

**MINUTES OF MEETING #459 OF THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL HELD
MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010 AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM, W646**

Present: Bill Cade, Andrew Hakin, Nancy Walker, Dan Weeks, Chris Horbachewski, Christopher Nicol, Jane O'Dea, Desmond Rochfort, Chris Hosgood, Jo-Anne Fiske, Leslie Lavers, Elizabeth Schultz, Victor Rodych, Ian MacLachlan, Craig Monk, Cheryl Calver, Christopher Epplett, Alan Siaroff, Dan Le Roy, John Vokey, Amy von Heyking, Kerry Bernes, Ebenezer Asem, Mike Basil, Luis Escobar, Dan Kazakoff, Will Smith, Alex Massé, Lesley Terry, Shahadat Hossain, Shamsul Alam, Cheryl Meheden, Pam Loewen, Bryson Brown, Bob Boudreau

Regrets: René Boéré, Alison Nussbaumer, Jeremy Girard, Pamela Adams, Ken Allen, Silvana Campus, Karen Clearwater, Dayna Daniels, Tyrell Dasilva, James Dobbie, Nicole Eva, Inge Genée, Allan Hall, Mary Kavanagh, Lynn Kennedy, Cole Lehto, Murray Lindsay, Don MacDonald, Zack Moline, Tracy Oosterbroek, Michael Persinger, Jackie Rice, Nicole Rosen, Jessica Schultchen, Rory Tarant, Aaron Taylor, Bernadine Wojtowicz, Robert Wood

Others: Glenna Westwood, Rita Law, Shelley Pierson (Recording Secretary)

459.1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:

Rochfort/Calver That the Agenda for meeting #469 be approved.

Motion: Carried

459.2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION:

Smith/Vokey That the Minutes of meeting #458 be approved with corrections.

Motion: Carried

Corrections are:

458.4.4 – The goal is to maintain services in all areas becomes - The goal is to maintain services in all areas and to improve services in lesser served areas.

Dean Nicol has extended an open invitation to Faculty and Staff that he will attend meetings to speak to this issue becomes - Dean Nicol has

extended an open invitation to Faculty and Staff that he will attend meetings to speak to these issues.

459.3 ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from minutes.

462.4 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President reported that little has changed for the University budget from what was reported at the Town Hall Meeting. There has been a series of meetings and telephone conversations with the Provost, Vice-President Finance and Administration and senior officials of Advanced Education and Technology. The Board of Governors has discussed budget reductions and have collectively agreed that everything possible should be done to secure lights-on funding for Markin Hall since that is a yearly continuing cost. The University is looking at a \$2.5 million reduction between grants and Enrolment Planning Envelope (EPE) lost funds.. With all anticipated increases in expenditures the University will face a \$9 million budget shortfall. A balanced budget has to be presented to Board and Government. A preliminary budget is normally presented to the Board in February with the final budget presented for approval in March. This will not be the case this year due to the delay in getting the information on the funding from the Province.

Dr. Hakin reported on budget discussions at the Western Canada Vice-Presidents meeting. Budgets from Manitoba to B.C. are much same. The picture across Canada is much same with most institutions seeing reductions in revenue.

At the University of Lethbridge, the workforce has been reduced by 10%. There are 48 unfilled positions and 43 early retirements applications were accepted. At the moment there have been 9 layoffs in Facilities.

A member asked if out-placement services (counseling, etc) are provided and it was confirmed that there is a program in place. It was suggested that since this is an ongoing issue, the University should consider a broader approach. It was explained that the University is looking at changes to lessen the impact. In 1993-94, the organization dealt with similar budget effects and experience shows that things will get better with time.

The recent Federal Budget announcement has some good news for research at the University. Alex Massé reported that the newly elected President of the student body is Taz Kassam. She will take office May 1. Several other positions were filled in the election but unfortunately more than half of the positions went unfilled and two executive positions were uncontested. The Students' Union will hold a by-election shortly and work is being done to reach out to more students. Dr. Cade stated how important it is to fill the Board of Governors position.

The Official Opening of the Day Care Centre on February 25, 2010 went very well. The Board of Governors held a meeting there before the opening. The President remarked that it is a fine facility.

Tonight is the Pronghorn Booster Club's 16th Annual Dinner and Auction in support of University of Lethbridge Athletics. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. at the Students Union ballrooms.

Friday, March 19, 2010 is the Faculty of Management's 2010 Scholarship Dinner. The honoree this year is R. Philip (Phil) M. North, Q.C.

There are between 5,000 and 6,000 Alumni of the University of Lethbridge in Calgary. Chris Horbachewski reported that Calgary Alumni approached the University about having a dinner in Calgary. The first Annual Calgary Alumni and Friends Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 14, 2010. The guest speaker will be Mike Babcock. Mike is a former University Pronghorn Men's Hockey Head Coach who led the team in 1994 when they won the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union championship. He was the coach of the 2010 Canadian Men's Olympic gold medal winning Hockey team and is currently the NHL Detroit Red Wings coach.

456.5 ITEMS FOR ACTION

456.5.1 Chancellor Nomination Joint Committee

The Nomination Committee requires 3 members of the General Faculties Council appointed by the General Faculties Council.

MOTION:

Massey/Vokey	That the General Faculties Council (GFC) appoints Chris Epplett, Inge Genee and Nicole Eva to the Chancellor Nomination Joint Committee.
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Motion: Carried

The *Post-Secondary Learning Act* identifies the positions needed to make up the committee, membership, which includes 3 members of GFC appointed by the GFC. The GFC Executive Committee submitted four names and an election was held by ballot. Dr. Cade gave a brief overview of the Chancellor's duties and term of office as well as expressing how important the position of Chancellor is to the operation of the University. Rita Law and Shelley Pierson acted as scrutineers.

Dr. Cade explained Sheena Olson, Secretary to the Senate, would be in touch with those elected to the committee..

456.5.2. Review and Approval of University of Lethbridge Mandate Statement

MOTION:

Hakin/Rochfort That the General Faculties Council (GFC) forward the Mandate Statement for approval of the Board of Governors with revisions asked for by the GFC.

Motion: Carried

Dr. Hakin provided information on the creation of the Mandate including the Advanced Education & Technology department's criteria. The contents of the Mandate Statement was presented and explained.

The GFC members discussed the Mandate Statement, and some changes were suggested such as the placement of paragraphs, tying teaching and research together more forcefully, include a campus sustainability focus, and feature the library more prominently. Dr. Hakin and Paul Sparrow-Clarke will incorporate the changes before the document is presented to the Board of Governors.

459.6 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

456.6.1 Final Exam Scheduling – Christopher Epplett

The issue of final exam scheduling has been ongoing for many years. Chris Epplett's concern pertains to first year students' exams that require essay components, and therefore take longer to mark. The difficulty arises when these exams are scheduled late in the exam schedule since there is not enough time to mark them before the deadline for grade submission.

Leslie Lavers gave a brief background of the current Exam Scheduling Policy and said a committee has been working with a new Exam Scheduling Policy. Dr. Hakin would like the GFC members to direct the creation of a revised policy. Deans' Council will reconsider the Exam Scheduling Policy and it will be brought back to GFC.

459.7 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

459.7.1 Honorary Degrees Advisory – Request to Senate

Dr. Cade provided background information on the letter the Honorary Degrees Advisory Committee has sent to Senate. He impressed upon

the group the importance of the committee. The concerns raised in the letter will be handled as an administrative matter.

459.7.2 Minutes of March 1, 2010 Executive Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the March 1, 2010 GFC Executive Committee meeting were received for information.

459.8 OTHER BUSINESS

Trevor Woods, Executive Director of Information Technology has resigned. He will be moving to the University of Alberta. This is a key position on campus that is expected to take two to three months to fill.

459.9 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Le Roy/MacLachlan	That the March 8, 2010 meeting of the General Faculties Council be adjourned.
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Motion: Carried