



GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #488

Minutes to Committee

Monday, October 7, 2013

3:00 p.m. in W646

- Present:** M. Mahon (Chair), L. Ambedian, T. Babalola, L. Brown, C. Cooper, J. Copeland, J. Dobbie, L. Elias, B. Ellis, S. Glydon, B. Goodwin, A. Hakin, M. Hawkins, M. Helstein, P. Henzi, C. Hollingsworth, C. Horbachewski, C. Hosgood, D. Hunt, L. Jacobs, E. Jurkowski, K. Kalmar, M. Kawchuk, L. Kennedy, C. Kingfisher, J. Lapadat, J. Laurendeau, C. Loewen, P. Loewen, A. Long, I. MacLachlan, C. Malacrida, F. Naeem, C. Nicol, D. O'Donnell, W. Osborn, N. Peters, M. Pijl Zieber, J. Poulsen, A. Siaroff, D. Siminovitch, S. Talbot, J. Usher, P. Visentin, J. Vokey, K. Vos, N. Walker, D. Weeks, M. Wiens, P. Wilson, S. Wismath, R. Wood, J. Youngdahl, W. Yuan
- Regrets:** P. Asaana, G. Bedard, B. Boudreau, Thelma Gunn, K. Haight, L. Hildebrand, B. Lee, M. Lindsay, K. McCallum, N. Piquette, L. Robison-Greene, T. Spagnolo, I. Townshend, R. Yalamova-Usher
- Other:** J. Gallais (recording secretary), L. Corbiere, V. Grisack, S. Sproule, R. Westlund

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.01

Kalmar/Youngdahl

That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #488 held Monday, October 7, 2013 be approved.

Motion: Carried

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.02

Kennedy/Glydon

That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #487 held Monday, September 9, 2013 be approved.

Motion: Carried

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Mahon reported:

- Enrolment - 8,311 an increase of 16.4% in graduate students, and 31% increase in local high school students. Overall picture is stable or a little less, the areas of emphasis high school, graduate and international all those are positive in this competitive landscape.
- Budget process – ULFA contract was approved by them and the Board. AUPE still in grievance so it is an unsettled landscape. We have instituted a hiring restriction not a freeze as there are some positions that are necessary to replace. Thanks to D. Hunt, outgoing registrar, for all of his work. We have to replace some of the faculty positions to maintain programs. The senior leaders held a budget meeting and considered some of the recommendations from the committee reports which have all now been received. A summary of the reports will come out later this week but it will not be in full detail as the reality is that some of the information is confidential in nature as it may relate to positions. We still need to find between \$2.1 and \$2.6 million in cuts. Within 18 months we need to balance our budget and this is a continued challenge. These reductions are just for this year. If we receive another zero increase in the grant, it would mean another budget reduction next year.
- Letter of expectation will be discussed later in the meeting.
- Positive events – Coutts community open house was an outstanding event, the Minister on campus to announce HJ Weiden as Alberta Innovates-Technology Bioengineering Chair, Bruce McNaughton received the 2013 Gill Award, Bryan Kolb receiving the CAFA Distinguished Academic Award for 2013 and Bryan Brooks appointed as Fulbright Canada Visiting Research Chair. We need to continue to celebrate our many positive outcomes.
- Senate meeting was on the weekend and we welcomed new on and off campus members. Senate continues to be of support and are willing to engage the government as needed.
- Also successful was the campus open house. Many faculty and staff were there and Mike thanked all academic and non-academic departments present. It was great to see many people there on a Saturday doing this important work. A Board member's daughter was there and she was very excited to have applied.
- Volunteer Lethbridge partnership – They will move into the 2nd floor of Penny building and will help support us by providing a staffed reception area at the entry to welcome in community members. It will also serve as hub for volunteer opportunities for faculty, students and staff.
- Fiat Lux Address on Thursday will be a budget update, as well as to celebrate our accomplishments and talk of where we are headed in the future.
- *Post-Secondary Learning Act* (PSLA) – The Government is opening the act up. It is supposed to be opened up this fall. Working groups have been created and each sector has a rep with Elizabeth Cannon from the UofC being ours for the CARI sector. We do not know what is being considered yet and if we have an opportunity for consultation on campus, we will indeed do so. We will be pushing for public consultation but we do not know yet if the government will limit the process.

- Draft Strategic Plan from the planning committee was forwarded to all departments, faculties and units on campus for further input and feedback with an eye for it to come in November to GFC and the Board in December.
- Mike had lunch with the governor of Montana and discussed his interest in engaging in a Montana/Alberta partnership from a post-secondary perspective and it is worthy to consider while there is such an enthusiastic governor.

