



## GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #546

### Approved Minutes

Monday, May 4, 2020

3:00 p.m. via Zoom

- Present:** M. Mahon, (Chair), C. Adams, K. Alexander, J. Blum, J. Brassolotto, S. Bubel, D. Burleigh, P. Cardozo, L. Connel, B. Cummins, J. Cunningham, A. Darda, J. Diaz, J. Dobbie, G. Fujiwara, J. Gamble, H. Ghanbari, K. Gillespie, K. Godfrey, R. Harper-Brown, L. Howard, B. Hughes, M. Ingraham, D. Jarvie, S. Johnsrude, D. Kaminski, H. Kletke, H. Ladd, J. Laurendeau, M. Letts, R. Lindblad, C. Loewen, R. Marynowski, K. Massey, J. Mather, C. Mattatall, K. Mazurek, C. Nicol, J. Nugent, E. Okine, T. Oosterbroek, R. Parkkari, T. Patel, K. Peacock, E. Pullan, J. Rice, P. Shao, J. Sheriff, R. Stark, C. Steinke, A. Stewart, M. Stingl, J. Usher, J. Vokey, K. Vos, N. Walker, P. Wilson, S. Wismath, R. Wood, L. Zink
- Regrets:** L. Barrett, L. Burckes, C. Currie, H. Gray, A. Khalil, R. Lee-Thai, A. Moatari-Kazerouni, A. Novello
- Other:** J. Gallais, V. Grisack, M. Whipple, J. Copeland, T. Henschel, H. Preyde, H. Mirau

*Oki. The President opened the meeting with a welcome and the Territorial Statement.  
A moment of silence was observed for former Board Chair P. North.  
Congratulations to E. Okine on his appointment as Provost and Vice-President Academic.  
Welcome to the newly appointed students.*

### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.01

Laurendeau/Adams

*That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #546 held Monday, May 4, 2020 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.02

Loewen/Zink

*That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #545 held Monday, April 6, 2020 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

### **3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

M. Mahon reported:

- Covid-19 Update – A new video and a press release sent out today on our three version approach for the fall term. We have declared that the UofL will be open for business in a variety of possibilities such as in person/online for large classes and in person for small classes/fully online.
- Budget Update – a very hard decision was made on the elimination of Men's & Women's hockey programs due to budgetary constraints. We have struck a taskforce to explore a different funding model for hockey.
- Emergency Bursaries are available for students and the Campus Care Parcel Program (part of Nourish) continues to go ahead.
- Special GFC meeting on May 25<sup>th</sup> to deal with the budget which needs to be approved by the Board and into the government by the end of May.
- Organizational Changes - departure of Chris Horbachewski and Andy Hakin. Vice-President Advancement search will have first meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>. The Interim Provost Announcement was released today.
- NAVITAS is the largest company in the world who does student recruitment. Only a couple of universities in Canada that use them. There will be a presentation at GFC in June.
- Moving forward with the potential collaboration with Lethbridge College and Medicine Hat College. There will be a meeting with both institutions tomorrow afternoon.
- Apr 7<sup>th</sup> call with Jamie Huckabay (Premier Chief of Staff), our deputy minister of Advanced Education, the deputy minister of Finance to continue to lobby the government on the budget realities.
- April 17<sup>th</sup> call with Minister Bains (Federal Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry) and other UC Presidents on the recruitment of international students.
- A & S Dean Search - public presentations completed this last week and input is invited up until noon on Wednesday.
- Teaching Centre offering courses to get ready for Summer Session online. The first workshop had over 200 folks that participated. Lots of good work happening on that front.
- Andy Hakin Virtual Farewell on May 6<sup>th</sup> – please register online so we can manage the numbers. It is open to all university community members.
- M. Mahon gave a presentation on the Abacus university survey commissioned by Universities Canada. This survey was presented to 70 universities presidents. Copies of the survey will not be shared as there is information that was not intended for media but for universities in making decisions. 500 students and 500 parents were surveyed. Almost 50% of students haven't made up their minds in what they will do in the fall. Most students think that the universities should be open with the option to

attend remotely. We don't want to share the data because their options will change as more information is released by governments. There are many people concerned about safety. Health is the major factor in the students' decision to attend. Virtual learning might be a safe choice and a way to save money. Almost half of students would look at staying closer to home. There are concerns on finances but more regarding safety. This data is hot of the press and this is the first analysis of these sorts of questions to be done at this time.

