

MINUTES OF A MEETING #415 OF THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL HELD ON

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2003 AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE BOARDROOM, W646

Present: Seamus O'Shea (Acting Chair), Bill Cade, Nancy Walker, Christopher Nicol, John Usher, Jane O'Dea, Lynn Basford, Shamsul Alam, Marinus Swanepoel, Leslie Lavers, Kris Magnusson, Kas Mazurek, Pamela Winsor, Cheryl Calver, Jennifer Mather, Peter McCormick, Jim Thomas, Chris Epplett, Tom Johnston, Catherine Kingfisher, Joy Morris, Rene Barendregt, Pat Hodd, Angela Downey, Leslie Dawn, Robert Williams, Jerrad Kubik, Rex Forsyth, Dan O'Donnell, Will Smith, Rae Hazelwood, Zoltan Daroczi, Debra Basil, Bryson Brown, Dennis Fitzpatrick, Preston Williams, Gorm Hansen, Mark Tymchyna, Scott McIntyre, Jenn Peachey, Jennilee Jamison, Marc Slingerland, Andrew Hewitt, Jen Rogan, M. Schwartz (Secretary)

Regrets: Ches Skinner, Dayna Daniels, Paul Daniels, Ian McAdam, Diana Young

Seamus O'Shea announced that he will chair the meeting until the arrival of President Bill Cade who is at City Council Those in attendance introduced themselves.

3958.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3958.1 MOTION:

McCormick/O'Dea That the Agenda for Meeting #415 be approved as circulated.

MOTION: CARRIED.

3959.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3959.1 MOTION:

Alam/Hodd That the Minutes of Meeting #414, June 2, 2003 be approved as circulated.

MOTION: CARRIED

3960.0 ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Tom Johnston reported that the Computer Use Policy is still in draft format and will be at a future meeting of GFC.

3961.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

3961.1 Associate Vice President (Research)

Dennis Fitzpatrick has been reappointed as Associate Vice President (Research)

3961.2 Student Enrolment/Staff Appointments

As of September 8, 2003 the University has an enrolment of 7,367 students. International students has met their 7% quota. There are approximately 50 new faculty appointments. Esther Healy has been appointed the new Native Student Advisor. She has been asked to join GFC in October.

3961.3 New Residences

98 new units were opened on time. The site services are installed for up to 600 residences.

3961.4 Bill 43

In May the Minister introduced Bill 43. A significant change was the legislation that will encompass universities, all colleges and technical institutes under one Act. It will also cover private licensed colleges.

Serious concerns identified are:

1. Fee legislation moved out and into regulation.
2. Regulations on human body research and land purpose development do not meet the standards currently in place.
3. Campus Alberta Board on Accreditation – main role is to decide which colleges are empowered to offer degrees. The Minister will not convert colleges to Universities but will limit licensing on certain degrees to certain colleges. The Board received information directly from the Minister's Office therefore there were concerns about its autonomy.

These concerns were voiced by those in attendance.

3961.5 Alcohol Use Policy

Regulations surrounding the serving of alcohol on campus have changed. To serve alcohol needs prior approval and an authorized pourer.

3961.6 Career Fair

Career Fair will be on October 1.

3961.7 Funding

The Minister announced that the University will receive one time funding in the Niitsitapi Program. This program will integrate and emphasize Blackfoot culture, traditions and knowledge. The first phase of the initiative involves the admission of a one-time additional cohort of 12 Aboriginal students across all teaching majors to the regular, on campus program this Fall. The second phase of the initiative will involve the admission of a one-time additional cohort of 24 First Nations students to a specialized, culturally-sensitive Blackfoot teacher education program developed over 2003-2004 and beginning in Fall 2004.

3961.8 Video Conferencing

After eight years the Universities are now able to have video conferencing with academic people around the world. It will be used entirely for academic purposes. Only Universities and academic research places will have access.

3961.9 Strategic Planning Process

The general outline of the strategic plan has been approved. The President is about to ask the Committee to reconvene with the objective to interact with individual units for implementation of the objectives. The Minister had announced that advanced education is needed in Alberta. Dr. O'Shea made it clear that the University will need to look at enrolment growth as well as operating money and space.

Dr. O'Shea provided members with a presentation identifying growth of the Institution. Four buildings have been identified: Environment and Water Science building; Wellness Center; Center for Leadership and Change; Art Gallery

The University has an obligation to: CRHA, City of Lethbridge, Community at Large and the University Community.

The concern will be can the University grow and what kind of budget and staffing plan will need to be in place.

3962.0 ITEMS FOR ACTION

3962.1 Approval of Appointed Faculty and Student Appointments to GFC

3962.1.1 MOTION:

Mather/McCormick That General Faculties Council approve the appointed Faculty and Students as attached to the Agenda.

MOTION: CARRIED

3962.2 2003/04 Faculty and Student Appointments to GFC Committees

3962.2.1 MOTION:

Alam/Downey That nominations cease.

MOTION: CARRIED

The names as attached to the Agenda were approved.

3962.3 2003/04 GFC Member Appointments to GFC Executive Committee

3962.3.1 MOTION:

Johnston/Mather That nominations cease.

MOTION: CARRIED

Catherine Kingfisher was acclaimed.

3962.4 Management Faculty Council Report

3962.4.1 MOTION

Usher/McIntyre That the Management Faculty Report be approved as attached to the agenda.

MOTION: CARRIED

3962.5 GFC Convocation Committee Report

3962.5.1 MOTION:

Lavers/Magnusson That the Spring 2004 Convocation Ceremonies be moved from May 28 and May 29, 2005 to the following:

Wednesday, June 2, 2004 – 10:00 am and 2:00 pm

Thursday, June 3, 2004 – 10:00 am and 2:00 pm

Friday, June 4, 2004 – 10:00 am

MOTION: CARRIED

3962.5.2 MOTION:

Lavers/Mazurek That Spring Convocations be scheduled in the week following the week of the Victoria Day long weekend.

MOTION: CARRIED

3962.6.1 GFC Welfare Committee Policy

3962.6.1 MOTION:

O'Shea/McIntyre That the Animal Welfare Committee Policy be approved as attached to the Agenda.

MOTION: CARRIED

3963.0 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

3963.1 GFC Committee Reports

The GFC Committee Reports were received as information.

3963.2 GFC Executive Committee Minutes of Meeting #383, August 25, 2003

The GFC Executive Committee Minutes of Meeting #383, August 25, 2003 was received as information.

3964.0 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

3964.1.1 Report from GFC Task Force – Teaching Controversial Topics

Dean Jane O’Dea reviewed the attachment to the Agenda. Members questioned as to when *topics become controversial*. Each faculty/school has had the need to teach unconventional issues and how was this conveyed to students. It was mentioned in this discussion that “if students come without encountering controversy then we haven’t done our jobs”.

At the end of the discussion it was the decision of GFC that this report will be given to the Deans to discuss how it is an issue in their faculty/school.

Thanks to Dean Jane O’Dea and her committee for the report.

3965.0 OTHER BUSINESS

City Council Meeting – September 8, 2003

President Cade reported that the City had pledged \$5.3 m for the Wellness Building. Council and the environment has changed and City Council will examine this funding and will let the University know by mid December.

Additional Funding

Séamus O’Shea reported that he would like to see new students funded under ACCESS. The average grant per student is going down and it is necessary to bring it back up again. When the University receives ACCESS funds they are allocated according to student numbers and the University has therefore been able to grow through ACCESS funds. He also pointed out the University has been able to hold enrolment and has seen a mix of transfer as well as high school students. This is a good trend to encourage.

3966.0 ADJOURNMENT

3966.1 MOTION:

McIntyre/Basford

That the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION: CARRIED

3967.0 QUESTION PERIOD

Question period was not minuted.