know in advance what it will look like? Need to figure out those details. • Student mental health is important. Many students work full-time and take five courses and pressure is enormous on them. • Online components raise issues of academic misconduct as well as taking materials and posting online to sites like Course Hero. • The document does not force a faculty member or unit to use hybrid, however, faculty have been encouraged to have certain percentages of hybrid etc. in next year. • Modality is not academic freedom, but academic freedom gives members discretion in application of modality. • Increased online and hybrid courses requires supportive infrastructure. • May need to look at coordination of exams as some students have had issues getting from in-person exam to an online exam.

2.7 Scholarly Activity Committee

K. Miller, Faculty Co-Chair, reported on the following:

- Reports from Associate Vice-President, Research and Office of Research Services are now available online for faculty.
- Student Research Day will take place on April 24, 2022.
- Fernando Angulo will be joining the Committee on Teaching and Learning temporarily as a representative from School of Business to help in the adjudication of the Distinguished Research Award and Board of Governors Research Chair.

2.8 Council on Student Affairs

J. Loh, Faculty Vice-Chair, reported on the following:

- Nothing to report. The Council will meet again on April 19, 2022.

3.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.