

General Faculties Council – OPEN SESSION
February 17, 2023 at 9am – 11am
Lincoln Park Room J301

IN ATTENDANCE:

Tim Rahilly, CHAIR	Sally Haney	Kenna Olsen
Chad London, VICE-CHAIR	Brenda Lang	Jennifer Pettit
Yasmin Ahmed	Michelle LoGullo	Katharin Pritchard
Vicki Bouvier	Moussa Magassa	Maggie Quance
Meagan Bowler	Rusna Mahoon	Tabussom Qureshi
Troy Burnett	linda manyguns	Shelley Rathie
Adam Cave	Tori McMillan	Luis Rios
Fiona Chetty	Cari Merkley	Paul Rossmann
Peter Choate	Lavinia Moldovan	Peter Ryan
Liza Choi	Nabeel Muhammad	Deep Upadhyaya
Erik Christiansen	Mary-Lee Mulholland	Connie Van der Byl
David Clemis	Elaine Mullen	Paul Varella
Evan Cortens	Mustansar Nadeem	Phil Warsaba
Lee Easton	Joseph Nguyen	Gaye Warthe
Geri Lynn Gouglas	Guy Obrecht	Kelly Williams-Whitt
Leah Hamilton	Nancy Ogden	Jonathan Withey

Resources

Amy Nixon, SECRETARY
Sheena Jensen, RECORDING SECRETARY

Guests

Chris Rogerson, Executive Director, Student Affairs

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Tala Abu Hayyaneh	Anupam Das	Stephen Price
David Bird	Trevor Day	Kari Roberts
Julie Booke	Maryam Elahi	Marc Schroeder
Arianna Borrueal	Cynthia Gallop	Cheryl Techentin
Christine Brownell	Shane Gannon	Joyce Totton
Christian Cook	Colin Martin	Michael Uzoka

T. Rahilly, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Land Acknowledgement

Paul Varella opened the meeting with a Land Acknowledgement.

1. Approval of Agenda (*motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the February 17, 2023 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved, as amended.

Amendment:

- Upon request, the agenda was amended to include for information Item 9.2.5. *Additional Information – Business Arising: Data on MRU Faculty Teaching* with a link to the material in the GFC Google Drive

Motion carried, as amended, by unanimous consent

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from January 20, 2023 (*motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the January 20, 2023 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved.

Motion carried by unanimous consent

2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

- A question asking for an update on gender-inclusive washrooms was deferred to Question Period
- A question was responded to if the data on MRU Faculty Teaching could be broken down by Faculty
 - Requests can be made directly to relevant administrative areas
- A follow-up question was responded to about how that information could subsequently be shared with GFC
 - As GFC is an agenda-driven governance body, it was explained that information is provided to GFC when it is connected to GFC business, a motion, or a Committee item on the agenda

3. Approval of Academic Policies

3.1. New Policies (*motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the following research and scholarship policy and associated procedures be approved:

- Responsible Conduct in Research Policy
- Procedure for Addressing Allegations of Misconduct in Research
- Procedure for Conflict of Interest in Research (*to be effective upon rescindment of the CIO Policy & Procedures by the Board of Governors*)
- Procedure for the Collection, Storage and Authenticity in Research Data

Discussion:

- Connie Van der Byl, Associate Vice-President, Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement, provided an overview of the revisions to remove the "non-disciplinary" language in the "Procedure for Addressing Allegations of Misconduct in Research" that responded to the concerns raised at the November 25, 2022 GFC meeting

Motion carried

3.2. Policies for Rescindment (*motion*)**Moved and seconded:**

THAT the following research and scholarship policy and procedures be rescinded as they are replaced by the newly recommended policies and procedures:

- Integrity in Research and Scholarship Policy
- Integrity in Research and Scholarship Procedures
- Integrity in Research and Scholarship – Collection, Storage and Authenticity of Data
- Integrity in Research and Scholarship – Principles & Responsibilities

Motion carried**4. Approval of Curriculum (*motions*)**

- 4.1. New Minor – Law and Governance, Minor
- 4.2. Major Program Change – Psychology, BA
- 4.3. Major Program Change – Psychology, BA (Honours)
- 4.4. New Minor – Data Analytics, Minor
- 4.5. Major Program Change – Bachelor of Health and Physical Education, Ecotourism and Outdoor Leadership
- 4.6. Major Program Change – Midwifery, B.Mid.
- 4.7. Major Program Change – Nursing, BN (effective year 2023/24)
- 4.8. Major Program Change – Nursing, BN (effective year 2024/25)
- 4.9. New Minor – Outdoor Leadership, Minor
- 4.10. New Minor – Data Science, Minor

Singular Motion for Items 4.1. – 4.10.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the General Faculties Council approve Items 4.1. – 4.10:

- THAT the General Faculties Council approve the New Minor – Law and Governance, Minor.
- THAT the General Faculties Council approve the Major Program Change – Psychology, BA.
- THAT the General Faculties Council approve the Major Program Change – Psychology, BA (Honours).
- THAT the General Faculties Council approve the New Minor – Data Analytics, Minor.
- THAT the General Faculties Council approve the Major Program Change – Bachelor of Health and Physical Education, Ecotourism and Outdoor Leadership Major.
- THAT the General Faculties Council approve the Major Program Change – Midwifery, B.Mid.
- THAT the General Faculties Council approve the Major Program Change – Nursing, BN (effective academic year 2023/24).
- THAT the General Faculties Council approve the Major Program Change – Nursing, BN (effective academic year 2024/25).
- THAT the General Faculties Council approve the New Minor – Outdoor Leadership, Minor.
- THAT the General Faculties Council approve the New Minor – Data Science, Minor.

Discussion:

- No items were removed for discussion

Motion carried

5. Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response Policy and Procedure *(for discussion)*

Chris Rogerson, Executive Director, Student Affairs, provided an overview of the background of drafting of the proposed “Gender-Based Violence Misconduct Prevention and Response Policy and Procedure” and summarized the feedback received during the community consultation process.

In response to questions, additional information was also shared about how the policy addresses prevention and communicating that, how the policy is written to ensure it remains up to date and relevant. The Stepping Up program was referenced in response to a question about education and training for students.

6. Committee Chair Reports**6.1. Executive Committee**

A written Committee Chair report of the February 8, 2023 EC meeting was provided. The Chair highlighted areas of the report, including referring the ChatGPT matter to TLC. It was clarified that the reference to proposed changes to the Program Definitions Policy are related to Indigenous content and it will come forward to GFC through APCC. The Chair acknowledged a concern raised about the timeline for TLC to report back to GFC on ChatGPT in consideration of the timing of final exams and encouraged the member to speak with the Chair of TLC directly.

6.2. Academic Planning and Budget Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the February 9 APBC meeting and a revised January 12, 2023 APBC meeting report were provided.

6.3. Academic Programs and Curriculum Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the February 7, 2023 APCC meeting was provided.

6.4. Academic Standards Committee

A written Committee Chair report for ASC’s activities in January 2023 was provided. The ASC Chair gave an update on the upcoming consultation opportunities to provide input on the proposed changes to the *Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria*.

6.5. Research and Scholarship Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the January 17, 2023 RSC meeting was provided. The RSC Chair advised that the website for Research and Scholarship Days has launched ([website link](#)).

6.6. Student Affairs Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the January 23, 2023 SAC meeting was provided. In response to a question about the process for addressing an issue with Grades Policy, it was explained that the process for questions relating to policy content is to contact the office of primary contact, which is the Office of the Registrar for this policy. If a revision to the policy may be necessary, that process will be followed accordingly.

6.7. Teaching and Learning Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the January 26, 2023 TLC meeting was provided.

7. Question Period

7.1. Written Questions

A written question was submitted from Lee Easton, President, Mount Royal Faculty Association regarding “Institutional Planning in Light of MRU’s High Use of Contract Academic Staff Appointments”. As the question related to the Academic Planning process, Chad London, Provost and Vice-President, Academic, provided a verbal response.

In response to the first part of the question, the following areas were addressed:

- where we are at in the academic planning process
 - as they are in the middle of the process, it is premature to commit ensuring that any particular item be present in the Academic Plan
- the relevance of faculty complement planning as a consideration in academic planning; a scan of existing Academic Plans across the country was also highlighted
- the consultation process to collect feedback for consideration in the process, noting that participants are reminded that not all feedback will be incorporated into the “What We Heard” report and the Academic Plan, where the focus will be on key themes shared throughout the community
- the need for an Academic Plan that will clarify MRU’s academic priorities, guide ongoing discussions and give direction for making decisions including resource allocation

In response to the second part of the question regarding employment practices, it falls within the purview of the terms and conditions of employment as outlined in the collective agreement of the Board of MRU and the MRFA, and not part of the academic planning processes.

7.2. Questions from the Floor

- A follow-up question to C. London’s response to the written question asked how faculty complement planning will be addressed, specifically about the data on the number of contract faculty teaching at MRU
 - C. London reiterated his earlier response and explained that discussions are taking place to address faculty complement planning in a meaningful way
- It was asked what the plans are to address wider access to gender-inclusive washrooms on campus, specifically in the T-Wing
 - Mustansar Nadeem, Vice-President, Finance and Administration, gave an update on discussions and recommendations being currently undertaken for a campus wide strategy including signage, which includes the involvement with the EDI Advisory Committee
 - Concerns and suggestions were acknowledged about a gender-inclusive washroom sign taken down in the T-Wing and for campus wide plans
- Questions were asked about GFC’s question period, and how responses can come back to GFC if responded to a member after a meeting

- This will be included for consideration with the GFC Executive Committee's (EC) discussion of the GFC Assessment results
- It was noted that reports from other Senior Administration had historically been provided to GFC as individual reports and an inquiry was made as to why this had changed
 - The Chair explained that the Senior Administration reports have been consolidated into one report for GFC and Board meetings, and that EC would discuss this practice

8. Other Reports

8.1. GFC Chair and Vice-Chair Report

The GFC Chair and Vice-Chair submitted a written report. Clarification was provided in response to a question about the effort to increase applicant-to-registrant yield as referenced in the Enrolment Management update.

9. Consent Agenda

9.1. Items Removed for Discussion

No consent agenda items for information were removed for discussion.

9.2. Items for Information

The following consent agenda items were received for information:

- 9.2.1. GFC and Committees Meeting Schedules for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025
- 9.2.2. GFC Annual Elections Information
- 9.2.3. Committee Meeting Minutes
- 9.2.4. Faculty Council Approved Curriculum

10. New Business

An additional question from the floor was asked if the wait times for student accommodation requests will be addressed before the final exam period. In response, Phil Warsaba, Vice-President, Students, gave information on the number of accommodation requests compared to previous years, noting they are seeing an increase consistent with the rising trend nationally, and they are working on various ways to support students.

11. Adjournment 10:15AM