



GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #533

Approved Minutes

Monday, December 10, 2018

3:00 p.m. in W646

Present: M. Mahon (Chair), K. Alexander, B. Black, L. Bryan, S. Bubel, P. Cardozo, J. Copeland, B. Cummins, J. Doan, J. Dobbie, G. Fujiwara, K. Godfrey, N. Grigg, A. Hakin, C. Hamilton, R. Harper-Brown, B. Harray, J. Harrowing, C. Horbachewski, C. Hosgood, L. Howard, S. Johnsrude, S. Kennedy, H. Ladd, J. Laurendeau, C. Loewen, J. Mather, K. Massey, J. Mather, K. Mazurek, J. Mills, R. Mueller, C. Nicol, I. Ogumbor (phone), D. Olsen, K. Peacock, N. Piquette (phone), I. Pohl, S. Quinn-Ost, J. Rice, V. Schindler, A. Siaroff, D. Smit, M. Stingl, K. Turner, N. Walker, B. Wanjiru, R. Wood

Regrets: C. Adams, R. Barendregt, L. Barrett, J. Brassolotto, J. Clark, C. Cooper, H. Ghanbari, M. Hanrahan, D. Jarvie, J. Jones, A. Khalil, C. Malacrida, G. Metz, A. Moatari-Kazerouni, M. Nugent, E. Okine, W. Osborn, O. Rodriguez, J. Roth, P. Shao, D. Slomp, C. Steinke, J. Usher, J. Whitehead, S. Wismath

Other: J. Gallais, V. Grisack, M. Whipple

The GFC Group photo was taken before the meeting commenced.

Oki, ni kso koo wa: Welcome to all our relatives and friends.

A moment of silence was observed for the passing of Dr. Pete Standing Alone (HDR) and Dr. Jennifer Gordon (former faculty member).

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.01

Mather/Godfrey

That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #533 held Monday, December 10, 2018 be approved with an addition to Other Business 8.1 Update on Timetabling.

Motion: Carried

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.02

Smit/Massey

That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #532 held Monday, November 5, 2018 be approved.

Motion: Carried

A question arose on the use of the word “pleased” in 7.2 Timetable. J. Gallais will go back to recording to confirm interpretation. M. Mahon reminded members that minutes are not verbatim but a summary.

3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

M. Mahon reported:

- Chancellor Nominations – the process is well underway. The Committee has met with good conversations. Will bring recommendation to Senate’s January meeting.
- Activity on budget – We have a new budget website. The budget process started earlier this year as there are many unknowns on parts of the budget such as government funding, tuition/tuition policies are up in the air and there is much uncertainty with the election coming in the new year. We are unsure if there will be a budget before the election or not. Scenario building happens each year and that is ongoing right now. The budget website is a useful tool to provide as much information as we can. There are a lot of moving parts that we do not have control over. We are into a period of time with government where we cannot get any defined positions on issues that we are trying to get commitments on because we are moving into an “election time”.
- Lots of great activity and funding in many corners of campus such as NSERC/iGem/Canada Research Chairs
- Travelled recently to Japan/China – We signed two new exchange agreements at Rikkyo University in Japan and Eurasia University as well as being in MOU discussions with Northwest University in Xi’an, which is a top fifty university in China.
- Academic All Canadians – over 70 athletes were honoured. Numbers wise we are in the top 4-5 institutions in the country. Kudos to faculty members and coaches for supporting our student athletes to be successful.
- President’s Advisory Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion report – The committee is close to having a draft to send to the president.
- Operation Red Nose is in full swing so please use it. Even if you do not drink, you could give them a donation.
- Holiday closure notice – University is closed December 24 – January 1 inclusive

4. QUESTION PERIOD

J. Laurendeau – budget related – On Dec 1st story in Lethbridge Herald regarding questions around surplus. He would like more detail on the process as there is a missing level of detail on the website. The only portion of the budget open for discussion is the operating funds. Restricted funds are not part of the budget process as all terms and

conditions for these funds are established by the funding agent. Are we planning for a rainy day or a typhoon? M. Mahon stated that the purpose of the website is trying to provide clarity on the funds (operating and restricted) available to spend. The budget details are confidential until the Board of Governors approves it. Is it a rainstorm or a typhoon? We do not know for sure and are doing scenarios for both. Senior leadership team of 40 people will know that we held a senior leadership meeting, which we try to make uplifting, but was less so because as the government landscape unfolds, we need to make it clear that we could be in for challenges. Regarding what the numbers mean, N. Walker gave some granular details: The surplus referred to is actually net assets, some of which is only available on a one-time basis; the net assets consist of endowment funds (\$57 million) and we can only spend the interest earned on endowments, not the principle endowment funds; \$99 million of equity in investment of capital assets; unrealised investment earnings \$1.4 million– (gains not realized until you sell the investments); and \$49 million in internally restricted funds by the Board of Governors. It is a Board decision in regards to the amount of funds to set aside for a rainy day. The \$49 million includes \$4 million set aside for ancillary services, which includes housing and printing -- when we had to repair the residence envelopes, housing had to fund it one hundred percent with a loan; it also includes money for a self-insurance reserve; and funds set aside for replacing capital and some for student potential. For example, projects such as the replacement/update of software. This money is for projects outside of the operating funds. M. Mahon stated that the funds are built up over time to fund specific projects such as the Mt. Blakiston residence building. We have a loan of seven million dollars for the residence to pay off a twenty-five year mortgage. The net asset balance is an accumulation of funds from the inception of the university. It was stated that he wants to emphasis that we need to remain solvent. We don't know what budget scenario will be placed upon us. For example, we know of the 7.3% proposed budget cut a number of years ago, which was reduced to a 4.9% cut, and it was very hard to manage. We want to avoid the situation, that if we had such a dramatic cut again, that the president would not have to go to the Board to tell them that we are in financial crisis (in essence, bankrupt). We don't want to have to be in the position of having to make that statement or having to close departments, etc. J. Laurendeau thanked M. Mahon and N. Walker for the information. He hopes that we can get more information that is granular when that becomes clearer. M. Mahon stated that we are continuing to work on that but until the board approves the budget, we cannot provide specific granular details.

5. STUDENTS' UNION FOODBANK PASS THE HAT FUNDRAISER

L. Bryan gave the committee information on the usage of the Students' Union foodbank this year. Pass the Hat donations help to get the foodbank through the winter months. She passed the hat around for any members that wanted to contribute. We will send out a link to do online donations after the meeting. (The following link (<https://secure.e2rm.com/registrator/donate.aspx?eventid=189242&langpref=en-CA&Referrer=http%3a%2f%2fwww.uleth.ca%2fgiving%2fmake-gift>) was sent out on December 11, 2018)

6. ITEMS FOR ACTION

6.1. Curriculum Coordinating Committee Reports

K. Massey introduced Report 1.

Registrar's Office – Susie Kennedy

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.04

Kennedy/Johnsrude

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1 - 4 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1 for implementation May 1, 2019.

Motion: Carried

Discussion occurred surrounding what 'directly related' meant in relation to minors.

Faculty of Health Sciences – Chris Hosgood

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.05

Hosgood/Ladd

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #5 – 6 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1 for implementation May 1, 2019.

Motion: Carried

Dhillon School of Business – Kerry Godfrey

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.06

Godfrey/Copeland

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #7 – 10 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1 for implementation May 1, 2019.

Motion: Carried

Report 2

Registrar's Office – Susie Kennedy

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.07

Kennedy/Ladd

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1 – 21 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 2 for implementation May 1, 2019 with the removal of recommendation 3 and a friendly amendment of wording to recommendation 9.

Motion: Carried

Discussion occurred on recommendation #3 on page 10 of 24 regarding undergraduate research wording and the Human Subject Research Policy. K. Massey stated that this was a request from Research Services. M. Mahon suggested that we remove recommendation #3 until someone from Research Services is available to answer the questions. We will bring it back to the next GFC.

Recommendation #9 regarding copyright – C. Nicol would like to make a friendly amendment in wording for contacting the copyright office.

Dhillon School of Business – Kerry Godfrey

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.08

Godfrey/Cummins

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #22-23 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 2 for implementation May 1, 2019.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Arts and Science – Shawn Johnsrude

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.09

Johnsrude/Bryan

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #24 – 40 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 2 for implementation May 1, 2019.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Fine Arts – Jackie Rice

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.10

Rice/Black

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #41 - 45 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 2 for implementation May 1, 2019.

Motion: Carried

School of Graduate Studies – Rob Wood

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.11

Wood/Hakin

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #46 - 51 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 2 for implementation May 1, 2019.

Motion: Carried

School of Liberal Education – Kathleen Massey

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.12
Massey/Cummins

Recommendation 52 - That General Faculties Council approve the change of delivery of Liberal Education courses from the Faculty of Arts and Science to the School of Liberal Education.

Motion: Carried

Report 3

Faculty of Arts and Science – Shawn Johnsrude

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.13
Johnsrude/Fujiwara

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1 - 4 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 3, pending ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Education – Craig Loewen

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.14
Loewen/Pohl

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #5 - 6 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 3, pending ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Fine Arts – Jackie Rice

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.15
Rice/Mills

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #7 - 8 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 3, pending ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

School of Graduate Studies – Rob Wood

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.16

Wood/Loewen

General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #9 - 10 from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 3, pending ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

7.1. Destination Project

A. Hakin gave an update on the project. We take possession on January 7th and the costs of running the building then becomes ours. Our recruitment team is moving into the building in January and will begin hosting tours. We are beginning to focus on operational items. Planning is underway for the opening in September as we continue to fundraise our portion. Conversations with Government around lights-on funding are taking place. The lack of committed government funding is a major hit for us unless the government comes forward. M. Mahon commented on the lack of lights-on funding and stated when the government committed to the project, we were assured that we would get lights-on funding. These agreements are verbal. With Markin Hall, it was the same and it took a lot of work to get the funding in place. Discussion occurred again around the amount of lights turned on in the building. A. Hakin replied that this is a testing phase of building systems. The glass makes things more visible but the energy efficiency in the lighting is high. The lights will be on sensors when we take over the building. It was also asked when will we be able to inquire about booking rooms and who will book them. It will be done through the Registrar's Office but we are not sure as of yet when booking will start. S. Kennedy suggested that they are doing simulations including the new classrooms for the fall timetable. Space booking will be brought back to GFC for information.

7.2. GFC Executive Committee Report – December 3, 2018

Received as information. No questions raised.

7.3. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – October 29, 2018

Received as information. No questions were raised but there was some discussion surrounding the MacLean's rankings.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Update on Timetabling Project

M. Mahon pointed out the previous Item for Information 7.2 GFC Executive Committee Report item 1. It was noted by J. Copeland that it sounds like the discussion is ongoing in regards to a permanent GFC role in the timetabling through the standing committee review, but in the interim, can we consider an ad hoc type committee to get faculty involved in the discussion. A. Siaroff reported that we have just begun to look at the standing committees and we are looking to perhaps change powers and duties of other

committees as well. Ad hoc committees may be temporary in nature but still need to be approved at GFC, so through discussion it was requested that a more immediate action would be to add faculty to the current timetabling working group while awaiting the review process to come on line. Discussion also occurred on the difference between timetabling and scheduling. GFC Executive will have this on their next agenda as an item for discussion.

Tunnel Repair:

A question was raised on the status of the tunnel repair. N. Walker reported that the tunnel will be open by the time we come back in January. They had to remove the floor manually, and the new floor was poured last week and it needs to cure.

Destination Project Naming:

A question arose on naming of the building and C. Horbachewski replied that there is a committee and requests can be sent to him.

M. Mahon wished everyone Happy Holidays and reminded everyone to attend the Annual Holiday Reception in the Atrium on December 19th.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: gfc.2018.12.17

Loewen/Copeland

That the GFC meeting #533 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried