



GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #540

Approved Minutes

Monday, October 7, 2019

3:00 p.m. in W646

Present: M. Mahon, (Chair), R. Barendregt, J. Blum, J. Brassolotto, S. Bubel, J. Byrne, P. Cardozo, J. Copeland, B. Cummins, J. Cunningham, C. Currie, J. Dobbie, L. Elias, G. Fujiwara, A. Gammack, H. Ghanberi (phone), K. Godfrey, N. Haimoun (phone), A. Hakin, R. Harper-Brown, B. Harray, M. Ingraham, D. Jarvie, S. Johnsrude, D. Kaminski, H. Kelley, H. Ladd, M. Letts, C. Loewen, R. Marynowski, C. Mattatall, J. Miles, J. Mills, R. Munn, C. Nicol, E. Okine, T. Oosterbroek, T. Patel, K. Peacock, K. Potts, E. Pullan, P. Shao (phone), J. Sheriff, A. Stewart, M. Stingl, J. Usher, J. Vokey, N. Walker, P. Wilson, S. Wismath, R. Wood, A. Zovoilis

Regrets: K. Alexander, A. Ansah, L. Barrett, D. Burleigh, J. Gamble, C. Horbachewski, L. Howard, A. Khalil, H. Kletke, J. Laurendeau, K. Massey, J. Mather, K. Mazurek, A. Moatari-Kazerouni, B. Nikolai-Wilson, B. Rogers, M. Serebryansky, C. Steinke, L. Zink

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

Oki. The President opened the meeting with a welcome and the Territorial Statement.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.01

Kelley/Wismath

That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #540 held Monday, October 7, 2019 be approved

Motion: Carried

It was noted that the Post-Agenda Item #5.2 was sent out this morning.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.02

Nicol/Godfrey

That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #539 held Monday, September 9, 2019 be approved.

Motion: Carried

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Mahon reported:

- Senate Report was included in the agenda – He is happy to answer anything in question period from the report.
- The hiring process is underway for the Equity Diversity Inclusion position and the manager of Iikaisskini.
- Honorary Degree Nominations – M. Mahon strongly encourage members of GFC to nominate someone to be an honorary degree recipient.
- Free Speech Document – we have communicated this government requirement to GFC in the past. The statement or policy has to be in place by the end of the year. A. Hakin is leading the process and today there was notification about the focus groups sent to the University Community. Our degrees of freedom in this document are not as much as we would want.
- Grand Opening of Science Commons – congrats to the organizing committee. It was a fantastic turnout with faculty and students. The President has received tremendous feedback on the wonderful event.
- Senior Leaders Retreat was held last week. The focus was the strategic plan and how we set priorities. The second part was a wonderful Indigenous blanket exercise.
- Senate at Kainai High School – This was the first time a Senate Meeting was held off-campus that we can recall and we were honoured to have it in Standoff. Senior Administration also participated in the orange shirt activities at the school.
- MacLean's ranking – Just released, and the UofL came fifth place in our category.
- The Government budget will come out October 24th. We have had many meetings with government officials and have been pushing that post-secondary education is very important in the province. Signals that we have received are mixed. The scope of the budget reductions and the time frame of this exercise is not clear to us, especially given that we are halfway through the year. We will communicate the implications of the budget as soon as we receive the details from the government. There are some items that are outside the budget funding, such as the student mental health funding of \$1,000,000 which we have received for this year. The graduate funding was also received.
- Associate VP Research/Dean, School of Graduate Studies position search is just getting underway. We are looking at how we can further integrate research and graduate studies. The decision to amalgamate the positions was a difficult one but M. Mahon thinks it is a positive one.
- Friends of Health Sciences - Honouring Dr. Vivien Suttorp will be held October 10th
- Arts & Science Scholarship Dinner - Honouring Dr. Dennis Connolly on October 17th

- Open House October 26th

4. QUESTION PERIOD

- B. Cummins – Regarding the development of freedom of speech document; is there a working group? We have received invitations for focus group information sessions. What is the faculty input so far? A. Hakin stated that the minister's letter gives us three ways to respond – formally adopt the Chicago Statement; adopt the eight key principles of the Chicago Statement; or adopt its own policy that conforms with the key elements of the Chicago Statement. After July 11th, the constraints were very stringent. The Provost didn't want to waste anyone's time by reinventing the wheel. He has developed a document with help from our General Counsel as well as those at the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary. It is a rough draft and he is now looking for feedback. The draft will be out this afternoon. The CARUs' documents are as similar as they can be coming from different institutions. M. Mahon stated that the degree of freedom is limited so we are making it as acceptable to the University of Lethbridge as we can.
- J. Vokey – asked if the President and Provost had read the July 30th Freedom of Speech article by David Climenhaga? He recommends it. M. Mahon stated that J. Gallais will ensure it is distributed (article distributed in link here: <https://albertapolitics.ca/2019/07/the-chicago-principles-are-code-for-the-right-of-the-powerful-and-privileged-to-shout-down-everyone-else/>)
- J. Byrne – Is the letter from the Government going to be made public? The Provost stated that it will be on the website along with the draft document.
- J. Vokey – Can the document be made public? A. Hakin stated it will be on the website but that it is an internal document at this time. It will be password protected.
- G. Fujiwara – Regarding the hire for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion – can you outline where this position fits in the proposed equity office? M. Mahon suggested that we will hire an individual before we look at structure so the new hire can be involved in the discussion. The position will report to the Office of the President with a dotted line to the AVP Human Resources.
- H. Ladd – Honorary Degree Nominations – what is the criteria and when is it reviewed? M. Mahon stated that the process is housed with the Senate Office but the committee is broader, including students, staff and community members. They look at the scope of the nomination process. It was changed a couple of years ago on recommendations from the committee. The nature of individuals that are recognized can sometimes become very controversial.

5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1. GFC Executive Committee Nominations

M. Mahon introduced the process. A. Hakin reported that there are four vacancies on the GFC Executive Committee. Two members are required for two-year terms (October 2019 - September 30, 2021), and two members are required for one-year terms (October 2019 – September 30, 2020). A. Hakin went over the procedures for the nominations and the approval voting as required by the bylaws. He is hoping for equity, diversity and inclusion on the committee.

M. Mahon opened the floor to nominations. The following nominations were received for the two, two-year terms:

- Tracy Oosterbroek
- Michael Stingl

The following nominations were received for the two, one-year terms:

- Richelle Marynowski
- Brendan Cummins

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.03

Hakin/Loewen

All nominations cease.

Motion: Carried

5.2. GFC Nomination Committee – Dean of Arts & Science Search Committee/Associate Vice-President (Research) & Dean of Graduate Studies & Post-Doctoral Affairs Search Committee/ Naming Advisory Committee

Dean of Arts & Science Search Committee

When the Faculty of Arts and Science completes their ballot an email vote of GFC will occur.

Associate Vice-President (Research) & Dean of Graduate Studies & Post-Doctoral Affairs Search Committee

(E. Okine, T. Patel, and M. Mohajerani left the room for this item.)

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.04

Haimoun/Ladd

That GFC approve the following slate to fill the three (3) Academic Staff Members on the Associate Vice-President Research and Dean of School of Graduate Studies & Postdoctoral Affairs Search Committee.

- *James Graham*
- *Suzanne Lenon*
- *To be put to a vote of GFC of the remaining four (4) nominations from the Sciences discipline.*

Motion: Carried

A vote was held for the third position leading to the motion below:

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.05

Haimoun/Miles

That GFC approve Majid Mohajerani as the third Academic Staff Member on the Associate Vice-President Research and Dean of School of Graduate Studies & Postdoctoral Affairs Search Committee.

Motion: Carried

Naming Advisory Committee

M. Mahon opened the floor to nominations.

Two individuals were nominated and were asked to leave the room.

A vote was held leading to the motion below:

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.06

Haimoun/Cummins

That GFC approve Leanne Elias as a member of the General Faculties Council to serve on the Naming Advisory Committee for a one-year term or until a successor has been appointed.

Motion: Carried

5.3. Research Policies - Human Research Ethics Policy (Revised)/Animal Ethics Policy (Revised)

Human Research Ethics Policy

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.07

Okine/Copeland

That General Faculties Council approve the revised policy effective immediately:

- *Human Research Ethics Policy (formerly Human Subject Research Policy) with amendment to A4 Membership Bullet 2.*

Motion: Carried

Motion to amend A4 Membership bullet point #2

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.08

Nicol/Gammack

The bullet read that “these five members of University of Lethbridge faculty distribute with no more than one member from each Faculty/School/Library.”

Motion: Defeated

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.9

Copeland/Letts

Change bullet two to read “at least 5 members of the University of Lethbridge faculty from the following schools and faculties listed with consideration for representation across faculties and disciplines (Arts & Science, Education, Fine Arts, Health Sciences, Liberal Education, Library, Business)”

Motion: Carried

We want to adhere to the tri-council statements that bring us into compliance. The title has changed. He introduced Susan Entz as having this portfolio. There was discussion around who is included in the membership. An amendment was proposed in section A4 Membership to the second bullet point.

Animal Ethics Policy

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.10

Okine/Godfrey

That General Faculties Council approve the revised policy effective immediately:

- *Animal Ethics Policy (formerly Animal Welfare Policy)*

Motion: Carried

E. Okine went over the changes. There was discussion on the training required in the policy.

5.4. Centres & Institutes Policy (Revised)

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.11

Okine/Copeland

That General Faculties Council recommend the approval of the revised Centres & Institutes Policy by the Board of Governors to be effective

immediately with friendly amendments to 7.5 wording changed from “should” to “shall” and 4.15 the word “of” is missing in the collection of.

Motion: Carried (3 opposed; 1 abstention)

E. Okine gave some background on the policy. We have around 15 centres with Type A being approved by the Board of Governors and Type B being approved by GFC. Since 2018, R. Wood and P. Pickles have been working to streamline the procedures for these Centres and Institutes. Two friendly amendments were discussed. There was discussion on feedback on the changes, membership of the centres & institutes including definitions/lists of who can serve as well as guidelines on becoming and renewing Centres and Institutes.

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1. GFC Standing Committee Reports

J. Gallais stated that committee reports are received annually for information reporting on their activity in the last year. They are presented to GFC Executive before being presented here. No questions were raised.

6.2. Human Subjects Research Committee & Animal Welfare Committee Annual Reports

E. Okine commented that these reports come through the Research Planning Committee to the Vice President Research and are received by GFC for information. No questions were raised.

6.3. GFC Executive Committee Report – September 30, 2019

Received as information. No questions raised.

6.4. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – September 3, 2019

Received as information. No questions raised.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: gfc.2019.10.12

Copeland/Loewen

That the GFC meeting #540 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried