



GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #473

Approved Minutes

Monday, December 12, 2011

3:00 p.m. in W646

- Present:** A. Hakin (Chair), S. Alam, G. Bedard, K. Bernes, R. Boéré, B. Boudreau, L. Bradley, L. Brown, C. Campbell, D. Dahle, S. Dawson, J. Dobbie, A. Dymond, B. Ellis, A. Escher, N. Eva, M. Gerken, P. Ghazalian, D. Gill, E. Gorny, E. Hasebe-Ludt, M. Hawkins, C. Horbachewski, C. Hosgood, D. Hunt, D. Kazakoff, L. Kennedy, C. Kingfisher, J. Kulig, M. Letts, C. Loewen, H. MacDonald, C. Malacrida, I. McAdam, Z. Moline, C. Nicol, A. Nussbaumer, W. Osborn, D. Oye, D. Rochfort, L. Rodych, C. Schneider, A. Siaroff, D. Siminovitch, S. Talbot, I. Townshend, D. Weeks, A. Williams, B. Wojtowicz, N. Walker, R. Wood, R. Yalamova-Usher
- Regrets:** L. Escobar, P. Hayes, L. Howard, C. Kingfisher, D. Le Roy, R. Lencucha, M. Mahon, L. Meredith, S. Patitsas, N. Rosen, D. Rutledge, M. Sedgwick, R. Sept, M. Stingl, R. Sutherland, P. Walz
- Other:** J. Black (Recording Secretary), R. Hopkins, S. Olson, S. Sproule, R. Westlund, H.J. Wieden

M. Mahon sent his regrets so A. Hakin Provost & VP (Academic) chaired GFC.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.01

Hunt/Bernes

That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #473 held Monday, December 12, 2011 be approved with the following changes:

4.2 GFC Bylaw Amendment – Adjunct Professor Definition be tabled

4.4 Academic Plan be moved to 4.1

4.7 Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report be moved to 4.2

Motion: Carried

J. Black reported that a few concerns have arisen regarding the Adjunct Professor definition so this information needs to be looked at prior to the item coming forth. Due to A. Hakin needing to speak to items 4.4 and 4.7 and then

B. Boudreau the AVP (Academic) needing to chair during those items, the agenda was changed so the items occurred consecutively.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.02

Hunt/Kazakoff

That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #472 held Monday, November 07, 2011 be approved with the amendment to move M. Letts to present from regrets.

Motion: Carried

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Hakin indicated that President Mahon was in Edmonton regarding funding issues so there was no President's Report at this time.

4. ITEMS FOR ACTION

A. Hakin stepped down as Chair for the first two Items for Action. B. Boudreau stepped into the position of Chair.

4.1. Academic Plan

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.03

Hakin/Ellis

That the General Faculties Council approve the Academic Plan.

Motion: Carried

A. Hakin indicated that this plan was passed one year ago. The original plan lacked input from each unit and this version today is now inclusive of each units plan. It is similar in structure to the one in 2010. R. Hopkins, Research Officer, was responsible for the language and she explained a bit more about the changes to the document. The next step is to look at benchmarks for measurement. No discussion occurred.

4.2. Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report

A. Hakin as the Chair of CCC explained the process of these motions coming forward to GFC.

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.04

Nicol/Boéré

That the General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1 - #56 for the Faculty of Arts and Science, with an implementation date of May 1, 2012, unless otherwise stated.

Motion: Carried

There were no questions or comments.

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.05

Wood/Hosgood

That the General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #57 - #59 for the School of Graduate Studies, with an implementation date of May 1, 2012, unless otherwise stated.

Motion: Carried

There were no questions or comments.

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.06

Loewen/Hosgood

That the General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #60 - #64 for the Faculty of Education, with an implementation date of May 1, 2012, unless otherwise stated.

Motion: Carried

There were no questions or comments.

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.07

Hosgood/Kulig

That the General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #65 - #74 for the Faculty of Health Sciences, with an implementation date of May 1, 2012, unless otherwise stated.

Motion: Carried

There were no questions or comments.

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.08

Rochfort/Dobbie

That the General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #75 - #86 for the Faculty of Fine Arts, with an implementation date of May 1, 2012, unless otherwise stated.

Motion: Carried

There were no questions or comments.

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.09

Ellis/Kazakoff

That the General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #87 - #103 for the Faculty of Management, with an implementation date of May 1, 2012, unless otherwise stated.

Motion: Carried

There were no questions or comments.

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.10

Hunt/ Nicol

That the General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #104 - #106 for the Registrar, with an implementation date of May 1, 2012, unless otherwise stated.

Motion: Carried

There were no questions or comments.

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.11

Hunt/Ellis

That the General Faculties Council approve Recommendation #107 for the Academic Schedule, with an implementation date of May 1, 2012, unless otherwise stated.

Motion: Carried

There were no questions or comments.

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.12

Nicol/Hosgood

That the General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1-8 from the Curriculum Coordinating Committee – Report 2, pending Ministerial Approval.

Motion: Carried

A. Hakin explained that the items within Report 2 require ministerial approval; however, we still need to approve these at GFC as well. These motions will be in a holding pattern as they await approval. There were no questions or comments.

