



## GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #496

### Approved Minutes

**Monday, October 6, 2014**

**3:00 p.m. in W646**

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

MOTION: gfc.2014.10.01

Loewen/Jurkowski

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

Motion: Carried

#### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: gfc.2014.10.02

Piquette/Kummer

*That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #495 held Monday, September 8, 2014 be approved with the correction of the meeting number.*

Motion: Carried

### 3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Mahon reported:

- Condolences for passing of former Chancellor Robert Hironaka and donor Hazel Penny.
- A Request for Proposal (RFP) has been sent out for a consultant by the Vice-President (Research) Appointment Committee. Once a consultant is selected, the formal search process will begin. Advertisements are scheduled to go out in November.
- Fiat Lux Address given last week is now available, both text and video, on the President's website.
- Lots of work happening with the Destination Project – more to come later in the agenda.
- ULFA ratification is now complete, and congrats to members of ULFA.
- Appointed to Alberta Innovation Council in the summer
- J. Lapadat spoke to Fall 2014 enrolment – as of September 16, there were 8224 students, which is a drop of 166 registrants or two percent decrease over Fall 2013. There is a decrease in new high school and transfer registrations, most notably in the Lethbridge census area. But there were some encouraging numbers: graduate studies applications are up four percent, international student registrations are up 12.9 percent, and FNMI increase over last year. M. Mahon addressed this concern in the *Fiat Lux Address*, and stressed that this is not just a concern of the Registrar's Office, but the responsibility of recruitment and retention falls on us all. No decrease can be dealt with in a minor manner as we do not know if it is the start of a trend.
- Alberta Innovation Council appointment over the summer. Has met the new Minister and will be meeting with the Deputy Minister later this week.
- Market Modifier recommendations will be brought before the Board next week. When presenting this proposition, we will be making the case that the University has an overall tuition disparity and we do not have the professional programs that would traditionally have market modifiers. Students have been presented the information as part of the consultation process. Administration has struggled with this idea because one the UofL's key strategic priority is access.
- New interim FNMI Gathering Place in Paterson Centre is open and all students, faculty and the community are welcome. It is hoped that the permanent location will be within University Hall after the completion of the second phase of the Destination Project.
- Traveled to Mexico on behalf of the University and AUCC.
- Pronghorn Scholarship Breakfast on September 23 – Speaker Brian Burke provided a great message to the students and the community in that they should recognize the tremendous value of having a university in their home town and the value that it brings to the city.
- Senate meeting and orientation on October 4 – welcomed 13 new members.
- Fall Convocation - Honorary Degree Recipient Seamus O'Shea and Alumnus of the Year Lawrence Johnson. M. Mahon encouraged members to participate in the ceremony and show support to our students as they graduate.

#### 4. QUESTION PERIOD

J. Vokey – If we cannot access differential tuition fees, could we not increase base funding?  
M. Mahon noted that administration is looking at that option, but comes down to the same issue of access. He will explore this with the Deputy Minister on Wednesday, and then eventually with the Minister.

J. Nugent – With the issues surrounding temporary foreign workers, many departments are left in limbo. Is there an update on Schedule C? Unanticipated changes were announced in July and K. McInnis explained that post-secondary institutions have been lumped into the same category as fast-food establishments, but they are two totally different processes. Human Resources have been trying to figure out exactly what the government is looking for and have been working on Schedule C. The federal government has indicated that this was an unintended consequence and M. Mahon added that we are hoping to find a workable solution for the short-term. As far as timelines, K. McInnis noted that as this is a Canada-wide issue, labour market opinion can take anywhere from six weeks to four months. The new process requires us to provide rationale as to why all Canadian residents who applied for a job were not chosen, as opposed to just those who were interviewed. Human Resources will be meeting with the deans to explain how this will impact searches.

I. MacLachlan – New Premier, new Minister: what are the implications for the post-secondary sector? M. Mahon met with the would-be premier in the summer, and he seemed very aware of the important role that universities play to the future of Alberta. Our Chancellor served on his campaign and transition team, and she has been providing lots of input. Our new Minister indicated that he is excited that Advanced Education is his new portfolio and has a love of universities. He has indicated that one of his goals is to try and restore some of the resources that were lost.

C. Carnaghan – is there a part of the recruitment strategy which lays out concrete roles in specific faculties? J. Lapadat replied that the members of the Registrar's Office meet with the deans to develop a recruitment plan each year. The plans then go to the Strategic Enrolment Management Committee and Deans' Council. She noted that Open House on the weekend was very successful, with 400 prospective students plus their families on campus.

#### 5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

##### 5.1. GFC Executive Committee Nominations

M. Mahon opened the floor to nominations. The following nominations were received:

Ed Wasiak  
James Dobbie

MOTION: gfc.2014.10.03

Boudreau/Hawkins

*All nominations cease.*

Motion: Carried

There were two vacancies on the GFC Executive Committee so both candidates were acclaimed.

## 5.2. Academic Quality Assurance Policy & Process Revisions

MOTION: gfc.2014.10.04

Boudreau/Elias

*That GFC approves the revision for the External Reviewers process and the “Statement of Non-Conflict for External Reviewers” form for inclusion in the “Academic Quality Assurance Policy & Process (2012 Revision)”, with friendly amendments, effective immediately.*

Motion: Carried

The document being presented is draft 14 from an 18 month long process. Because there appeared to be a range among other institutions, B. Boudreau explained that the length of time noted within the Criteria for External Reviewers was based on an amount of time that the committee felt was reasonable. If it seems that it is starting to exclude or impede on the process, the committee will revisit.

There was further discussion regarding the Statement of Non-Conflict. B. Boudreau indicated that when he sends out an email package to a potential external reviewer, he sends out information regarding conflict and emphasises that this is the time to declare if there is a potential conflict.

As a friendly amendment, a clarification was made on page seven of the agenda package to read “Up to the point of the visit, no other contact with the External Reviewers should be made.”

## 5.3. Admissions Standards Committee – Bylaw Revisions

MOTION: gfc.2014.10.05

Kennedy/Lapadat

*That GFC approves the bylaw revisions for the GFC Admission Standards Committee, effective immediately, with a friendly amendment to make the Assistant Registrar and Manager of Admissions non-voting resource members.*

Motion: Carried

S. Kennedy reported that this item was brought forward to keep up with current practices and Bylaws. There was some discussion on the number and role of *ex-officio* voting members on the committee. J. Dobbie noted that the number of individuals from the Registrar’s Office represented on the committee was

intentional as these are the individuals who deal with admissions on a day-to-day basis.

## **6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

### **6.1. GFC Standing Committee Reports**

J. Gallais reported that annual reports from all GFC Standing Committees have been received and included for information. Each report will then be added to the website for reference.

### **6.2. Destination Project Update**

C. Cooper gave a presentation and noted that we are down to three design options in the pre-design phase. Process-wise, it is hoped that the ground will be broken in the spring of 2016 following the completion of the design phase. M. Mahon added that there are still funding gaps, so there is still lots of work to do. The construction on the new building should be complete in 2019, with the renovations to University Hall complete in 2020-2021.

### **6.3. Academic Plan Update**

B. Boudreau call from academic units has been made and deadline is October 28.

### **6.4. Chancellor Nomination**

J. Gallais informed GFC that the search for our new Chancellor is underway as Shirley McLellan's term concludes in March 2015. The deadline for nominations is October 31, 2014. Senate will consider nominees at their February meeting. New chancellor to be installed at spring convocation.

### **6.5. Honorary Degree Nominations**

J. Gallais reminded GFC of the Honorary Degree Nomination deadline of November 1, 2014. Nomination forms were enclosed within the agenda. Mike noted the combining of the two committees last year and has encouraged each Dean to bring forward a nominee. There have been a few revision to process, most notably the ability to carry forward for up to three years the names of those individuals who have already been approved by Senate to receive an honorary degree. Many other institutions have this process in place, and it allows for greater flexibility, not only for the University, but for the recipients themselves.

### **6.6. Sessional Data**

J. Gallais reported that a question arose in question period last month about the use of sessional instructors at the UofL. Data on sessional instructors has been received from Institutional Analysis and the Provost A. Hakin has not yet had time to go through all the information yet. This item will be brought back to GFC once more concrete numbers can be given.

6.7. GFC Executive Committee Report – September 29, 2014

This was enclosed for information. No questions arose.

6.8. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – September 2, 2014

The minutes were emailed for information.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business at this time.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: gfc.2014.10.06

Vokey/Williams

*That the GFC meeting #496 be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried