

General Faculties Council – OPEN SESSION
November 24, 2023 at 9:30am – 11am
Lincoln Park Room J301

IN ATTENDANCE:

Tim Rahilly, CHAIR
Chad London, VICE-CHAIR
Tala Abu Hayyaneh
David Bird
Julie Booke
Meagan Bowler
Haroon Chehade
Fiona Chetty
Peter Choate
David Clemis
Evan Cortens
Karim Dharamsi
Anupam Das
Lee Easton
Maryam Elahi
John Fischer
Shane Gannon
Geri Lynn Gouglas

Lisa Graham
Kalen Keavey
Carol Krol
Brenda Lang
Michelle LoGullo
Moussa Magassa
Colin Martin
Tori McMillan
Jon Mee
Lavinia Moldovan
Alexis Morris
Mary-Lee Mulholland
Elaine Mullen
Scott Murray
Mustansar Nadeem
Anh Nguyen
Nancy Ogden

Jennifer Pettit
Stephen Price
Katharin Pritchard
Kari Roberts
Glen Ryland
Marc Schroeder
Sara Sharun
Keir Stuhlmiller
Marwaa Tahir
Joyce Totton
Deepa Upadhyaya
Connie Van der Byl
Phil Warsaba
Kelly Williams-Whitt
Jonathan Withey

Resources

Amy Nixon, SECRETARY
Sheena Jensen, RECORDING SECRETARY

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Vicki Bouvier
Katherine Bright
Liza Choi
Trevor Day
Brooks DeCillia
Angela Faye Galeos

Julie Gathercole
Sally Haney
Lynne Lafave
Rusna Mahoon
Jacqueline Musabende
Joseph Nguyen

Chris Rogerson
Paul Rossmann
Leda Stawnychko
Cheryl Techentin

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:31am.

Land Acknowledgement

Deepa Upadhyaya opened the meeting with a Land Acknowledgement.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the November 24, 2023 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved.

Motion carried by unanimous consent

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from October 20, 2023

Moved and seconded:

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

Motion carried by unanimous consent

2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

- An editorial correction to the minutes was made to ensure proper terminology is used when referring to faculty members: replaced “Sessional instructors” with “Contract instructors”.
- In response to a question, it was explained that as a result of the feedback received for the draft Institutional Surveys Policy during consultation, revisions will be made and the policy will re-enter the consultation phase.

3. Budget Development Overview (2024/25 – 2026/27)

Chad London, Provost and Vice-President, Academic, and Mustansar Nadeem, Vice-President, Finance and Administration presented a budget development overview (2024/25 – 2026/27) that covered:

- Current context
- Annual budgeting cycle
- Strategic priorities

Questions were responded to for clarification on the use of the surplus, and requests were made for sharing more detailed information on the budget (including capital planning) for the next budget update to GFC.

4. Committee Chair Reports and Annual Plans

4.1. Executive Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the most recent EC meeting and the EC 2023-24 Annual Plan was provided. Regarding the follow-up of GFC’s motion to reassess if the timing of Fall reading break has been successful, it was explained that there is an intention to include broad consultation as part of that work.

4.2. Academic Planning and Budget Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the most recent APBC meeting and the APBC 2023-24 Annual Plan was provided.

4.3. Academic Programs and Curriculum Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the most recent APCC meeting and the APCC 2023-24 Annual Plan was provided.

4.4. Academic Standards Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the most recent ASC meeting and the ASC 2023-24 Annual Plan was provided. The ASC Chair gave an update on the continued consultations with the Indigenous Faculty Collective about potential changes to the *Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria*.

4.5. Research and Scholarship Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the most recent RSC meeting and the RSC 2023-24 Annual Plan was provided. The RSC Chair reported that the proposal for the Research Collaboration – QriTical: Queer and Trans Research Hub was approved by Deans' Council.

4.6. Student Affairs Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the most recent SAC meeting and the SAC 2023-24 Annual Plan was provided.

4.7. Teaching and Learning Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the most recent TLC meeting and the TLC 2023-24 Annual Plan was provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

No written questions were submitted for inclusion in the package.

5.2. Questions from the Floor

- A question asked on behalf of the MRSA related to an EDI resolution that was voted on at the United Conservative Party's 2023 AGM and whether this resolution will have an impact on Mount Royal's budget and ongoing strategic planning for EDI initiatives?
 - T. Rahilly explained that as an autonomous institution, MRU determines how its budget is allocated.
- The following requests were made for future budget presentations to GFC:
 - include a student experience angle

- explain how the budget is aligned with Mount Royal's strategic priorities (provide examples)
- As indicated in the budget presentation that there will be budget strategic priorities for advancing Indigenization and EDI, it was asked if there is a process for assisting faculty to access funds for Indigenization in their department, similar to the process in place for accessing funds for EDI to assist faculty.

6. Other Reports

6.1. GFC Chair and Vice-Chair Report

The GFC Chair and Vice-Chair submitted a written report. In response to a question about whether there will be plans for GFC to have involvement with the Traditional Thinker's Advisory Council, J. Fischer shared information on discussions taking place about the nature of the relationship between the Council and MRU, which is the focus at this time.

7. Consent Agenda

7.2. Items for Approval (*singular motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the Consent Agenda items for the November 24, 2023 Open Session:

7.2.1. APBC Charter Revision (Membership)

THAT GFC approves that the membership be revised in the APBC Charter to add the "Director, Budgets and Resource Planning" as a Resource.

7.2.2. Curriculum Approval Policy for Ministry Approved Programs (DNPAS Policy Update)

THAT General Faculties Council approve of the minor change to the Curriculum Approval Policy for Ministry approved Programs to reflect the CAQC requirements for Delegated New Program Approval Status (DNPAS).

Discussion:

- Item 7.2.3. Faculty Council Charter Revisions – Arts and Science & Technology was removed for discussion and decision separately.

Motion carried

7.1. Items for Discussion

7.2.3. Faculty Council Charter Revisions – Arts and Science & Technology

Moved and seconded:

THAT GFC approves the revised Arts Faculty Council Charter and the revised Science and Technology Faculty Council Charter.

Discussion:

- It was noted that there are differences with how Faculty Councils' Executive Committee or Agenda Committee are structured and it was requested that a review be undertaken to consider consistency of these Committees across all Faculties, to ensure they have broad representation in their membership.
 - The Chair supported the request for the GFC Executive Committee to review this request at a future EC meeting.

Point of Order:

It was requested to conduct a vote instead of adopting the motion by unanimous consent. The Chair agreed to conduct a vote for the motion.

Motion carried

7.3.5. Investment Management Agreement

A concern was heard about the Alberta Government's use of Investment Management Agreements and their impact on institutional autonomy.

7.3.3. Discontinuation of the Institute for Environmental Sustainability

In response to a question, C. Van der Byl provided clarification about how the environmental sustainability research and scholarship work at Mount Royal will continue after the Institute is discontinued.

7.3. Items for Information

The following items were received for information:

- 7.3.1. Notice of Motion – GFC Bylaw Revisions (formal GFC Bylaw review)
- 7.3.2. MRU Institute Annual Reports
- 7.3.3. Discontinuation of the Institute for Environmental Sustainability – this item was moved to 7.1. Items for Discussion above
- 7.3.4. Program Reviews: Policy Studies and English
- 7.3.5. Investment Management Agreement – this item was moved to 7.1. Items for Discussion above
- 7.3.6. Committee Meeting Minutes
- 7.3.7. Faculty Council Approved Curriculum

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment 10:40AM