A. Hakin reconvened as Chair.

4.3.GFC Bylaw Amendment – Academic Staff Definition

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.13

Siaroff/Kazakoff

That the General Faculties Council approves the Bylaw amendment to the full-time academic staff definition (Part 1, B, 16) and to the council membership (Part 2, E, 5) to clarify the standing of those individuals on reduced load status.

One opposed (2/3 approval needed)

Motion: Carried

A. Siaroff answered questions. It was identified that this amendment arose to clarify the implications for GFC membership. The appropriate Dean goes into conversation with each individual requesting reduced load so the grandfather clause exists as this would not have been brought up to those individuals at that time. The current numbers of those on reduced-load status are very low, but this revision will prepare GFC for any presumable growth.

4.4.GFC Bylaw Amendment - Strategic Planning Committee

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.14

Walker/Nicol

That the General Faculties Council re-approve the addition of the Strategic Planning Committee as a GFC Standing Committee by combining the Strategic Planning Steering Committee and Strategic Planning Implementation Committee into one.

Motion: Carried

N. Walker indicated that this is a clean-up as two committees existed so they morphed it into one committee. There were a few questions surrounding the size of the committee.

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.15

Walker/MacDonald

That the General Faculties Council approve the revised terms of reference for the Strategic Planning Committee

2/3 approval needed

Motion: Carried

The revised terms of reference combines the two terms into one. There were also some membership changes to titles, positions and an additional Dean was added. Discussion occurred about ensuring all the stakeholders are at the table (e.g. Deans), it was emphasised though that extensive consultation with all groups is part of this committee so even if individuals are not sitting at the table they will have ample opportunity to provide input. Explanation was also provided about our bicameral system and how the Board of Governors ultimately approves this document.

4.5. Strategic Research Plan

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.16

Weeks/Hunt

That the General Faculties Council approve the Strategic Research Plan for 2012-2017.

Motion: Carried

D. Weeks indicated that this is the second time this plan has come to GFC, the first was as an item for information. Since the last version, comments have been received and these are now incorporated into the document. Some concerns arose regarding wording. A few friendly suggestions were noted around the level of detail on the Physics and Mathematics area as well as some relation to Health. Discussion occurred around the current access to research tools. We do not enjoy access to enough research tools, but we enjoy the ones we have.

D. Weeks indicated that the GFC Research Committee will take more ownership of this plan and this will ensure accessibility and clarity.

A. Hakin congratulated D. Weeks as he indicated this is the first time a Strategic Research Plan has been approved.

4.6. The Alberta RNA Research and Training Institute (ARRTI)

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.17

Nicol/Boéré

That the General Faculties Council approve the Alberta RNA Research and Training Institute (ARRTI) as a “Type B” Institute.

Motion: Carried

This is being brought forward under The Research Centres and Institutes Policy. This is a Type B Institute as it resides within the Faculty of Arts and Science. H.J. Wieden provided an overview on this institute. The Institute houses a NSERC training program and a full proposal has been submitted in September and this would handle the training portion of the Institute. D. Weeks noted his strong support, and as indicated, it could grow into something much larger.

4.7. Education Faculty Council Appointment

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.18

Loewen/Hunt

That the General Faculties Council approve the appointment of Mary Kavanagh to the Education Faculty Council for the two-year period 2011-13.

Motion: Carried

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1. Revised – Flag Policy

N. Walker indicated that the last time this was updated was in 2004. There were some additional changes in number three that came up at the Board of Governors to add protocol about facing the flag during convocation. GFC was informed that a lot of discussion occurred around using the terminology half-staff or half-mast and in the end the decision was to go with half-staff.

5.2. Revised – Emergency Student Loan Fund Policy

N. Walker indicated that this policy was last updated in 1986. It has been broadened to add unexpected shortfalls as well, and the interest rate has been reduced from 12% to 5% plus prime. Discussion occurred around why we charge any interest or even just prime. N. Walker will take another look at this.

5.3. Revised – Research Overhead Charging Policy

N. Walker indicated that there is no overhead charged on anything less than \$10,000 and this used to be set at \$5,000. This policy deals with contracts and no-tri-council grants. Good feedback was given to the VP (Finance & Administration). A question arose on the U of C and U of A process and about the 20% to the Deans office. D. Weeks indicated that the percentages will be looked at. A comment was given on the importance of having 20% for the principal investigator like the U of A. It was indicated there is not a lot of money to be made by this in the Faculty and the money is used for things such as hiring technical specialists. A question was asked on co-researchers and how the overhead costs get determined.

5.4. UofL Award Nomination Deadlines

- Senate Volunteer Award – Feb. 1st
- Distinguished Teacher Award – Feb. 1st
- Ingrid Speaker for Distinguished Research, Scholarship or Performance – Feb. 29th

A. Hakin reminded everyone of the above mentioned award nomination deadlines. All members of council were encouraged to nominate worthy individuals.

5.5. GFC Executive Committee Minutes - October 24, 2011

There were no comments or questions about the presented minutes.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

R. Boere had a question regarding the scheduling of final examinations. D. Hunt, the Registrar, was aware some changes were made and was going to look into it.

A. Hakin wished everyone a Happy Holidays!

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: gfc.2011.12.19

Escher/Gorney

That the GFC meeting #473 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried