

MINUTES OF A MEETING #427 OF THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL HELD ON  
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2005 AT 3:00 PM. IN THE BOARDROOM, W646

Present: Bill Cade (Chair), Andrew Hakin, Cheryl Calver, Chris Epplert, Chris Hosgood, Christopher Nicol, David Clearwater, Diana Young, Gordon Hunter, Hiroshi Shimazaki, Inge Genee, Jan Newberry, Jane O'Dea, Jennifer Mather, Jim Thomas, Karen Clearwater, Kirsten Bremer, Locke Spencer, Lynn Basford, Marinus Swanepoel, Nancy Grigg, Nancy Walker, Peter Alward, Peter McCormick, Rae Hazelwood, Seamus O'Shea, Shamsul Alam, Stephen Higham, Tom Johnston, Toni Nelson, Kendra Armstrong (Secretary)

Regrets: Catherine Kingfisher, Dagmar Dahle, Elizabeth Oskam, Jean Groft, Kelly Andres, Leslie Lavers, Lorelee Edwards, Nafisa Jadavji, Pamela Winsor, Wilf Roesler

4078.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:

Grigg/Hakin

That the Agenda for Meeting #427 be approved as circulated.

Motion: Carried

4079.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION:

Hosgood/Thomas

That the Minutes of Meeting #426, February 7, 2005 be approved as circulated.

Motion: Carried

4080.0 ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4081.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

4081.1 Presentation to Standing Policy Committee

A presentation was recently made by all four Alberta Universities to the Standing Policy Committee. The meeting was constructive, with plenty of time for questions and answers by the Ministers and MLA's. There was discussion regarding the contents of Bill 1, as well as some talk about the possibility of Mount Royal becoming a university.

David Hancock, Minister of Advanced Education will make this decision by May. Bill Cade assured the members of GFC that regardless of the decision that is made, the University of Lethbridge can take satisfaction in knowing that we voiced our concerns and remained constant in our stand.

4081.2 Speech from the Throne

The Speech from the Throne took place in legislation on March 2, 2005. All Alberta University and Colleges were in attendance, with Bill Cade and Robert Turner representing the University of Lethbridge. Although not a lot of detail was given, reference was given to plans for the post-secondary system, such as added spaces, a new tuition policy, \$3 Billion endowment fund, and the Lois Hole Humanities and Social Sciences Scholarship.

4081.3 Lynn Kennedy

Lynn Kennedy of the History Department has received the Lerner-Scott prize, from the Organization of American Historians for her dissertation on the Narratives of Childbirth and Motherhood in the Antebellum South.

4081.4 Integrated Management Experience Program (IME)

The Faculty of Management and one of its key student-focused programs, the Integrated Management Experience Program, will receive \$230,000 from RBC Financial Group through its charitable foundation. The funds will be used to support a planned program expansion.

4081.5 U of L Wind Orchestra

The University of Lethbridge Wind Orchestra will be performing in a joint concert with the Eastern Washington University Wind Ensemble and the University of British Columbia Symphonic Wind Ensemble at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts in Vancouver.

4082.0 ITEMS FOR ACTION

4082.1 GFC Appointment to Personal Security Committee

4082.1.1 MOTION:

Genee/Epplert	That nominations cease.
	Motion: Carried
	Maria Ng was acclaimed.

4082.2 Appointment to Convocation Committee

4082.2.1 MOTION:

Nelson/McCormick	That John Gill be appointed to the Convocation Committee.
	Motion: Carried

4082.3 Arts & Science Faculty Council Report (Recommendation #1)

4082.3.1 MOTION:

O'Shea/Grigg That General Faculties Council approve the proposal for a GFC Academic Computing Committee.

Motion: Tabled

Postponed to give time for consultation between Calvin Barnes, Director of Information Technology and the Deans. To report back to GFC at a later date.

Some concerns with this proposal were:

- the terms of reference for this committee primarily focuses on numerical computation, which most faculty don't deal with, and for those that do there is already things in place for this.
- the composition of the committee should include the VP Finance and Administration.
- having a member of Humanities or Fine Arts does not seem appropriate as these two departments deal with very different issues of their own.
- such a large committee adds to the workload of faculty and staff.
- perhaps this is an issue that could be better dealt with through a Steering Committee.

4082.4 Arts & Science Faculty Council Report (Recommendation #2)

4082.4.1 MOTION:

Hosgood/Thomas That Arts and Science Council recommend to General Faculties Council, that the official student transcripts of the University of Lethbridge be modified to include the class average (or median) grade and the class size, as well as the final grade received in each course, effective September, 2005.

Motion: Tabled

It was decided that they may need to strike an Ad Hoc Committee to better deal with this issue. Deans Council will discuss the composition and terms of the committee, and then bring forward to GFC at a later date.

Some concerns with this recommendation were:

- need to look at the grading policy first.
- effects this could have on grad students who typically have small class sizes.
- issues with Sessionals and their grading curves.
- concern with the demand this puts on students.
- if not done properly, this could hinder our students more than help them.

4083.0 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

4083.1 Draft Report of University Budget Committee  
2005-06 to 2008-09 University Budget

Karen Clearwater highlighted key points in this years budget report:

- Presenting a four-year budget, rather than 3-year budget, as required by Advanced Education.
- For the first time in over ten years, the University is not having to make reductions for 05-06 and 06-07.
- With regards to the assumptions used in the budget, we have shown a 2% increase in the grant for the four-year period.
- Tuition fees have been increased at the maximum level allowed by Advanced Education.
- Two unit reviews were completed this year. Financial Planning reviewed the International Centre for Students, and an external review was conducted on the Athletics program.
- Funds have been provided to set up an office for students with disabilities.
- Native Student advising office being funded on a continuing basis.
- Issues being dealt with are replacement of capital within units and space issues.

4083.2 GFC Executive Committee Minutes of Meeting #397, February 28, 2005

The GFC Executive Committee Minutes of Meeting #397, February 28, 2005 were received as information.

4084.0 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

There was no items for discussion.

4085.0 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

4086.0 ADJOURNMENT

4086.1 MOTION:

Mather/Spencer

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion: Carried

4087.0 QUESTION PERIOD

The question period was not minuted.