

**MINUTES OF MEETING #458 OF THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL HELD**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010 AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM, W646**

Present: Bill Cade, Pamela Adams, Ken Allan, Kerry Bernes, René Boéré, Bob Boudreau, Cheryl Calver, Dayna Daniels, Christopher Epplett, Jo-Anne Fiske, Inge Genée, Andrew Hakin, Allan Hall, Chris Horbachewski, Chris Hosgood, Dan Kazakoff, Shahadat Hossain, Leslie Lavers, Dan Le Roy, Cole Lehto, Murray Lindsay, Pam Loewen, Ian MacLachlan, Alex Massé, Cheryl Meheden, Zack Moline, Craig Monk, Christopher Nicol, Victor Rodych, Nicole Rosen, Alan Siaroff, Will Smith, Rory Tarant, Lesley Terry, John Vokey, Amy von Heyking, Nancy Walker, Dan Weeks, Bernadine Wojtowicz, Robert Wood, Jane O'Dea, Ebenezer Asem, Elizabeth Schultz, Glenna Westwood

Others: Richard Westlund, Brian Parkinson, Rita Law, Shelley Pierson (secretary)

Regrets: Shamsul Alam, Mike Basil, Bryson Brown, Silvana Campus, Karen Clearwater, Tyrell DaSilva, James Dobbie, Luis Escobar, Nicole Eva, Jeremy Girard, Mary Kavanagh, Lynn Kennedy, Craig Loewen, Don MacDonald, Jackie Rice, Alison Nussbaumer, Tracy Oosterbroek, Michael Persinger, Desmond Rochfort, Jessica Schultchen, Aaron Taylor

**458.1      APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION:

Siaroff/Smith                      That the GFC Agenda for meeting #458 be approved as circulated.

Motion: Carried

**458.2      APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION:

Kazakoff/Moline                      That the Minutes of meeting #457 be approved as circulated by email.

Motion: Carried

**458.3      ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no items arising from the minutes.

#### **458.4      PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

##### **458.4.1      Upcoming Campus Events**

The President informed GFC of upcoming important dates:  
September 24, 2010 is the official opening for Markin Hall.  
October 15, 2010 is the installation of the President-designate.  
October 16, 2010 is Convocation.

February 25, 2010 is the Daycare official opening. The Daycare is now fully operationally and is at capacity. Congratulations were extended to Loralee Edwards and Nancy Walker for their hard work on this project.

##### **458.4.2      15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Campus Chaplaincy**

The 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Chaplaincy was marked January 31, 2010 with a service at McKillop United Church. Erin Phillips, the University of Lethbridge Chaplain, participated in the service. Bill Cade remarked that it is important that the universities and colleges students be served by the secular community.

##### **458.4.3      Assistant Vice-President (Research)**

Dan Weeks spoke about the recent appointment of the Assistant Vice-President (Research). He reported that there was a review of Research Services done prior to him becoming the Vice-President (Research). The review identified a need for Director of Research Services to address the overall management of projects. The need for an interface between Research Services and Financial Services was also identified along with the need for management of government and agency reporting functions. During the search for the Director of Research, a number of interesting candidates were found but there was no perfect match of skills and salary expectations were higher than anticipated. In view of these difficulties, The Director position was eliminated, there was some staff reorganization in Research Services, and the temporary 18-month position of Assistant Vice-President (Research) was created. It was necessary to make these adjustments quickly in order to be able to address issues identified in the review report, develop the institutional research plan, work with the human ethics review committee, animal care matters, and on centres and institutes policies. Dan Weeks noted that the Assistant Vice-President (Research) will maintain a significant teaching role.

##### **458.4.4      Possible Support Staff Reductions**

Dean Nicol spoke about the possible reorganization and support staff reductions in Arts and Science due to budget considerations. He felt it was important to inform staff who may be affected and those preliminary conversations took place Thursday and Friday. This has not been considered by the University Budget Committee but has not been approved by that body. Any reductions will not be finalized until after the Provincial Government budget announcement. It is hoped that some of the reductions can be avoided through attrition and retirements. The final outcome will depend on several factors, including the Provincial budget, the reorganization structure, and individuals' decisions. The goal is to maintain

services in all areas. Chris Nicol will be meeting with Department Chairs this week to coordinate possible changes and to seek their advice towards an improved organization structure. Abolishing a set of positions and creating a new set is being considered. Further meetings will be scheduled with other administrative support staff. Nancy Walker reported that there were 42 applications for the recently offered voluntary retirement program; 1/3 are faculty and the remainder are support staff and APOs. Those retirements will be effective between May 2010 to December 2011. Nancy Walker noted that there are some very senior people on the support side who have applied to the program. Dean Nicol has extended an open invitation to Faculty and Staff that he will attend meetings to speak to this issue.

#### 358.4.5 Tuition Increase

The President reported that the Board of Governor's has approved a tuition increase of 1.5% for the 2010-11 academic year. No additional increases are being contemplated at this time. The University of Calgary and University of Alberta have proposed differential fees for some professional programs. University tuition was frozen for three years, which dropped the U of L tuition below other Alberta universities. Legislation allows tuition to increase by the annual Consumer Price Index, which means the U of L falls further behind every year. A proposal has been sent to Advanced Education and Technology suggesting how the U of L might catch up over time.

Alex Massé reported a rally is planned for February 2, 2010 with the primary message being to Government to invest more heavily in post-secondary education.

Leslie Lavers reported that the University of Calgary Provost was interviewed on CBC regarding lights-on funding for new buildings at the University of Calgary. The University of Lethbridge has applied for lights-on funding for Markin Hall and the Penny Building but has not received confirmation from Government. Andrew Hakin remarked that it has been past practice for post-secondary institutions to be treated the same for the allocation of Government operating grants. It appears that now there may be differential treatment for those universities who have increased access.

### 458.5 **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

#### 458.5.1 Appointment of Graduate Students to GFC Committees

MOTION:

Fiske/Daniels

That the GFC appoints the Graduate Students to the GFC Committees as listed in the agenda materials.

Motion: Carried.

It was explained that in future, Graduate students will be named to committees for terms effective September 1, which is the usual cycle. These appointments are out of sequence due to the recent changes in GFC Bylaws that added Graduate students to committees.

458.5.2 GFC Appointment to University Budget Committee

The Executive Committee of the GFC held an email vote to nominate Dr. Robert Wood to the University Budget Committee. Nominations were called from the floor. No nominations were forthcoming.

MOTION:

MacLachlan/Vokey                      That nominations from the floor cease.

Motion: Carried

Dr. Robert Wood was acclaimed as the GFC appointment to the Budget Committee.

**458.6                      ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**458.6.1                      GFC and Executive Committee Meeting Schedule**

This schedule was received for review.

**458.6.2                      Executive Committee Minutes Meeting #425 January 18, 2010**

These minutes were received for review.

**458.6.3                      Executive Committee Minutes of January 13, 2010 Email vote**

These minutes were received for review.

**458.6.4                      Appointment of Glenna Westwood to GFC Library Committee January 2010 to September 2011 replacing Leona Jacobs.**

The appointment of Glenna Westwood to GFC Library Committee documents were submitted for review.

Andrew Hakin will be meeting with the GFC Library Committee to talk about a Library Council similar to an academic council. It was pointed out that there is no provision in the *Post-secondary Learning Act* for a Library Council. The Terms of Reference for the Library Council, which were included in the Agenda materials, are a draft and have no standing. The request was made that if a Library Council is formed, consideration be given to Graduate Student participation.

Dan Weeks noted that the role of the Library will be included in the Institutional Research Plan.

**458.7      OTHER BUSINESS**

It was pointed out that the GFC web site needs to be updated. The GFC Secretary will work on bringing the site up to date.

**458.8      ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION:

Siaroff/Lehto

That the February 1, 2010 meeting of the General Faculties Council be adjourned.

Motion: Carried.