

General Faculties Council – OPEN SESSION
November 22, 2024 at 9:40am – 11am
Lincoln Park Room J301

IN ATTENDANCE:

Tim Rahilly, CHAIR	John Fischer	Scott Murray
Chad London, VICE-CHAIR	Shane Gannon	Mustansar Nadeem
Tala Abu Hayyaneh	Geri Lynn Gouglas	Alejandra Perez
Ademola Adesola	Sally Haney	Jennifer Pettit
Ayden Ali	Charles Hepler	Kari Roberts
Vicki Bouvier	Paul Jessop	Melanie Rogers
Meagan Bowler	Kalen Keavey	Chris Rogerson
Neil Brigden	Lynne Lafave	Qanita Samore
Katherine Bright	Brenda Lang	Sara Sharun
Isabella Carinelli	Chris Lovallo	Leda Stawnychko
Fiona Chetty	Sinclair MacRae	Keir Stuhlmiller
Peter Choate	Robyn Madden	Cheryl Techentin
Evan Cortens	Moussa Magassa	Joyce Totton
Anupam Das	Rusna Mahoon	Deepa Upadhyaya
Trevor Day	Tori McMillan	Connie Van der Byl
Brooks DeCillia	Jon Mee	Phil Warsaba
Lee Easton	Alexis Morris	Kelly Williams-Whitt
Maryam Elahi	Mary-Lee Mulholland	Jonathan Withey
Richard Erlendson	Elaine Mullen	

Resources

Amy Nixon, SECRETARY
Sheena Dyer, RECORDING SECRETARY

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Julie Booke	Michelle LoGullo	Stephen Price
Karim Dharamsi	Jacqueline Musabende	Saron Solomon
David Giers	Mohsen Nasrin	
Chris Gillanders	Karen Pheasant-Neganigwane	

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:49 AM.

Land Acknowledgement

Qanita Samore opened the meeting with a Land Acknowledgement.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the November 22, 2024 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved.

Motion carried by unanimous consent

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from October 18, 2024

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the October 18, 2024 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved.

Motion carried by unanimous consent

2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. Approval of Curriculum Approval Policy for Ministry Approved Programs (Minor Revision)

Moved and seconded:

THAT General Faculties Council approve the proposed changes to the *Curriculum Approval Policy for Ministry Approved Programs* Policy.

Discussion:

- Comments were made in support of the minor revision that addresses curriculum approval pathways for GNED-prefixed courses.
- A question was asked with respect to the reporting structure for UGECC (University General Education Curriculum Committee).
 - It was clarified that the minor revision presented only addresses curriculum approvals.
 - The Provost suggested that UGECC could bring suggestions about their reporting structure to the Provost's Office, who is the sponsoring office for this committee.
 - A follow-up question was asked if the Provost will commit to following up with GFC on where the question of UGECC's reporting structure will land. The Provost noted that the question regarding the reporting structure will be shared with the Vice-Provost, Academic and any relevant updates for GFC will be provided.

Motion carried

4. Committee Chair Reports

4.1. Executive Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the most recent Executive Committee (EC) meeting was provided. The EC Chair highlighted the update provided on the written question submission for GFC that was decided by EC to not be added to the GFC agenda.

Concerns were raised and discussed about whether or not more details should have been shared about the written question submission and EC's rationale for their decision. It was clarified that EC made their decision in the regular business meeting (not *in-camera*). The EC Chair explained that EC was guided by the PSLA (*Post-secondary Learning Act*) and the GFC Bylaws when deciding the submission would not go forward to GFC. The EC Chair emphasized the importance of, as per the GFC Bylaws, EC's authority and accountability to ensure GFC meetings are agenda-driven and within its mandate.

Written Committee Chair reports of the most recent Committee meetings were also provided for the following Committees:

- 4.2. Academic Planning and Budget Committee
- 4.3. Academic Programs and Curriculum Committee
- 4.4. Academic Standards Committee
- 4.5. Research and Scholarship Committee
- 4.6. Student Affairs Committee
- 4.7. Teaching and Learning Committee

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

No written questions were added to the agenda by the GFC Executive Committee.

5.2. Questions from the Floor

With respect to the *Off-Campus Safety Activity Policy* under revision and recently in the 30-day public consultation step, concerns were raised about the aspects in the policy regarding faculty accountability for students. It was asked if this policy will come to GFC for discussion given the implications for faculty.

- The University Secretary acknowledged the concerns and advised that even though the formal policy consultation window closed individuals may still send their feedback directly to her.
- The question about bringing a discussion of this Board-approved policy to GFC will be taken into consideration.
- An overview from the *Policy on University Policy and Procedures* for collecting institutional feedback and how it is addressed was also given.

A question was asked about why there are not more opportunities on GFC agendas for discussion items for matters of interest to GFC, similar to the “Bill-18” discussion at GFC last year. The GFC Chair acknowledged the question and expressed his support for discussion items at GFC, summarizing the process to submit items with materials for GFC agendas.

Regarding resourcing concerns previously heard with Access and Inclusion services, it was asked if this is on the radar to be addressed and resolved. The Vice-President, Students responded that it was and provided context about addressing resourcing and the ongoing challenges. GFC will receive the Access and Inclusion Services Annual Report in January with more information, and it was further explained that the GFC Student Affairs Committee discusses this report and provides feedback.

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 the role of the Traditional Thinkers Advisory Council and opportunities for faculty to work with the Council, the Associate Vice-President, Indigenization and Decolonization gave an overview of who is on this council and explained that they are in the early stages of discussing their role. It is

anticipated that information on the Traditional Thinkers Advisory Council will be provided in the coming months.

6.2. Board of Governors Meeting Summary

A written summary of the October 24, 2024 Board of Governors meeting was provided for information.

7. For Information

The following items were provided for information:

- 7.1. Office of Student Community Standards Annual Statistics Report
- 7.2. MRU Annual Report
- 7.3. Committee Meeting Minutes

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment 10:44AM