1.0 Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 1:05 P.M.

2.0 Adoption of Agenda
The agenda was adopted as presented.

AGC-01-06-16-2009
Moved by Lucio Gelmini, seconded by Debbie McGugan THAT the agenda for June 16, 2009 be adopted as presented.

   Carried

3.0 Approval of May 26, 2009 Minutes
The minutes were approved with the amendment of 12.0, the title to be changed from “faculty coordinator position” to “faculty evaluation coordinator position”.

   "Carried"
Moved by Shahidul Islam, seconded by Rafat Alam THAT the minutes of May 26, 2009 be approved as amended.

Carried

4.0 Report of the President
President Byrne reported that Bill 4, the PSLA Amendment Act has received Royal Assent. The Chair of the Board of Governors subsequently sent a letter to the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology to request the change of name from Grant MacEwan College to Grant MacEwan University. The timeline for approval by the Minister for the name change remains undetermined. The institution will continue to use the brand “MacEwan” once the name change takes place, and will continue with MacEwan’s current mandate.

Paul Byrne updated AGC on the progress of the campus consolidation model. The AGC members were informed that Stantec had been contracted to produce a planning document will be submitted by MacEwan to the Ministry. President Byrne projected that the plans should be ready early in the new year. The planning document will encompass the feasibility of the consolidation, with a timeline of 10-15 years to implement.

5.0 Board of Governor’s Report
Reference was made to the written report included in the June 16, 2009 AGC meeting package.

6.0 Report of the Provost/Executive Vice-President Academic
Janet Paterson-Weir thanked the members of the AGC for contributing their time and effort to the inaugural year of the Academic Governance Council.

Chair Paterson-Weir directed members to their copy of the Strategic Plan and Budget Strategies 2009/10 to 2013/14 provided for their reference. The Strategic Plan document includes MacEwan’s academic plan, corporate services plan, student services plan, and budget plan, designed to give an in-depth look at some of the planning processes.

The AGC was updated on the progress of the two program proposals approved at the May 26, 2009 AGC meeting: the Cardiac Nursing Post-Diploma Certificate and the Arts and Cultural Management Diploma Program. These two proposals were approved by the Board of Governors and in process of submission to the Ministry of Advanced Education and Technology.

The Ministry has announced that there will be no new funding for academic programming in Alberta next year. Any new programs that the Ministry will consider for review will need to be self-funded. Lucille Mazo asked whether all programs would be put up for review for reallocation or if there were specific programs to be reviewed. Janet Paterson-Weir responded that the reallocation would be funded programs to funded programs.

Cristina Anton asked for clarification regarding no new funding, and whether this would impact funding for recently approved programs. It was confirmed that approved and funded programs which already exist, such as the Bachelor of Arts, have operating and capital funding allocated for the full program.

7.0 Committee Reports
7.1 Executive Committee Minutes: May 7, 2009
May 7 meeting minutes of the Executive Committee were provided in the AGC meeting package.

7.2 Nominations Committee Report
David McLaughlin presented the Nominations Committee report on behalf of the Chair of the Committee, Chris Hancock. It was noted that there were two nominations to be presented later in the
meeting, for MacEwan International Council and the College Sabbatical Leave Committee.

The Committee has been working to clarify the nominations process for Standing and Sub-Committees of the AGC and to develop some common terminology regarding the selection of members to these Committees. The Committee had discussed the usefulness of a template which Committees could use when creating or revising their Terms of Reference.

Second, for some of the nominations there has been a request to have individuals from all the MacEwan faculties and schools. The Committee interprets this as including Professional Resource Faculty. The issue of nominees in professional and administrative positions was noted, in light of the fact that there is a relatively small pool of possible nominees in this category.

7.3 Academic Policies Committee

7.3.1 Policy C2045: International Education Agreements – New Policy
Susan May presented this as a new policy that is complimentary to C2040: International Study. MacEwan’s experiences with international partners suggested the need to develop policy to guide such international education agreements. The proposed policy covers four different kinds of agreements: memoranda of understanding, brokerage agreements, student exchanges, and articulation agreements.

Section 4.3 was highlighted as particularly significant because it outlines what constitutes an agreement and what needs to be done before presenting a proposal to International Council for approval. The policy specifies that any of these agreements must be sponsored by a school or faculty in order to retain integrity of course programs.

