

**General Faculties Council**  
**September 20, 2024 at 9:45am – 11am**  
**Lincoln Park Room J301**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chad London, VICE-CHAIR  
Tala Abu Hayyaneh  
Ademola Adesola  
Ayden Ali  
Julie Boone  
Meagan Bowler  
Neil Brigden  
Isabella Carinelli  
Fiona Chetty  
Peter Choate  
Evan Cortens  
Anupam Das  
Trevor Day  
Brooks DeCillia  
Karim Dharamsi  
Lee Easton  
Maryam Elahi  
Richard Erlendson

John Fischer  
Shane Gannon  
Chris Gillanders  
Geri Lynn Gouglas  
Sally Haney  
Charles Hepler  
Kalen Keavey  
Brenda Lang  
Michelle LoGullo  
Chris Lovallo  
Sinclair MacRae  
Robyn Madden  
Rusna Mahoon  
Tori McMillan  
Jon Mee  
Mary-Lee Mulholland  
Elaine Mullen  
Scott Murray

Mustansar Nadeem  
Alejandra Perez  
Jennifer Pettit  
Stephen Price  
Kari Roberts  
Melanie Rogers  
Chris Rogerson  
Qanita Samore  
Saron Solomon  
Leda Stawnychko  
Keir Stuhlmiller  
Cheryl Techentin  
Joyce Totton  
Deepa Upadhyaya  
Phil Warsaba  
Kelly Williams-Whitt  
Jonathan Withey

Resources

Amy Nixon, SECRETARY  
Sheena Dyer, RECORDING SECRETARY

**NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**

Tim Rahilly, CHAIR  
Vicki Bouvier  
Katherine Bright  
David Giers  
Paul Jessop

Lynne Lafave  
Moussa Magassa  
Alexis Morris  
Jacqueline Musabende  
Mohsen Nasrin

Karen Pheasant-Neganigwane  
Sara Sharun  
Connie Van der Byl

The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 9:47AM.

**Land Acknowledgement**

Jennifer Pettit opened the meeting with a Land Acknowledgement.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Agenda for the September 20, 2024 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved.

***Motion carried***

**2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

2.1. Minutes from May 17, 2024

***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Minutes of the May 17, 2024 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved.

***Motion carried***

2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**3. Committee Chair Reports**

3.1. Executive Committee

A written Committee Chair report was provided for information and highlighted at the meeting.

**4. Question Period**

4.1. Written Questions

No written questions were submitted for inclusion in the package.

4.2. Questions from the Floor

- With respect to the Academic Emeritus-Emerita Designation Policy, it was asked if the policy review could occur sooner than scheduled to consider expanding the eligibility requirements to long serving contract faculty, and if GFC would be formally consulted.
  - It was explained that this policy is being considered for review this year, but it is unclear at this time if there will be an additional formal consultation with GFC in addition to the usual policy consultation process.
- It was asked if the Generative AI Working Group will continue its work beyond this year, and if it would be the group to address the continuous changes on that topic.
  - The update provided in the GFC Chair and Vice-Chair report was highlighted, noting that the working group will continue their work for 2024-25. Standard processes will be followed for any intersections with GFC Committees and the policy framework.

**5. Other Reports**

5.1. GFC Chair and Vice-Chair Report

The GFC Chair and Vice-Chair submitted a written report. At the meeting, the Journey to Indigenization update was highlighted, along with the corrected due date for Honorary Degree recipient nominations to June 30, and added that Academic Emeritus/a nominations are due December 15.

In response to questions about updates provided in the report:

- C. London highlighted the update about the Generative AI Working Group, and indicated he would ask the Executive Committee if there is interest in having the working group formally provide an update to GFC.

- Details were shared on the purpose and training for the Student Services Diagnostic mentioned in the G-Wing update.
- An overview was provided of the communications that have been shared with the community and impacted offices regarding G-Wing construction, and the plans for keeping the MRU community informed at each phase of the project.
- The “Provincial Priorities Act (formerly Bill 18)” update was discussed and more details were provided about the continued advocacy to the Ministry of Advanced Education expressing MRU’s concerns with this Act. This included communicating the GFC motion that was made regarding concern with the Act to the MRU Board of Governors and the Ministry.
- Regarding enrolment numbers and concern with the impact of the number of students on campus (e.g. parking), it was explained that with the recent fee deadline now passed, the enrolment numbers are being finalized, and the concern was acknowledged.
- MRU’s response and ongoing advocacy to the challenges from Alberta Student Aid’s changes to loan eligibility this Fall was detailed, and it was explained that Student Services is working directly with impacted students they have identified. An overview of SAMRU’s response and advocacy to support students was also shared.
- It was explained that the Experiential Learning Steering Committee identified barriers for Experiential Learning and Work Integrated Learning courses, such as within the Curriculum system (formerly Curriculog). Recommendations will be made regarding the identification of operational gaps as the Steering Committee works on an experiential learning framework.

In response to a question asking when the 2023-24 Annual Report will be published, it was explained that the Alberta Ministry of Advanced Education extended the report deadline to November 30 due to their revised template.

5.2. Board of Governors Meeting Summary

A written summary of the May 28, 2024 Board of Governors meeting was provided for information.

**6. For Information**

The following items were received for information:

- 6.1. Notice of Motion – GFC Bylaw Revision (Bylaw 11.5.)
- 6.2. GFC Meeting Schedule
- 6.3. GFC Membership List
- 6.4. Committee Meeting Minutes
- 6.5. GFC Orientation Information

Regarding a section of the Executive Committee (EC) May 9, 2024 meeting minutes, a concern raised about the delay of a recommendation about the Academic Indigenization Committee (AIC) was addressed. It was explained that it is on hold pending the Indigenous Strategic Plan development, and clarified that EC previously decided not to recommend removal of AIC from the Bylaws.

A follow-up inquiry asked if discussions about removing AIC from the GFC Bylaws could occur before a Notice of Motion to revise the Bylaws is submitted, should EC decide to make a recommendation to remove AIC from the GFC Bylaws. C. London indicated he would bring forward the question to EC for consideration.

**7. New Business**

There was no new business.

**8. Adjournment 10:39AM**