



## GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #537

### Approved Minutes

**Monday, May 6, 2019**

**3:00 p.m. in W646**

**Present:** M. Mahon (Chair), R. Barendregt, B. Black, J. Brassolotto, S. Bubel, P. Cardozo, J. Copeland, B. Cummins, C. Currie, J. Dobbie, G. Fujiwara, A. Gammack, H. Ghanberi (phone), N. Haimoun, A. Hakin, B. Harray, C. Hosgood, L. Howard, D. Jarvie, S. Johnsrude, C. Loewen, K. Massey, J. Mather, K. Mazurek, J. Miles, R. Mueller, R. Munn, C. Nicol, M. Nugent, E. Okine, D. Olsen, K. Peacock, N. Piquette, K. Potts, J. Rice, A. Siaroff (phone), D. Slomp, C. Steinke, M. Stingl, G. Tian (phone), N. Walker, B. Wanjiru, S. Wismath, R. Wood, L. Zink

**Regrets:** C. Adams, K. Alexander, L. Barrett, J. Clark, C. Cooper, J. Doan, K. Godfrey, N. Grigg, R. Harper-Brown, C. Horbachewski, S. Kennedy, A. Khalil, H. Kletke, H. Ladd, J. Laurendeau, C. Malacrida, G. Metz, J. Mills, A. Moatari-Kazerouni, B. Nikolai-Wilson, W. Osborn, E. Pullan, O. Rodriguez, B. Rogers, J. Sheriff, J. Usher, J. Whitehead

**Other:** J. Gallais, V. Grisack, M. Whipple, K. Fuglerud, M. Slomp

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

### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: gfc.2019.05.01

Piquette/Black

*That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #537 held Monday, May 6, 2019 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: gfc.2019.05.02

Nicol/Haimoun

*That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #536 held Monday, April 1, 2019 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

### 3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Mahon reported:

- Welcome to the new GSA and SU student representatives. We are looking forward to working with you.
- Dean Searches Update – Health Sciences and Fine Arts are ongoing and making good progress with both of them.
- We have a new UCP Government. We have a lot of work to make new connections. Met with N. Neudorf and S. Phillips. We have a new Advanced Education minister Demetrios Nicolaidis. We have the same Deputy Minister Rod Skura, as we did before the election. We have two grads of the UofL in key positions in the new government – the Chief of Staff for Jason Kenney and the head of transition committee. The Throne Speech will be May 22.
- There will be a series of meetings with our counterparts at the other universities to set our directions with the new government.
- Congratulations was given on the reappointment of our Vice-President (Research) Dr. E. Okine.
- We were involved in the One District One Book Project - *Wish Tree* by Katherine Applegate and the School of Liberal Education Common Book Project chose- *Moon of the Crusted Snow* by Waubgeshig Rice.
- Mayor's Breakfast – there was discussion on the relationship between the city and the new government.
- He attended the installation of Ed McCauley at the U of C. He was the former Vice-President Research and will be a good addition to the team.
- Anne Dymond Awarded the University Volunteer Award – This is for all of her work with WUSC.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> annual WUSC Gala "Persistence" to fund Refugee Student Bursary.
- Dhillon School of Business Scholarship Dinner honoured Ralph and Rae Ann Thrall and was a great success.
- Cancer Blast Benefit Concert - raised funds for local research.
- Calgary Campus Shining on Innovation Dinner (formerly Instructor Appreciation Dinner) April 27<sup>th</sup> held at the Bell Studio
- Long Service Awards – was a great event to recognize the contributions of our employees along with the celebration of the President's Award for Service Excellence.
- Upcoming Events:
  - Spring Convocation May 30 & 31- M. Mahon encouraged members to attend the ceremonies – especially the installation of the new Chancellor at the first ceremony.
  - Chancellor's Dinner May 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Indigenous Student Affairs Graduation Reception will be on the Wednesday evening.

### 4. QUESTION PERIOD

- K. Peacock – requested an update on the question from last GFC regarding the bird strikes on the new Destination Project building. A. Hakin stated that M.

Letts has followed up and is working with some members in biological sciences to monitor this as we move forward. J. Mather reported that M. Letts had found some information on the University of British Columbia (UBC). In a local newspaper article, they had noted that UBC kills around 10,000 birds per year but they have put in mitigations strategies to lessen this impact. He is planning to follow up to see what those strategies are.

- J. Mather – Handicap parking permits at the Destination Project – Facilities told her that the handicap parking will not be available until fall. She is moving there in June. M. Mahon stated that the lot is paved. A. Hakin suggested that she should put her sticker up and park there and if there are issues, we will sort it out.
- C. Hosgood – Wanted to know if we have information about the free speech article in the Calgary paper? M. Mahon reported that one of the UCP platform points was that they would insist that all universities have a policy around free speech and the freedom of individuals to come to campus and speak on any issue they think appropriate. In conversations with the deputy minister, he suggested that this will be part of the mandate letter from the Premier for the ministry to focus on while in government. COPPOA is going to develop a proposal of what this should look like. We will be pushing hard on that front. This has been a platform in a number of conservative governments not just in our province. M. Mahon suggested that if anyone wanted more information to Google the Chicago principles and you will get a sense of the topic. Discussion on whether there was a difference in those speakers invited by us or those that rent out our space. We are a public institution so this is a part of our reality.
- J. Copeland – Has there been conversation about tying funding to performance metrics? M. Mahon thinks that there is some language in the Minister’s mandate letter for this topic but no articulation of what that really means.

**5. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

5.1. Approval of Student Members

MOTION: gfc.2019.05.03

Hakin/Massey

*That General Faculties Council (GFC) approves the appointed student members below to GFC for terms ending on April 30, 2020.*

**APPOINTED UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT MEMBERS**

*(Nominated by Students'*

*Union) [8] Section 25 & GFC Bylaws – (GFC Appoints)*

<i>Student (Arts and Science)</i>	<i>Jordan Miles</i>	<i>April 30, 2020</i>
<i>Student (Arts and Science)</i>	<i>Bailey Harray</i>	<i>April 30, 2020</i>
<i>Student (Arts and Science)</i>	<i>Brennan Nikolai-Wilson</i>	<i>April 30, 2020</i>
<i>Student (Business)</i>	<i>Ryan Munn</i>	<i>April 30, 2020</i>
<i>Student (Business)</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>April 30, 2020</i>
<i>Student (Education)</i>	<i>Ethan Pullan</i>	<i>April 30, 2020</i>

<i>Student (Fine Arts)</i>	<i>Holly Kletke</i>	<i>April 30, 2020</i>
<i>Student (Health Sciences)</i>	<i>Brianna Rogers</i>	<i>April 30, 2020</i>

***APPOINTED GRADUATE STUDENT MEMBER (Nominated by Graduate Students***

***Association) [2] Section 25 & GFC Bylaws – (GFC Appoints)***

<i>Graduate Student</i>	<i>Nathir Haimoun</i>	<i>April 30, 2020</i>
<i>Graduate Student</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>April 30, 2020</i>

Motion: Carried

There are two Student Union statutory members, Andrew Gammack and Kate Potts, as well as one Graduate Student Associate statutory member, Lauren Zink. These statutory members do not need to be approved by General Faculties Council.

5.2. Comprehensive Institutional Plan

MOTION: gfc.2019.05.04

Hakin/Copeland

*That General Faculties Council approve the academic and research components of the University of Lethbridge Comprehensive Institutional Plan for 2019/20 – 2021/22 with amendments to the research goals contained on page 7 of the CIP and small editorial changes.*

Motion: Carried

A. Hakin reported that this is a reporting tool for the Government of Alberta. The format is prescribed and we fill in information as required. Feedback from the government can be helpful but it is usually disappointing in that it is only a two page letter we get back. There was significant conversation that there is much duplication with government required reporting documents and this may be brought up in the red tape reduction strategies. A. Hakin gave an overview of some of the notable sections such as an overview of goals, the academic program piece and the future planning around the heating/cooling plant. 83% of the University is dependent on the plant for energy so we are in trouble if it fails. These are our wish lists – renewing the vacated buildings, residences, and the parkade will help rejuvenate the theatre and fine arts area. There was robust discussion on colleges/technical schools for trades, research goals, micro credentials and revitalizing the curriculum.

5.3. GFC Standing Committee Bylaw Revisions

MOTION: gfc.2019.05.05

Siaroff/Copeland

*That GFC approve the GFC Bylaw revisions from the GFC Standing*

*Committee Review, effective July 1, 2019 unless otherwise specified with friendly amendment to the Research Planning Committee and some small editorial changes.*

Motion: Carried (2/3 approval)

The changes were brought to GFC for feedback last meeting. A list of changes that were suggested prior to the meeting for the Research Planning Committee were displayed on the screen. There was discussion surrounding some of the ex-officio positions and how we would transition to new committee structures with members who are midterm. J. Gallais stated that the new terms will start July 1, 2019 and that she will reach out to them to encourage them to put their names forward for the new committees. There are some transitional issues but July 1<sup>st</sup> was the best date to make the changes.

## **6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

### **6.1. Destination Project**

A. Hakin gave an update on the projects. We are in the move in phase of the project. On the leadership side, C. Cooper is stepping down and M. Letts will be the interim dean for one year. As a result, some of the work assigned to M. Letts is being transferred to HJ Wieden until August. He has been key in helping us develop some of the policies etc. We remain on target with audiovisual and IT equipment being installed. It was asked if the Science and Academic Building is the final name. M. Mahon responded that no, it is not but that the name will be announced sometime in the future. We are working on the grand opening dates as well as the dates for a series of announcements regarding the new building.

### **6.2. Territorial Statements**

K. Massey reported that her comments will be posted with the minutes of this meeting. On page 96 of 98, there are territorial statements for both the Lethbridge and Calgary campuses. The statements came about from the TRC and how to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land. The protocol handbook will be updated and then posted online. There are long, short and Calgary versions of the statements along with examples of the types of gatherings that would be appropriate to use the statements at. It does not need to be done at every class or gathering but that is your choice. The territorial statements were created following much consultation and will receive final approval by the Board of Governors at the June meeting. This is a university wide protocol so it seemed appropriate that it be approved at the Board level.

### **6.3. Policies for Review**

A. Hakin updated Council on the policies listed in the agenda package that are up for review. They are located on the policy website and feedback is requested until May 21<sup>st</sup>. There is a lot of work that has gone into these policies. Please look at them and provide your feedback. Some of these changes are collaborative because of changes in the Sexual Violence Policy. This is a multistep process. We will continue to look at and revise these policies as needed. There was discussion on the number of policies coming forward in the

near future but these ones are on the website right now for comments. M. Mahon encouraged everyone to look at them and submit feedback.

6.4. Nomination Committee Update

A. Siaroff updated GFC on the needs of the nomination committee. Emails will be going out in the next few days asking for nominations. The vacancies will be posted on the GFC website tomorrow.

6.5. GFC Executive Committee Report – April 29, 2019

Received as information. No questions raised.

6.6. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – March 25, 2019

Received as information. No questions raised.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: gfc.2019.05.06

Loewen/

*That the GFC meeting #537 be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried

Territory statement

GFC

Opening comments

May 6, 2019

The University of Lethbridge has developed official statements to acknowledge the traditional territories of Aboriginal peoples for both the Lethbridge and Calgary campuses. The TRC recommendations and the commitment made by the 26 members of the Council of Post-Secondary Presidents of Alberta to create territorial acknowledgements are contributing factors in the University's decision to prepare its statements. However, the encouragement to do so has also emerged from within the University. Many colleagues and students across the U of L would like to know how to respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which the University is situated and many have begun using statements of their own. While well-meaning and thoughtful, the statements in circulation are somewhat inconsistent and have not been approved by the local Aboriginal communities. The statements I am presenting to you today were developed with the input of members of the Iniskim Education Committee (IEC) and by many others both on- and off-campus. They have been endorsed by Elders from the Blackfoot community and by the Blackfoot Confederacy.

Our plan is to present the statements to the Board of Governors for approval at its June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting and I'm presenting them here today for your information.

The updated Blackfoot Protocol document, to be released later this summer, will provide thorough guidance regarding the appropriate use of the statements and will also include an explanation of their purpose and importance, information that professors will be encouraged to share with their students. In the interim, please note the following regarding use of the statements once they are approved by the Board in June.

Examples of official occasions and uses for which the long versions are appropriate:

- major ceremonies and events such as convocation, installations, on-campus conference opening ceremonies, New Student Orientation, Open House, and
- on the University's website.

Examples of when the short versions should be used:

- introductory remarks at key governance meetings such as the Board, Senate, General Faculties Council, Faculty/School Council meetings, the first class of the term, and
- on course syllabi and within student recruitment materials (e.g., the recruitment view book).

Please use the relevant campus statement when in Calgary or Lethbridge.

It is not expected that the territory acknowledgement will be read at the beginning of every recurring (standing) meeting, nor at the beginning of every class.