Brendon Legault presented a friendly amendment under section 4.2.2.1 which states that “Participants will be selected on the basis of merit without regard to race, national or ethnic background…” to add “sexual orientation.” This amendment was accepted.

AGC-03-06-16-2009
Moved by Ruth Stewart, seconded by Shahidul Islam THAT Academic Governance Council approve Policy C2045: International Education Agreements, effective July 1, 2009, as recommended by the Academic Policies Committee (April 14, 2009), as amended. Carried

7.4 Admissions and Selections Committee
Stefanie Ivan, Chair of the Admissions and Selections Committee, reported that the Committee had no new business to report.

7.5 MacEwan Curriculum Committee
7.5.1 Educational Goals
Davar Rezania, Chair of MCC, provided background on the work undertaken on the Educational Goals, one of the foundational documents of MacEwan. In June 2008 MacEwan adopted a new mission statement which resulted in a review of the existing Educational Goals. MCC struck an Educational Goals Sub-Committee which consulted with other committees and MCC members. It was decided at the May MCC meeting to bring the compiled information to the AGC for consideration and further development. At the end of the AGC meeting there will be an opportunity to discuss MacEwan’s Educational Goals within facilitated groups.

7.6 Student Services Policies Committee
7.6.1 E1010: Academic Calendar
Stefanie Ivan presented the revisions to policy E1010: Academic Calendar. She explained that within
the scope of the policy the Academic Calendar is used primarily as an educational tool for students and those who advise the students. For clarity, definitions were included as well as responsibility identified for each content section of the calendar.

Regarding the electronic version of the Calendar being the official version, Cristina Anton suggested that in light of sections 4.8, 4.11 and 4.14, this be plainly advertised for students so that they know that there might be changes to the Calendar. Stefanie responded that there is a Calendar Committee responsible for publishing information on how addendum or errata to the Calendar be maintained, and noted that when there is an electronic and paper Calendar, that there would be a section in the paper Calendar outlining how it would be updated.

David Higgins requested a clarification of section 4.2, which outlines the responsibility of the Director of Strategic Communications and Corporate Marketing for the production of the Calendar and the implementation of the policy. Stefanie explained that the template that the Committee used for the wording first outlines who the sponsor of the policy is, and then explains the position that is responsible for the implementation and oversight of the activities around the policy. It was suggested that the wording of the policy could be made clearer. Stefanie noted there are opportunities to explore and use different templates to improve the wording of MacEwan policies.

In reference to section 3.0 and in the interest of sustainability, Paul Byrne encouraged MacEwan to phase out paper copies of the Academic Calendar and try to move towards an electronic version.

AGC-04-06-16-2009
Moved by Judy Moore, seconded by Brendon Legault THAT Academic Governance Council approve Policy E1010: Academic Calendar, effective July 1, 2009, as recommended by the Student Services Policy Committee.

Carried

7.6.2 E3400: Students with Disabilities
Stefanie Ivan presented the revised Policy E3400: Student with Disabilities, noting that the Committee worked with Abigail Parish-Craig and Karen Heslop, the new director of the Student Resource Centre. Stefanie explained that E3400 deals with underlying principles of inclusion and access. While it is important to uphold admission and academic requirements, there is a duty to accommodate students with disabilities. At the same time, it is the responsibility of the student to alert the institution if there is a need for accommodation. Stefanie highlighted the definitions section of the policy as particularly important, using the wording from the Alberta Human Rights and Multiculturalism Act.

Lucille Mazo requested clarification regarding section 3.1, Scope, which specifies that the scope of the policy encompasses all campus activities including clinical and practical placement. Lucille asked if this would cover online students as well. Stefanie confirmed that this policy would apply to all MacEwan students, including those engaged in distance education.

Joanne Minaker asked about section 4.12, “A student is not required to reveal the specific details of his or her disability to anyone....” Joanne asked if students are actually urged not to reveal this sort of information. Stefanie replied that it is the student’s choice to divulge whether they have a disability or not, and that there be a place identified where a student can go to say that they have a disability, in this case the Services to Students with Disabilities (SSD).

David Higgins requested an explanation regarding section 4.15, “To determine the appropriate reasonable accommodations, consultation will take place between the student and the [SSD] department, and, where necessary, the appropriate academic personnel....” David asked how the
determination is reached of what is “necessary.” Stefanie explained that the intent of the policy is to have collaboration, where possible, between faculty, students and the SSD to determine how the accommodation can best take place.

Kevin Hood noted section 4.17 which states: “If an instructor does not agree with the recommendations...will communicate this disagreement informally....” The concern with the word “informally” was that the policy wording was very strong pertaining to what students must do in terms of a disagreement, but that the wording for instructors was less clear. Stefanie noted that the intention of the wording was to ensure that if instructors did not agree with a recommendation that they had an avenue to follow that was recognized by the policy. It was not the intent of the section to suggest a formal appeal mechanism, but provide a route to follow if a faculty member had a concern.

A friendly amendment was suggested to revise the policy by striking the word “informally” from section 4.17. The friendly amendment was accepted.

AGC-05-06-16-2009
Moved by John-Paul Hermano, seconded by Craig Worobec THAT Academic Governance Council approve Policy E3400: Students with Disabilities, effective July 1, 2009, as recommended by the Student Services Policy committee, as amended. Carried

8.0 AGC Governance

8.1 MacEwan International Council Nominees
David McLaughlin reviewed the process to bring forward a list of nominees for MacEwan International Council (MIC). He reminded AGC that three faculty members had been elected at the May AGC meeting: Craig Gnauck, Brian Keller, and Ibrahim Sumrain. David explained that the Nominations Committee was now bringing forward the fourth nominee for the MI Council, the professional/administrator position: Steven Joyce, Strategic Planning. David announced that nominations would be accepted from the floor. No further nominations were forthcoming.

AGC-06-06-16-2009
Moved by David Higgins, seconded by Craig Gnauck THAT Academic Governance Council approve Steven Joyce for a three-year term for the MacEwan International Council as presented. Carried

8.2 College Sabbatical Leave Committee Nominees
On behalf of the Nominations Committee David McLaughlin presented the fifth nominee for the College Sabbatical Leave Committee (CSLC): Marc Raedschelders. Marc’s nomination came in addition to the nominees presented at the May 2009 AGC meeting: Mark Solomonvich, Darlene Lowe, Darci Mallon, and Judy Moore. The AGC members were informed that no nominations would be accepted from the floor as the nominee presented is a member selected by the Faculty of Health and Community Studies Sabbatical Leave Committee.

AGC-07-06-16-2009
Moved by Holly Symonds-Brown, seconded by Sharon Bookhalter THAT Academic Governance Council approve Marc Raedschelders (Health and Community Studies) for a two-year term for the College Sabbatical Leave Committee as presented. Carried
8.3 Strategic and Resource Planning Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Alan Vladicka presented the Strategic and Resource Planning Advisory Committee (SRPAC)'s Terms of Reference. Alan explained that the SRPAC was created in response to recommendations to establish a sub-committee of the AGC that would provide input on strategic planning and resources and report any recommendations to AGC.

Discussion and suggestions on the Terms of Reference included:

- Add the position of Executive Director, Strategic Planning to the committee membership
- Specify that members would be elected to AGC (as presented by the Nominations Committee)
- More clarity to 4.1 e) to indicate whether this would be from each of Facilities, Human Resources, ITS and Student Services
- Staff should be specified in the membership. It was noted that this Committee is seen as part of the academic governance structure, and so constituency representation needs to be viewed in that light.
- Consider removing the requirement of 4.1 a) that “at least two [members] shall be members of AGC.”
- Under section 5, Terms of Office, specify the procedure for member rotation so that complete membership rollover every two years is avoided.

Due to the nature and number of revisions recommended by AGC members, it was suggested by Janet Paterson-Weir that the SRPAC's Terms of Reference be sent back to the AGC Executive Committee for further consideration. The motion to approve the Strategic and Resource Planning Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference was rescinded.

9.0 Question Period

There were no questions posed from the floor.

10.0 Future Agenda Items

The following items were noted as forthcoming for the next meeting:

- Standing Committee Annual Reports and Work Plans
- Update on Facilities/Campus Planning

11.0 Next Meeting - Tuesday, October 13, 2009, 5:45 – 8:45 p.m., City Centre Campus.

12.0 The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm.