



GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #505

Approved Minutes

Monday, November 2, 2015

3:00 p.m. in W646

- Present:** M. Mahon (Chair), D. Balderson, J. Bocksnick, B. Boudreau, S. Brandford, V. Brickley, L. Brown (by phone), S. Bubel, J. Byrne, C. Cooper, J. Copeland, L. Escobar, M. Gale, J. Graham, A. Hakin, C. Helmer-Smith, C. Hosgood, C. Howey, E. Jurkowski, D. Kaminski, L. Kennedy, A. Khan, J. Lapadat, M. Letts, M. Lindsay, I. MacLachlan, C. Malacrida, S. Malla, R. Marynowski, C. Nicol, J. Nugent, M. Nugent, D. O'Donnell, E. Okine, D. Olsen, W. Osborn, M. Pijl Zieber, J. Poulsen, A. Predoi-Cross, J. Sanders, B. Scott, J. Sheriff, A. Siaroff, G. Singh, M. Stingl, S. Thomas, K. Ueland, G. Vardazaryan, B. Warren, E. Wasiak, C. Williams
- Regrets:** D. Adams, YJ Bao, R. Boére, P. Ghazalian, J. Harrowing, C. Horbachewski, L. Jacobs, S. Kennedy, C. Loewen, A. Martin, P. Visentin, N. Walker, S. Wickham, P. Wilson, R. Wood, R. Yalamova, J. Youngdahl
- Other:** J. Gallais, L. Corbiere, V. Grisack, M. Many Grey Horses, H. Mirau, N. Freiheit, J. Preyde, S. Wismath

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.01

Jurkowski/Marynowski

That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #505 held Monday, November 2, 2015 be approved with the addition of an additional appointed member to Item for Action 5.1.

Motion: Carried

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.02

Williams/Marynowski

That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #504 held Monday, October 5, 2015 be approved.

Motion: Carried

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Mahon reported:

- Budget update
 - Tuition freeze maintained for 2 years at 2014/15 levels
 - 2% increase to operating grant for 2015/16 & intention to increase for 2016/17 and 2017/18 have not yet received this in writing
 - Market Modifiers were rolled back and the approved ones will be rolled into base operating grant – no more market modifiers will be approved.
 - Destination Project will be discussed by A. Hakin later in the agenda.
- Rankings - Maclean's – UofL maintains top three ranking
 - maintained or improved in 9/12 indicators
 - greatest gain was in student services moving three spots to 2nd position
 - moved 2 spots in funding for student scholarships & bursaries
 - one spot ahead in reputation to 3rd overall
 - Research Infosource - jumped from fifth to fourth in the 2015 undergraduate classification
 - Rankings are positive for us but it is a balancing act on how we use the rankings in our publications as the ranking methods are sometimes unreliable.
- The government has requested feedback on essential services, in relation to the right-to-strike, and on the *Post-Secondary Learning Act* labour relations model. Our response is due Nov. 13, 2015. We will see where the consultation goes and what the impact will be on our institution. There will be potential responses from the 26 institutions as well as one from the Comprehensive Academic Research Institutions and the UofL.
- The Vice-President Research is starting the consultation process for updating the Strategic Research Plan and it will start on Wednesday with President's Executive. Everyone was encouraged to participate in this process.
- He was recently in Ottawa and with the recent elections results it was a busy environment. He met the new Prime Minister, J. Trudeau while he was in Ottawa as he spent 45 minutes at the reception for university presidents. He spoke very favourably about higher education in the country.
- 'Get out the Vote' - Congratulations on the response of students and faculty and staff who helped support students to get and vote. Toast in the paper today to the busload of students who went to the polling stations and had to stand around for a couple hours but were well behaved.
- Innovation & Advanced Education has changed to Advanced Education, Ministry remains with Lori Sigurdson. She retains Jobs, Skills, Labour and Innovation moves to another portfolio. This is good for us as the minister has more time to spend on advanced education.
- New ministry of Economic Development and Trade announced to include Innovation file – this means that we need to connect with a second ministry with regards to research.
- Glenda Bonifacio named one of the most influential Filipina women in the world
- Fiat Lux Address was held on October 7
- Hosted Consul General Wang Jinping on October 16 and a delegation from Anxang Ching University on Oct. 25

- UofL is first Canadian post-secondary to partner with The Jed & Clinton Health Matters Program in support of student well-being and mental health. Congratulations to Mark Slomp and his staff.
- Fall Convocation on held on October 17. Honorary Degree recipients Victor Buffalo and Cor Van Raay as well as Alumnus of the Year Andrew Staniland were honoured. Thanks to faculty that participated in the ceremony.
- Calgary Business Hall of Fame Dinner Oct. 22
- Attended Universities Canada meetings in Ottawa last week
- Thanks to Faculty and volunteers who hosted "Spooky Science" over the weekend – M. Mahon's colleague from California commented on the outreach.
- Women's Rugby is headed to Nationals.
- M. Mahon was recently appointed Board Chair of Canada Interuniversity Sport (CIS).
- Attending Installation Ceremony of David Turpin, President of the UofA on November 16
- November 19 speaking on a panel at USask regarding how universities can address Truth and Reconciliation. Martha Many Grey Horses is also attending.
- Nov. 24-25 Team Lethbridge is in Edmonton
- Nov. 20 - the Students' Union in conjunction with Volunteer Lethbridge will host the annual Volunteer Fair. This year we will launch U-Volunteer, a new initiative for students to assist them to volunteer in our communities.

4. QUESTION PERIOD

- E. Jurkowski - The Government is going to do a review of the funding model. What does that mean? M. Mahon responded that it is a review of the adult learning system. It will be a review of the system and of the funding model. We were told that it will start in a focused manner with post-secondary but then broaden to public consultation. It will take about a year and should begin soon. Our actions will be determined by the outcomes of the review.
- I. MacLachlan – CBC News reported on an Alberta university regarding a contradiction of academic freedom and big business. What kind of governance structures do we have in place so that we don't hear about ourselves on media? Our bicameral system is most important said M. Mahon. It ensures that academic decisions are made by GFC and not the Board of Governors. Those need to come through GFC and need to be discussed so that we keep consistent with our mandate and strategic plan. The consideration of any gifts are scrutinized on many levels before they are accepted and they must come from a source that is acceptable as an institution. A. Hakin pointed out that we need to look at what the cost is for the funding. Donor input vs responsibility of the institution. D. O'Donnell stated that this is the second time in a few months that this has happened. How do we avoid this? M. Mahon responded that conversations and good communication flow on multiple levels are key. As an academic community we learn from other situations and ensure that our processes are in keeping with our fundamental values of our institution.
- M. Pijl Zieber requested information on the fall reading break. M. Mahon replied that it will be discussed in Items for Action 5.2.
- D. Olsen brought up issues with the timetable changes. It is hard to find information and is not effective as a planning tool anymore. Has this come up with anyone else? C. Nicol

answered as part of the Banner revitalization team. Our Banner system has been under review. Banner is widely used by educational institutions but the system is created by a US vendor and is not as good of a fit for Canadian institutions. In the past we have made many customizations and some platforms are no longer supported by the vendor as we are too far behind in systems updates because of the modifications. We are trying to get back to the original baseline so we can get all the benefits out of it that we need to. There is no good time to make the changes. It will be October of next year before all the changes are made.

5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1. Approval of Appointed GFC Members

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.03

Hakin/Helmer-Smith

That GFC approves the appointed member as indicated in the 2015/2016 General Faculties Membership and listed below:

		<i>Term End Date</i>
Student (Arts & Science)	Michael Gale	April 30, 2016
Graduate Studies	Carly Adams (temporary replacement for Graduate Studies Member)	

Motion: Carried

5.2. GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Reports

A. Hakin provided an overview of the CCC Reports. The appropriate deans were asked to move their respective motions.

Recommendations from Report 1.

Faculty of Education

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.04

Marynowski/Brickley

General Faculties Council approve Recommendation #1 – Education from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Fine Arts

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.05

Jurkowski/Lapadat

General Faculties Council approve Recommendation #2 - #6 – Fine Arts from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Health Sciences

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.06

Hosgood/Jurkowski

General Faculties Council approve Recommendation #7 – Health Sciences from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Management

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.07

Boudreau/Warren

General Faculties Council approve Recommendation #8 - #12 – Management from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.

Motion: Carried

Liberal Education Revitalization Team

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.08

Lapadat/Cooper

General Faculties Council approve Recommendation #13 - #14 – Liberal Education Revitalization Team from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.

Motion: Carried

J. Lapadat informed GFC that this is a proposal to add and modify the liberal education course list to add Management and Health Sciences courses. S. Wismath commented on the ongoing process as these are now the technical recommendations from the original piece passed at GFC in December. Not all courses will go on the list. The faculties can suggest and submit courses for the lists. There is a criteria for selection. Discussion occurred around this possibly of a GFC Standing Committee on liberal education in the future with more student representation. It was commented that we are moving in the right direction now after so much time not moving forward.

Registrar

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.09

Lapadat/Helmer-Smith

General Faculties Council approve Recommendation #15 - #18 – Registrar from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.

Motion: Carried

Recommendations from Report 2.

Faculty of Health Sciences

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.10

Hosgood/Jurkowski

General Faculties Council approve Recommendation #1 – Health Sciences from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 2, with an implementation date of May 1, 2017.

Motion: Carried

Registrar

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.11

Lapadat/Brickley

General Faculties Council approve Recommendation #2 – Registrar from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 2, with an amended implementation date of May 1, 2016.

Motion: Carried (1 opposed)

J. Lapadat gave an overview of what the fall break would look like with 62 teaching days. The reading break would be on the Friday and Tuesday preceding and following Thanksgiving. There was an intense discussion on the length of time for the break and when we should implement this change. It was remarked several times that student mental health is very important and we need to move this forward. The later implementation date was to give the faculties more time to incorporate the fall break into their academic planning.

A motion was made to amend the implementation date:

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.12

MacLachlan/Nicol

That the implementation date to take effect be May 1, 2016.

Motion: Carried (1 Abstention, 6 Opposed)

There was concern that the break is spread across two weeks. Some faculty with labs expressed concern with this and thought that a whole week would be preferable. There was also discussion on the timelines of getting the fall break in the calendar. It was suggested that the Provost needs to take the lead on getting the fall break finalized with additional consultation with academic units occurring. The consultation could lead to a different structure for the break.

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.13

Helmer-Smith/Byrne

Motion to extend the meeting past 5:00

Motion: Carried

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1. Destination Project

A. Hakin reported on the progress of the Destination Project. The funding allocated by the new government will be the following: \$5 million 2017/18, \$20 million in 2018/2019 and \$46 million in 2019/20 for a total of \$71 million. We are still short money for construction so we still need to do more work. We are shovel ready with our plans. The ATCO trailers have been moved in this past weekend to the north of Markin Hall. The Destination Project team will be moving into the trailers in the next couple of weeks. The trailers will likely be there for at least 15 years so Andy stated that we will be looking for lights on funding for them. Parking will be a major issue moving forward. We are losing two lots with a total of 265 stalls. M. Mahon suggested that we have looked and continue to need to look into how to get people to car pool, using transit or biking to work, etc. to alleviate the parking pressures.

6.2. GFC Aboriginal Education Committee Report

This report was received for information. Judith Lapadat introduced Dr. Martha Many Grey Horses, the director of the FNMI Centre and stated that she was there to answer any questions on the report.

6.3. People Plan 2016-2019

J. Sherriff gave regrets for Craig Loewen. The People Plan committee was struck last summer and worked on the plan. Thank you for feedback given in the world cafes. There is a list of values that are important, followed with a list of six priorities. This is the broad direction we want to go but it is up to the faculties to find the path. The People Plan will be housed on the Governance website. It will go to the Board of Governors in December.

6.4. Articulation Agreements - Grande Prairie Regional College & Lethbridge College

There were four agreements presented for information.

6.5. Distinguished Teaching Award Deadline

Received for information. The deadline for nominations is December 18, 2015.

6.6. GFC Executive Committee Report - October 27, 2015

Received for information. No questions.

6.7. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – September 28, 2015

Received as information. No questions.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

The Syrian Refugee Concert Series was organized by Brian Black. Performers include the UofL Singers directed by Dr. Janet Youngdahl, the LCI Singers directed by Karen Hudson and the Incanto Singers directed by Kathy Matkin-Clapton. The proceeds from The UofL and St. Augustine's Church concert series will go to support Syrian refugees coming to Canada. The first concert was held on October 30th and E. Jurkowski reported that \$5000 was raised.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: gfc.2015.11.14

Helmer-Smith/

That the GFC meeting #505 be adjourned at 5:20.

Motion: Carried