#### 4. QUESTION PERIOD

- D. Kaminski finds it interesting that there is so much interest in having online courses in the fall. It is worrisome because the bigger the class, the greater demand on the instructor's time. M. Mahon stated that the data underscores that there are a lot of concerns in returning to campus. This is why the strong announcement today regarding the return in the fall.
- S. Wismath – there might be a possibility for in person and online classes which would double the workload. The statement should be either or and not offering both for the same class. Blended would be small group experiences such as labs with online classes. M. Mahon responded that the data cannot be ignored as we continue to understand the implications of being on campus or virtually. We need to look at the students' input.
- B. Cummins is just finishing up an online class and starting another today. Most students are taking summer classes as they have nothing better to do. They would not do online classes in the fall. The students expressed that the workload is the same for an in person class
- B. Hughes - face to face delivery is better but we've learned that online delivery is difficult and needs a different skill set. He would like to know what the online situation will be in the fall as he has concerns about preparation for an online class. When will the final decision be made? The president stated that we have a rough date of mid May to decide what we will be doing in the fall. We are hedging our bets because we are trying to hold on to our students so they don't make a decision to go to another school. The blended would be far better for us than the online version.
- L. Zink – in the middle option, with the smaller options with labs, studios, etc. Has there been discussion about the costs of students only coming for one class if the rest of them are online. Mike replied that some students have told us that they are planning to come to Lethbridge even if the classes are online. They are hoping to have some level of on-campus experiences. We are concerned that if we are totally online, our positioning is not effective.
- E. Okine stated that we are taking the issues seriously. N. Walker and E. Okine are part of a taskforce on curriculum, timetabling and student support. There are seven working groups on these issues.
- J. Nugent asked if there is faculty representation on the taskforces. E. Okine responded that the deans and associate deans are part of the main taskforce and on the working group there are faculty members.
- J. Laurendeau – if there are in person classes and students/faculty with underlying conditions are being told not to come to campus. How do we deal with that? The

- President replied that we will have to work with accommodated learning to manage that. There was discussion on how soon a vaccine could be developed.
- L. Howard – the presentation was interesting. Thank you for all the hard work. Two comments with the first regarding how the data presented. Have all the groups decided that they are not releasing the data or will we be left to react instead of being proactive. The second comment is regarding the middle scenario - what happens if the drop dead date is decided with us returning to campus and an outbreak happens again. Should we be prepared for an outbreak as well? M. Mahon stated that Universities Canada won't release the data. What could happen is that someone hears the presentation and talks to the media. The President is confident in our messaging released today. Regional respondents are the least concerned about health. Second comment is that he has thought about the second wave quite a bit. We don't know what that would look like yet. If there is an outbreak on campus, we would be back to square one. We need to have a plan b. what would happen if we had an outbreak and how we would shut down again.
  - C. Nicol – Any comments on the budget situation. M. Mahon said that we are still struggling with the government on expense reductions. If we only have to cut 6.6% then we are there. If we have to cut expenses, we will have to cut another \$8-9 million and we are not there. In the COVID-19 and post-COVID-19 environment, it doesn't make sense to do something that was developed before COVID. There is a strong group of five Board chairs (UofC, UofA, UofL, Mount Royal and MacEwan) with ours included. M. Mahon feels that the government is listening but not sure if they will change their minds. E. Okine stated that we can't balance the budget without a lot of layoffs that would fundamentally affect the university. This university is facing some strong challenges with the budget. N. Walker and E. Okine will attend faculty councils to educate the faculty on what these cuts will mean.

## 5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

### 5.1. Approval of Student Members

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.03

Okine/Massey

*That General Faculties Council (GFC) approves the appointed student members below to GFC for terms ending on April 30, 2021 with spelling edit.*

***APPOINTED UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT MEMBERS  
(Nominated by Students' Union) [8] Section 25 & GFC Bylaws – (GFC Appoints)***

<i>Student (Arts and Science)</i>	<i>Ryan Lindblad</i>	<i>April 30, 2021</i>
<i>Student (Arts and Science)</i>	<i>Rebecca Parkkari</i>	<i>April 30, 2021</i>
<i>Student (Business)</i>	<i>Andrew Novello</i>	<i>April 30, 2021</i>
<i>Student (Education)</i>	<i>Ethan Pullan</i>	<i>April 30, 2021</i>
<i>Student (Education)</i>	<i>Keeley Gillespie</i>	<i>April 30, 2021</i>
<i>Student (Fine Arts)</i>	<i>Holly Kletke</i>	<i>April 30, 2021</i>

<i>Student (Fine Arts)</i>	<i>Richard Lee-Thai</i>	<i>April 30, 2021</i>
<i>Student (Health Sciences)</i>	<i>Haley Gray</i>	<i>April 30, 2021</i>

***APPOINTED GRADUATE STUDENT MEMBER (Nominated by Graduate Students Association) [2] Section 25 & GFC Bylaws – (GFC Appoints)***

<i>Graduate Student</i>	<i>Rachel Stark</i>	<i>April 30, 2021</i>
<i>Graduate Student</i>	<i>Abrar Darda</i>	<i>April 30, 2021</i>

Motion: Carried

5.2. GFC Nominations Committee

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.04

Stingl/Cummins

*That GFC Nominations Committee met on April 16, 2020 and recommends to GFC for approval the following slate of nominees to fill committee vacancies.*

***GFC Academic Appeals Committee***

- Devon Smither (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*
- Tracy Oosterbroek (alternate) (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*

***GFC Academic Quality Assurance Committee***

- Kevin McGeough (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*

***GFC Convocation Committee***

- Katharina Stevens (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*

***GFC Iniskim Education Committee***

- Mary Greenshields (immediately until June 30, 2021)*
- Inge Genee (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*

***GFC Research Planning Committee***

- HJ Wieden Sciences, A&S (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*
- Amy von Heyking Education (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*
- Cheryl Currie Health Sciences (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*
- Elizabeth Galway Graduate Studies (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*

***GFC Strategic Planning Committee***

- Nehal Thakor (GS) (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*
- Brendan Cummins (LE) (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*
- Adriane MacDonald (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*

***Senate (Must be a Member of GFC)***

- Brendan Cummins (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021)*
- Tracy Oosterbroek (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*

***Senate Honorary Degree Committee***

- *Larry Flanagan (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*
- *Mia van Leeuwen (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022)*

Motion: Carried

M. Mahon thanked everyone for their enthusiasm to serve on the various committees.

5.3. Academic Plan

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.05

Okine/Stark

*That General Faculties Council approve the attached 2020/21 – 2022/23 Academic Plan with friendly amendments.*

Motion: Carried (1 opposed and 1 abstention)

E. Okine thanked J. Preyde for her hard work on the Academic Plan. J. Preyde gave an overview on the multi year plan. The plan was developed prior to the pandemic and some initiatives may have to be shifted. This is an internal document that is only available to those on staff. It is located on the Planning and Reporting website. If there are any typos, edits, etc. that need to be made, please forward them to J. Preyde. M. Mahon also thanked her and stated that this document doesn't go to the Board of Governors but that the final approval is given by General Faculties Council. There was some discussion on some wording changes, targets and that this should be considered a living document that changes as circumstances change.

5.4. Strategic Research Plan

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.06

Rice/Ingraham

*That the General Faculties Council approve the attached Strategic Research Plan for 2020/21 to 2022/23 effective July 1, 2020.*

Motion: Carried

J. Rice introduced the Research Plan which is our goal, vision and commitment with a pathway to success over the next 3 years. Thanks to the staff in ORIS who put this Plan together. No questions or concerns arose.

5.5. GFC Admission Standards Committee Reports

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.07

**Implementation on May 1, 2020**

**Registrar's Office**

Massey/Marynowski

*That General Faculties Council approve the removal of ELP and SELP requirements for recognized countries within the undergraduate Calendar for the Faculty of Health Sciences for implementation on May 1, 2020.*

Motion: Carried

**Dhillon School of Business**

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.08

Godfrey/Loewen

*That General Faculties Council approve the new program: Post-Bachelor Advanced Certificate in Accounting/Chartered Professional (CPA) Bridging, pending ministerial approval.*

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.09

Godfrey/Dobbie

*That General Faculties Council approve the new program application and document deadlines for the Post-Bachelor Advanced Certificate in Accounting/Chartered Professional (CPA) Bridging, pending ministerial approval.*

Motion: Carried

**Implementation on May 1, 2021**

**Dhillon School of Business**

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.10

Godfrey/Zinc

*That General Faculties Council approve the name change for the Post-Bachelor Certificate in Accounting to Post-Bachelor Certificate in Accounting Fundamentals, pending ministerial approval, for implementation on May 1, 2021.*

Motion: Carried

This is to streamline the process for the CPA program.

**Faculty of Fine Arts**

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.11

Ingraham/Zink

*That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #2 - #7, Faculty of Fine Arts, from the Admission Standards Report for implementation on May 1, 2021.*

Motion: Carried

Removing barriers after extensive consultation with an understanding that many of the courses are being taking care of in a later stage in their degree program.

**Registrar's Office**

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.12

Massey/Rice

*That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #8 - #9, Registrar's Office, from the Admission Standards Report for implementation on May 1, 2021.*

Motion: Carried

Both recommendations deal with English language proficiencies and bring us in line with other western Canadian universities.

5.6. GFC Library Committee Bylaw Revision

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.13

Nicol/Vokey

*That General Faculties Council approve the Bylaw changes to the membership of the GFC Library Committee, effective July 1, 2020.*

Motion: Carried (2/3 Approval)

No questions were raised.

**6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

6.1. GFC Executive Committee Report – April 27, 2020

Received as information. No questions raised.

6.2. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – March 30, 2020



Received as information. No questions raised.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: gfc.2020.05.14

Loewen/Blum

*That the GFC meeting #546 be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried