



**GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #497**  
**Approved Minutes**

**Monday, December 8, 2014**  
**3:00 p.m. in W646**

- Present:** M. Mahon (Chair), B. Black, R. Bo ere, B. Boudreau, S. Bubel, C. Carnaghan, M. Carrell, C. Cooper, J. Copeland, J. Dobbie, L. Elias, B. Ellis, L. Escobar, M. Gale, S. Glydon, B. Gordon, A. Hakin, M. Hawkins, L. Hildebrand, C. Hollingsworth, C. Hosgood, L. Jacobs, E. Jurkowski, M. Kawchuk, L. Kennedy, S. Kennedy, J. Kummer, J. Lapadat, C. Loewen, P. Loewen, I. MacLachlan, R. Miller, C. Nicol, J. Nugent, D. O'Donnell, D. Olsen, J. Parker, M. Pijl Zieber, J. Poulsen, A. Predoi-Cross, V. Rodych, J. Sanders, J. Sheriff, A. Siaroff, D. Sirbu, T. Spagnolo, R. Sutherland, J. Usher, J. Vokey, N. Walker, E. Wasiak, B. Williams, C. Williams, S. Wismath, R. Wood
- Regrets:** A. Andreachuk, K. Bose, L. Brown, L. de Klerk, G. Gonzalez, T. Gunn, K. Haight, P. Henzi, C. Horbachewski, B. Lee, M. Letts, W. Osborn, N. Piquette, P. Wilson,
- Other:** J. Gallais, L. Corbiere, V. Grisack, K. Willms, B. Kolb, J. Newberry, H. Mirau, D. Hill, K. Fuglerud

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.01

Glydon/Jurkowski

*That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #497 held Monday, December 8, 2014 be approved with the addition of 4. Question Period and renumbering the rest of the agenda accordingly.*

Motion: Carried

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.02

Cooper/Lapadat

*That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #496 held Monday, October 6, 2014 be approved as amended.*

Motion: Carried

### 3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Mahon reported:

- University of Lethbridge maintains top-three position for third consecutive year in the Primarily Undergraduate category of the annual Maclean's ranking.
- University of Lethbridge partners with Lethbridge School District No. 51 to present Dual Credit Program. A. Hakin mentioned that the Faculty of Management and the Liberal Education program is involved.
- University of Lethbridge introduced the Ulink web portal as the latest addition to student service support.
- Vice-President (Research) Search - there have been stakeholder meetings with the consultants. The committee has approved the position description and advertisement.
- The UofL hosted Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) Open Doors, Open Knowledge event on November 14. The event was focused around agriculture, there was a great turn out and it was a good chance to talk about agriculture and agribusiness and where synergies might be.
- Opening of First Nations', Metis and Inuit (FNMI) Gathering Space in the Patterson Centre was on December 4. The name of the space was gifted by Elder Wilton Goodstriker and is Iikaiskini (phonetically it is "EE-kaa-SKINI"), which means "Low Horn".
- #ULETHUNITE campaign and launch of the Ulethbridge Toolkit App, which is part of the Engaging Young People to Prevent Violence against Women on Post-Secondary Campuses project launched in November 2012.
- Campus fraud - charges have been laid against a former employee relating to fraud, and as it is a criminal investigation we are unable to comment further. The Board finance and audit committees are aware of this situation.
- Budget – the signals that we are hearing are not positive. It will be a difficult year which is not good news for us. We are still focussed on our core values (people, quality and access) as we go through the process.
- Premier Prentice and Minister Scott were on campus November 13. They took a tour of the science labs and provided them with evidence on why we need the Destination Project. The Premier believes this is still an important initiative.
- Throne Speech - November 17 in Edmonton. There have been numerous meetings with individuals as well as the Treasury board to continue to push funding for the destination project as well as funding for the post-secondary sector. Also met with Deputy Minister to present a case in collaborating with the Comprehensive Academic Research Institutions (CARI).
- December 17 he and Board Chair, Gordon Jong will meet with the Premier. The will be stressing the need for capital funding as well as core funding for the university.
- Bill 11 introduced– Savings Management Repeal Act which is repealing the Social Endowment fund, the Agriculture & Food Endowment fund, and the Alberta Future Fund.
- Blackfoot Digital library and FNMI Art Installation project held a successful event last week.
- Senate Honorary Degree and Chancellor Search Committees have met with names coming forward in February for both of those searches.
- Reminder of the University Christmas Reception, December 18, in UHall Atrium 3:00 pm

- UofL Annual Christmas Family Skating Party was held December 7, Enmax Centre with 300 people attending

#### 4. QUESTION PERIOD

- I. MacLachlan – There has been an absence of formal communication going out to the entire university community about the fraudulent activity. Why do we have a strategy not to communicate? M. Mahon indicated a brief communication was sent and there is a great deal of restrictions put on us because of the criminal investigation. N. Walker said a communication was sent out to the community on the same day on the notice board. Some people were unable to find it on the notice board. (*\*Please see attached email below to GFC from President Mahon that was sent following GFC.*)  
*“To all members of GFC:  
I informed GFC yesterday that there was a posting on the Notice Board about the criminal investigation regarding a former employee. The posting was in the news releases section and unfortunately not placed on the Notice Board. I have included the link to that article for you.  
<http://www.uleth.ca/communications/sites/communications/files/University%20of%20Lethbridge%20statement%20on%20police%20charges%20levied%20against%20former%20employeeNov1814.pdf>”*
- I. MacLachlan asked a second question regarding a student with a documented learning disability who went to the Accommodated Learning Centre to arrange an exam. The student missed the deadline of Nov. 21 so the professor is having to make accommodations now. He is asking for a review of the policy of the learning centre requiring such an early deadline. J. Lapadat responded to the question to say that they are short-handed scheduling 45 -100 exams per day as they are operating with limited resources. A. Hakin said that we will look at the process of the policy.
- Maureen Hawkins asked why do you send communication directly to students but faculty has to look on the notice board? M. Mahon said that it is not a policy. We have moved towards trying to communicate to faculty and staff by the noticeboard. The challenge in communicating with students is they are always on the move. Feedback has been for and against using email but there is not a perfect solution. A suggestion arose from Maureen about subscribing to a mailing list.
- D. O’Donnell asked if we could take a look at a communication policy? He mentioned concern about the communications that occurred due to the snow days as well as many being unaware that classrooms can now be locked. How would we find out if there was an active shooter? N. Walker responded that we have a large project ongoing with security. A pilot project has been tested that involves utilizing people’s phones. M. Mahon will take the comments to Chris Horbachewski. It was suggested that we should have John O’Keeffe, Executive Director, Campus Safety to come speak to GFC. M. Mahon also indicated that there have been discussions on a portal for faculty and staff similar to that for the students so this would improve the communications. L. Jacob stated that the notice board change hasn’t been a positive change for her as it has been very hard to find anything.
- B. Black has three English as a Second Language (ESL) students. He referred them to the writing centre, and it has been hard for ESL students to get the help they need. C. Cooper stated that the Writing Centre falls under Arts and Science and they are reviewing it. J. Lapadat commented that we are participating in a tutor pilot on a 24/7 basis. They can get information from the Student Success Centre or the Writing Centre.

**5. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

5.1. GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee (CCC) Reports

B. Boudreau provided an overview of the report from CCC, and thanked those who were involved in getting the CCC report packaged for GFC. The appropriate deans were asked to move their respective motions.

Faculty of Health Sciences

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.03

Hosgood/Pijl Zieber

*General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1-#3 – Health Sciences from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.*

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Management

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.04

Ellis/Jurkowski

*General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #4-#16 – Management from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1 with the friendly amendment to #16.*

Motion: Carried

B. Ellis made a friendly amendment to recommendation #16. In respect to students on probation, it should read on page 59 that it is 15 credit hours and 5 courses instead of 18 credit hours and 6 courses. This was a copying error only as there was never any intention to change modify that rule.

Faculty of Fine Arts

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.05

Jurkowski/Dobbie

*General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #17-#23 – Fine Arts from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.*

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Education

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.06

Loewen/Nicol

*General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #24-#31 – Education from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.*

Motion: Carried

School of Graduate Studies

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.07

Wood/Hosgood

*General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #32-#42 – Graduate Studies from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.*

Motion: Carried

A question was raised regarding 1.5 credit (1/2) courses and the flexibility to offer this variation. Discussion also occurred about the communication on decisions from Graduate Council and that the council is constituted of representatives from different faculties who can be reporting to their faculties on their activities. If there were ways to make it more effective R. Wood was open to discussing it.

Faculty of Arts and Science

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.08

Cooper/Copeland

*General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #43-#62 – Arts and Science from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.*

Motion: Carried

Discussion occurred around recommendation 45, as a question arose on the definition of cross listing. S. Kennedy said there is a definition in the package for the registrar which was read to GFC. C. Cooper said that they are following the principles and using it as a model. Pathways into degree programs and after degrees were also discussed as well.

Registrar

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.09

Kennedy/Jurkowski

*General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #63-#68 – Registrar from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.*

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.10

Kennedy/Lapadat

*General Faculties Council approve Recommendation #69 – Academic Schedule from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1.*

Motion: Carried

A question arose on the consideration of a fall semester reading break, and S. Kennedy responded that this will be discussed in agenda item 6.5 – Fall break Update.

Programs Pending Implementation Dates

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.11

Boudreau/Hosgood

*General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1-#8, from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 2 pending Ministerial approval.*

Motion: Carried

A question was raised regarding a post diploma proposal that was not included. The motion was defeated at CCC in relation to the modified GLER so it was sent back to the faculty. Discussion occurred on reinstating pre-engineering courses with UofA and UofC and the challenges in doing so.

## 5.2. Policy to Rescind: Student Behavioural Incident Policy

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.12

Walker/Nicol

*That the General Faculties Council approves the rescinding of the Student Behavioural Incident Policy and Protocol, effective upon Board approval of the Behavioural Intervention Policy.*

Motion: Carried

This policy replaces the Behavioural Incident policy. The new policy includes the whole university community versus only the students which is why we are rescinding the other one. Some questions arose around implementation of the new policy, and the committee identified would gauge each incident to determine if further investigation is needed. Discussion occurred regarding records retention and the restrictions on sharing information with external groups.

### 5.3. Liberal Education Revitalization Strategy

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.13

Wismath/Kennedy

*That General Faculties Council accept the report for implementation.*

Motion: Carried

S. Wismath provided some historical background as previous work was attempted on the General Liberal Education Requirement (GLER) that most recently ended in a stalemate in 2009. This specific initiative, on Liberal Education, that was presented in the agenda grew out of the Fiat Lux address by Provost A. Hakin in September 2012. The committee that was identified within the enclosure, was struck by the Provost about 1 year ago and they established their own terms of reference. Prior to the report being brought to GFC consultation occurred with multiple stakeholders. It was noted that this report is student centred and outcome based. The report identifies that liberal education is built around four pillars, and is a vital part of the UofL. Some specific recommendations are to increase awareness through education, open the GLER list to all faculties, and change from 12 to 9 required courses. Discussion occurred on cohorts, utilizing the expertise and experience of retired faculty to support the program, the effects of reducing the GLER requirements, independent and applied studies courses, and the impact of market modifiers. A round of applause was given by Council for the great work done.

### 5.4. GFC Bylaw Revisions – Duties: Officers

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.14

Siaroff/Boere

*That General Faculties Council approve the amendments to the GFC Bylaws regarding duties of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Parliamentarian, Recording Secretary, and meetings with amendments to the order of the sentence in E2 and E3.*

Motion: Carried (by 2/3)

A. Siaroff introduced and explained the proposed changes. One of the changes highlighted was that the interpretation of the rules is in the hands of the chair and to reduce conflict of

interest it is appropriate to move this into a parliamentary role. There was a comment from the floor that GFC should elect the individual instead of it be an individual who also reports to the chair. Significant discussion and debate occurred on: the potential inability for the parliamentarian to make a decision against the chair if they report to them; the role of the parliamentarian being just the individual who knows the rules; how the body can always overrule the parliamentarian and chair; comparison of other practices in councils on campus; clarification that this position is to assist the chair and is an advisor only; and the needs for continuity in the position because of the knowledge required.

A motion to amend was made and clarity was requested in terms of wording in the bylaws.

MOTION TO AMEND: gfc.2014.12.15

O'Donnell/Jacobs

*That the first sentence in Part 5.C.1., "The Director, University Secretariat shall be the Parliamentarian." be replaced with "A Parliamentarian shall be elected each year by GFC."*

Motion: Defeated

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.16

Nicol/Jurkowski

*To continue GFC past 5:00 p.m.*

Motion: Carried

## **6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

### **6.1. Destination Project Update**

A. Hakin reported that the selected massing that was chosen was The Hub. There were two super weeks regarding the design process where they discussed: transdisciplinary research; sustainability; high-level discussion on lab design; blocking and stacking of the building; tech services; energy centre and classroom types.

### **6.2. Type A Research Institute - Canadian Centre for Behavioural Neuroscience Institute**

A. Hakin indicated that following the Research Centres and Institutes Policy this is brought forward to GFC for information as it is a Type A institute and will then be going for Board of Governors approval on Thursday, December 11. D. Hill, Director of Centres and Institutes was present and explained that this has been done in collaboration with the CCBN. The term centre is still there but it is now an institute under the policy. A question arose on why it is a Type A and it was clarified that the main difference is that there are members from other faculties.



6.3. Sessional Data (Response to Request by GFC)

A. Hakin reported that the enclosure on the use of sessional instructors at the UofL is in response to a question from a prior meeting regarding our use of sessional instructors after a CBC documentary on the use of sessional instructors within eastern institutions. The numbers were received from Institutional Analysis and indicate that the UofL has lower utilization of sessional instructors compared to the other universities described in the documentary.

J. Usher, President of University of Lethbridge Faculty Association requested to add a few points for additional clarity. The Faculty of Health Sciences shows low percentage relative to Management and it is an anomaly as a professional schools contract academic staff are not included. The northern campuses may be higher if the non-management courses were taken into consideration. Lastly, the CBC report was also about how much money was being spent and the number of students they were teaching, so sessionals at Laurier get paid 40% more than ours.

It was clarified that in Table 2 and 3 the report is credit hours/course and some discussion arose on Arts and Science representation of credit hours/courses. A. Hakin was asked to address the lack of titles in table 2 and 3 in his report.

6.4. Olds College Memorandum of Understanding

A. Hakin explained that the presentation these agreements to GFC ensures that everyone is aware of the new academic relationships.

6.5. Fall Break Update

S. Kennedy reported that they have looked at implementing a fall break and the academic schedule we follow is based on guidelines from 1990's. The entire document has not come for review before. Other institutions have implemented this and we do not know if they count exam dates as instruction time. An ad hoc working group is being gathered to review the guidelines and an updated document will be brought to CCC in early 2015. Comments from members were that they strongly encouraged a break to be implemented due to the mental health benefits it provides to the students.

6.6. Joint GFC/Board of Governors Event Update

J. Gallais reported that the joint event with the Board will be February 26<sup>th</sup> after the Board meeting starting at 5:00 pm. The International Dinner is that evening and everyone was encouraged to get tickets when they go on sale in January.

6.7. Deadlines

The following was received for information:

Distinguished Teacher Award – February 1, 2015

Speaker Research Medal – February 27, 2015

6.8. GFC Executive Committee Report – December 1, 2014

This report was received for information.

6.9. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – October 27, 2014

The approved minutes were emailed for information.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

A question arose on why GFC does not approve all centres?  
This follows the Research Centres and Institutes Policy.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: gfc.2014.12.17

Loewen/Williams

*That the GFC meeting #497 be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried