

General Faculties Council – OPEN SESSION

April 21, 2023 at 9am – 11am

Lincoln Park Room J301

IN ATTENDANCE:

Tim Rahilly, CHAIR
Chad London, VICE-CHAIR
Tala Abu Hayyaneh
Yasmin Ahmed
David Bird
Julie Boone
Adam Cave
Fiona Chetty
Peter Choate
David Clemis
Christian Cook
Evan Cortens
Anupam Das
Trevor Day
Maryam Elahi
Cynthia Gallop

Shane Gannon
Geri Lynn Gouglas
Leah Hamilton
Sally Haney
Brenda Lang
Michelle LoGullo
Rusna Mahoon
Colin Martin
Tori McMillan
Cari Merkley
Mary-Lee Mulholland
Elaine Mullen
Mustansar Nadeem
Guy Obrecht
Nancy Ogden
Jennifer Pettit

Stephen Price
Katharin Pritchard
Maggie Quance
Luis Rios
Paul Rossmann
Marc Schroeder
Cheryl Techentin
Joyce Totton
Michael Uzoka
Connie Van der Byl
Paul Varella
Phil Warsaba
Gaye Warthe
Kelly Williams-Whitt
Jonathan Withey

Resources

Amy Nixon, SECRETARY

Sheena Jensen, RECORDING SECRETARY

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Arianna Borrueal
Vicki Bouvier
Meagan Bowler
Christine Brownell
Troy Burnett
Liza Choi

Erik Christiansen
Lee Easton
Moussa Magassa
Nabeel Mohammed
Lavinia Moldovan
Joseph Nguyen

Kenna Olsen
Tabussom Qureshi
Shelley Rathie
Kari Roberts
Peter Ryan
Deepa Upadhyaya

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Land Acknowledgement

Jonathan Withey opened the meeting with a Land Acknowledgement.

1. Approval of Agenda (*motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the April 21, 2023 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved.

Motion carried by unanimous consent

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from March 17, 2023 (*motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the March 17, 2023 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved.

Discussion:

- Business arising from the minutes:
In response to the question raised at the March 17, 2023 GFC meeting with respect to grades, the Vice-President, Students responded that as discussed with the Provost and Vice-President, Academic, the grade distribution authority will be deferred to Deans. The Provost will be sharing that information with Deans.

Motion carried by unanimous consent

2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

No additional business arising from the minutes was discussed.

3. Approval of Curriculum (*motions*)

Faculty of Business and Communication Studies:

3.1. Major Program Change – Aviation, Diploma

Moved and seconded:

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Major Program Change – Aviation, Diploma.

Motion carried

Faculty of Continuing Education and Extension:

3.2. Program Termination – Massage Therapy, Certificate

Moved and seconded:

THAT General Faculties Council approve the Program Termination – Massage Therapy, Certificate.

Motion carried

4. Strategic Plan Update

A draft University Strategic Plan, Vision 2030 - Opening Minds and Changing Lives, was shared with GFC for discussion and advice. Context and background on the development of the strategic plan was provided in the meeting package and highlighted by Tim Rahilly at the meeting.

Discussion and feedback related to how social, economic and political considerations in Alberta and across Canada are contemplated within the plan, the use and understanding of the word “transversal”, and the approach to strategic planning at MRU and implementation, including its connection to other plans (e.g. the Academic Plan).

5. Committee Chair Reports

- 5.1. Executive Committee – T. Rahilly
A written Committee Chair report of the April 12, 2023 EC meeting was provided. An update was provided on the GFC annual election open calls for applications. The Chair thanked EC members for their contributions this past year.
- 5.2. Academic Planning and Budget Committee – G. Warthe
A written Committee Chair report of the April 13, 2023 APBC meeting was provided.
- 5.3. Academic Programs and Curriculum Committee – P. Choate
A written Committee Chair report of the April 4, 2023 APCC meeting was provided.
- 5.4. Academic Standards Committee – L. Easton
A written Committee Chair report of the April 5, 2023 ASC meeting was provided. An update was given on the consultations in progress with the Indigenous Faculty Collective on changes to the *Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria* to recognize Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Doing, which will continue into the next academic year to allow time for more consultation.
- 5.5. Research and Scholarship Committee – C. Van der Byl
A written Committee Chair report of the March 14, 2023 RSC meeting was provided.
- 5.6. Student Affairs Committee – P. Warsaba
There was no report, as SAC had not met in March.
- 5.7. Teaching and Learning Committee – C. Cook
A written Committee Chair report of the March 23, 2023 TLC meeting was provided. The TLC Chair explained recent issues with the AI-detection option that was added to the text-matching software, Turnitin, and how the ADC is addressing it, and responded to questions and comments from the floor.

6. Question Period (20 minutes)

- 6.1. Written Question
No written questions were submitted for inclusion in the package.
- 6.2. Questions from the Floor
- An inquiry was made about EC's committee structure review and how the introduction of vice-deans will impact the structure for associate dean positions on GFC Committees
 - The Chair advised that EC is in progress of the committee structure review, including membership, and that it will be a focus for next year alongside the GFC bylaw review.
 - Concern related to the grading structure in policy that is used at Mount Royal was raised, and it was asked how to bring forward a discussion about policy as it relates to the concern. It was clarified that the concern is with the policy, and not how grades are assigned by faculty.

- The Chair indicated that this question will be brought forward to the GFC Executive Committee for discussion, as business arising, to address the question.

7. Other Reports

7.1. GFC Chair and Vice-Chair Report

The GFC Chair and Vice-Chair submitted a written report. The Chair highlighted the update on establishing the Chancellor Search Committee and forthcoming election for GFC-appointed members on this committee. The Provost and Vice-President, Academic provide a status update on the academic planning process.

7.2. Report from the Board of Governors

A written report was submitted for the March 16, 2023 Board of Governors open session Meeting.

8. Consent Agenda

8.1. Items Removed for Discussion

There were no items removed for discussion.

8.2. Items for Information

The following consent agenda items were received for information:

- 8.2.1. Notice of Motion: GFC By-law Revision – Definition of “Faculty”
- 8.2.2. Committee Meeting Minutes
- 8.2.3. Faculty Council Approved Curriculum

9. New Business

There was no new business.

10. Adjournment 10:38AM