Question Period:

A. Siaroff – With a budget deficit - does this factor in the necessary hiring we spoke about or are we keeping that in mind? The answer from M. Mahon is that it is a work in progress. A. Siaroff noted with the \$2 million left to find, are the position savings factored in to that amount or do we still need to find the money? N. Walker indicated we have not taken off the positions as this is just 13/14 year and is not the one coming up so we are still in a deficit situation. We have not factored in if people leave and are not being filled.

I. MacLachlan - amazed at the open house and how many colleagues were there on Saturday morning. There were times when there were not too many students and faculty cost time. So maybe they want to shorten the time where faculties are available? Mike stated that there is always room to improve so we will pass that input along.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1.GFC Membership Update-Interim Dean of Internationalization

A. Hakin indicated that on Sept. 9th, a question was presented to GFC regarding the interim Dean of Internationalization. That item was referred to GFC Executive for further discussion and that has happened. This position was under GFC as a director of extension or officer with comparable functions – they were not a dean of a faculty and there was a discussion on this and the decision was made to remove that position as an ex-officio member of GFC.

5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1.Approval of Remaining Appointed GFC Members

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.03

Hakin/Laurendeau

That GFC approves the appointed members below:

Lisa Hildebrand Student (Arts and Science) April 30, 2014

Miller Wiens Student (Health Sciences) April 30, 2014

Mark Pijl Zieber Health Sciences June 30, 2015

Kathy Haight Health Sciences June 30, 2015

Motion: Carried

5.2.GFC Executive Committee Nominations

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.04

Hakin/

Open the floor to nominations.

Motion: Carried

The following nominations were received from the floor:

Alan Siaroff for 2 year term

Shelly Wismath for 2 year term

Ken Vos for a 1 year term

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.05

Nicol/Jurkowski

All nominations cease.

Motion: Carried

There were three vacancies and three nominations so all were acclaimed.

5.3.GFC Nomination Committee

5.3.1. President's Advisory Committee on Personal Security

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.06

Kennedy/Nicol

That GFC approve John Sheriff as the representative on the President's Advisory Committee on Personal Security for a term beginning immediately and ending on June 30, 2015.

Motion: Carried

5.3.2. Registrar Appointment Committee

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.07

Kennedy/

That GFC approve the appointment of John Sheriff to the Registrar Appointment Committee.

No nominations were received from the floor

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.08

Hakin/Laurendeau

All nominations cease.

Motion: Carried

5.4. Blackfoot and First Nations Metis and Inuit Protocol Handbook

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.09

Lapadat/Talbot

That GFC approve the Blackfoot and First Nations Metis and Inuit Protocol Handbook.

Motion: Carried

J. Lapadat stated that the protocol handbook was developed through the Interim Director, FNMI Centre in collaboration with the President's Office. The handbook went for approval to the Aboriginal Education Committee and then to the Convocation Committee. It helps address bringing Elders to campus and proper protocols to carry out.

It was asked, procedurally, who is responsible for this? This resides with the Aboriginal Education Committee which is a committee of GFC. It was discussed and approved at that committee so they are responsible for the implementation.

5.5. Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report

5.5.1 Curriculum Coordination Committee Report 1

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.10

Hosgood/Kalmar

Recommendation #1

That General Faculties Council approve the restructuring of Part 10 of the Calendar.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.11

Hosgood/Jurkowski

Recommendation #2

That General Faculties Council approve the changes to the Standards of Professional Conduct section in Part 10 of the Calendar

Motion: Carried

They are not dropping standards just referring to the website

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.12

Hosgood/Ambedian

Recommendation #3

That General Faculties Council approve the relocation of the General Requirements sections for each major to a single section at the beginning of the Bachelor of Health Sciences section.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.13

Hosgood/Ambedian

Recommendation #4

That General Faculties Council approve the removal of all Health Sciences undergraduate-level Topics and Independent Study course listings from Part 14 (Courses).

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.14

Hosgood/Ambedian

Recommendation #5

That General Faculties Council approve the removal of the Addictions Counselling (ADCS) category from the Course Subjects Abbreviations list.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.15

Hosgood/Glydon

Recommendation #6

That General Faculties Council approve the changes to the Addictions Counselling Major.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.16

Hosgood/Long

Recommendation #7

That General Faculties Council approve the changes to the Post-Diploma B.H.Sc. program.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.17

Hosgood/Glydon

Recommendation #8

That General Faculties Council approve the changes to the B.H.Sc./B.Mgt. program requirements.

Motion: Carried

5.5.2 Curriculum Coordination Committee Report 2

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.18

Ellis/Kalmar

Recommendation #1

That General Faculties Council approve the three-year suspension of majors and minors in Information Systems for the B.A./B.Mgt. and B.Sc./B.Mgt., pending Ministerial program approval.

Motion: Carried

In the spring, this major was suspended and this is follow up from the ministerial approval. A question was raised regarding if there is any connection in the decision to suspend the major and the outcome of the program review? The major factor were the cuts in our operating grant and the fact that two faculty members took the voluntary retirement package

in that program. Discussion occurred around the topics of the suspension time frame, program reduction due to the voluntary retirement program and renewal of suspended programs.

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.19

Ellis/Cooper

Recommendation #2

That General Faculties Council approve the suspension of minors streams in German for the B.A./B.Mgt. and B.Sc./B.Mgt., pending Ministerial program approval.

Motion: Carried

C. Cooper stated that the fact that German was suspended means the minors in that program cannot be run. There was much discussion around the fact that there had been 2 retirements and 1 resignation in the German department. Various suggestions were made to look at other funding – perhaps from the German Government and maybe partnering with other Post-Secondary institutions to offer some of the languages that we don't have at our university

5.6. GFC Bylaw Revision – GFC Honorary Degree Committee

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.20

Weeks/Helstein

That GFC dissolve the GFC Honorary Degree Standing Committee with the provisions that approval of the Senate Honorary Degree Committee composition and powers and duty changes occur through the Senate.

Motion: Carried (2/3 – amended) (1 abstained)

There have been outstanding candidates in the last couple of years but not a lot of them. Since the two entities work independently to solicit nominations and only one of the bodies makes the final decision, this will streamline the process. It will provide GFC with a greater opportunity to provide counsel with the types of individuals selected.

The question was asked if there was a rush in doing this. M. Mahon indicated that Senate has discussed this as a possible change and they did not want to pass this yet as they wanted GFC to discuss it first. If it is passed soon, it would allow us to use the new process this year. If this is the direction GFC wants to go, then the Senate will schedule this for approval to go forth with these changes. This change will create a good balance on the committee between GFC members and Senate members and students. The Senate was concerned about the process and wanted to ensure that there is a good cross section of nominations. Concern was voiced that the number of academic staff members will go down but this actually increases the number of academics on the final decision making committee.

5.7. GFC Bylaw Revision – GFC Student Awards Committee Membership

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.21

Hakin/Lapadat

That GFC add the Vice-President (Advancement) or designate, as an ex-officio voting member to the GFC Student Awards Committee.

Motion: Carried (2/3 – amended)

A. Hakin indicated that one of our goals is to try move more student awards to be funded in the broader community. The VP Advancement on the committee creates an important interface between those who can attract funding and those awarding the funding. We are limited if we create an award with too many restrictions because it is then money in limbo. So connections between Advancement and Scholarships and Awards is an essential piece where there needs to be excellent communication.

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

6.1. GFC Standing Committee Reports

J. Gallais indicated all reports were received for information and will be posted on the website. Question arose on the flag project, and it was indicated that Convocation was going to replace flags but in a reduced budget year, this was decided against.

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

7.1. Letter of Expectation (LOE)

A. Hakin provided an overview on how we got to where we are today with this letter. There was careful work done by the 26 presidents to engage the Minister and they managed to obtain a position where the LOE was less of a directive and more of a consultative process. The timelines were increased by which a document could be formed, as well as the level of consultations of various groups. There are a series of outcomes that include the system, the sector and the institution. This document is here for information today. The process by which this document evolved has been dictated by outside of the institution and at all times, the Ministry needs to be comfortable with this. This letter has been sent to the Ministry and we are lead to believe there are no major issues with what we will be submitting, except the removal of the appendixes.

Significant discussion occurred around the letter and feedback will be provided to the Board of Governors around the discussion that occurred at GFC. Specific suggestions within the government responsibility were given on providing adequate operating funding and more

emphasis needed on the value of education and the government fostering a post-secondary system that will thrive.

A. Hakin indicated we are still not sure how this document will be used and if it trumps our mandate statement. We have tried to use words from other documents that have real significance. Has this LOE been a good thing? It has forced us to come together in a way we haven't done in the past. There was a unified sense of purpose across the 26 institutions.

Thank you was given to those involved.

7.2.GFC Executive Committee Minutes – September 3, 2013

Sent by email for information.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: gfc.2013.10.22

Kalmar/Jurkowski

That the GFC meeting #488 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried