



GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #550
Approved Minutes

Monday, November 2, 2020
3:00 p.m. via Zoom

- Present:** M. Mahon, (Chair), C. Adams, K. Alexander, R. Barendregt, L. Barrett, J. Blum, N. Buis Deering, P. Cardozo, B. Cummins, J. Cunningham, C. Currie, A. Darda, J. Dobbie, L. Elias, I. Genee, K. Gillespie, K. Godfrey, E. Greidanus, M. Helstein, B. Hughes, M. Ingraham, D. Jarvie, P. Kellett, L. Kennedy, J. Laurendeau, R. Lee-Thai, M. Letts, Y. Li, R. Lindblad, C. Loewen, M. Magnuson, R. Marynowski, K. Massey, J. Mather, C. Mattatall, M. Mohajerani, C. Nicol, A. Novello, E. Okine, R. Parkkari, T. Patel, K. Peacock, E. Pullan, G. Pyle, N. Rebry, J. Rice, P. Shao, J. Sheriff, S. Spenceley, L. Spencer, R. Stark, C. Steinke, A. Stewart, M. Stingl, A. Taylor, J. Usher, J. Vokey, N. Walker, P. Wilson, S. Wismath, R. Wood, C. Zhu
- Regrets:** L. Connel, J. Diaz, H. Gray, H. Kletke, I. Kovalchuk, T. Oosterbroek, D. St. Georges, R. Yalamova, L. Zink
- Other:** J. Gallais, V. Grisack, M. Whipple, S. Bubel, N. Freiheit, K. Fuglerud, A. Zovoilis

Oki. The President opened the meeting with a welcome and the Territorial Statement. The Council observed a moment of silence on the passing of Dr. Colin Thomson, Professor Emeritus.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.01
Loewen/Novello

That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #550 held Monday, November 2, 2020 be approved.

Motion: Carried

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.02
Marynowski/Hughes

That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #549 held Monday, October 5, 2020 be approved with amendments to Question Period as discussed.

Motion: Carried

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Mahon reported:

- Maclean's Second place overall Ranking! This is the first time we have hit that spot.
- Navitas update –The consultation has just begun. We need to increase our international student cohort. There will be meetings with faculty councils in the next month as well as a presentation in December to GFC.
- Campus Relaunch activity - We have now had some COVID cases on campus. We need to find the balance between relaunch and safety which will be a constant challenge for us.
- Equity Diversity & Inclusion – work continues on multiple levels to create programs supporting this initiative. The Search Committee has been formed for the Executive Director position and there have been some good advances on this front including a Zoom meeting hosted by Pronghorn BIPOC Series about our sports on campus, and a group in Arts & Science is doing an anti-racist film series on inclusive communities.
- Birds Strikes on the Science Commons and Lights Update – Facilities reported on the lights on in Science Commons. They are still in the early stages on how to operate the building. There is a balance between lights on and safety. We are trying to manage how long people are on campus vs the lights staying on. COVID has created challenges as they cannot test the system as they want with less people on campus. This is part of the challenge. We are exploring funding for an undergraduate group/student do a study on the bird strikes.
- Senior Administrative Searches – VP (Research)/VP (Advancement) are ongoing.
- New Executive of COPPOA (Council of Post Secondary Pres of AB), M. Mahon will be Chair for two years because if there is a time for the UofL to be well represented in Edmonton than this is the time to make sure it happens.
- Emergency student bursaries – we have put more money into that fund after consultation with students.
- Alumni Association Inductees: Roxanne Dicke, Angela Grace, Michael (Scott) Greer, Briana Koop, Dale Leffingwell, Perry Stein; Young Alumnus – Julian Spearchief Morris who completed his law degree at Harvard.
- Cyber Security Awareness – training closes Nov 5 @4:30pm. M. Mahon put a plug in for this training. It was much better this year than last year.
- October 29 Town Hall was last week and we had good discussion on Navitas.
- Long Service Awards will be December 3rd - We are sad that we cannot recognize people in person but with the increase in Covid cases, we thought it was more responsible to do it virtually.

4. QUESTION PERIOD

- S. Spenceley – with regards to the Alumni awards. The Health Sciences alumna was Cheryl Andres.
- B. Cummins – regarding the budgetary update clarification was requested regarding faculty representation on the taskforces: could we get a list of what the taskforces are and who are on them? M. Mahon stated that the taskforces that have been developed are in the data collection phase. How we are funding and the challenges surrounding the funding. The consultation will take place once we have reports completed. We will ensure that as we move forward that there will be consultation with stakeholders. Folks

know that we will not proceed with any decisions until full consultation have occurred. E. Okine added that there is no simple answer. There are 21 taskforces – one focused on academic restructuring – it is made up of the deans and who are faculty. There was discussion surrounding a paid consultant like at the University of Alberta or having internal groups comprise the taskforce. In talking to the colleagues at the UofA, many stakeholders were unhappy with the representation. The taskforces are there to come up with scenarios. The Provost will bring those to the various faculty councils and the UofL community will have a sense of all the scenarios that they come up with. B. Cummins stated that while he appreciated the comments, it is not an answer. The President commented that we can provide the task force membership to GFC.

- P. Cardozo – In discussing the replacement of the leader of advancement, the same arguments can be made about the university librarian position. The university librarian is a leader. If we are serious on being a comprehensive university, we need to have this position filled soon. M. Mahon stated that there will be consultation and it is very important to hear people’s perspectives on the issues.
- J. Laurendeau – we are waiting for the taskforces to be completed before we move forward with the University Librarian, but some positions such as VP Advancement/VP Research/Executive Director, EDI are moving forward so decisions are being made. M. Mahon stated that some positions have been deleted and some are moving forward. We are working through the challenges in decisions making.
- C. Adams – thanks for providing more transparency around the taskforces. She added a word of caution to be careful of thinking of deans and administrators as faculty. She hopes that this will be a collaborative process.
- I. Genee – when the list of taskforces is provided, could we also have the mandate of them? The President stated that this will also be provided.
- C. Steinke – collaboration is important and there needs to be adequate consultation with the faculty. Can you provide specifics on the reorganization of the structure of the UofL? M. Mahon suggested that we need to look at future structure of UofL and the number of faculties and departments. Does this still make sense today? Can we find savings and synergies? There are not new notions but is a question that has been considered for years. There have been question on structures and it has been under consideration at different institutions. E. Okine could not give an example because he doesn’t know what it looks like yet. We are waiting for the taskforces to develop their scenarios. We are dependent on the internal strength of the university to make changes. M. Mahon stated that we won’t make changes just to make change. Before any changes are made, there will be consultation.
- J. Cunningham – Navitas – what types of information or data were we given on Navitas? The data we have shows that only 31% of the Navitas students at University of Manitoba finished their degree. The president stated that we are looking at the data and have access to data that is not public. He suggested that the data you saw was incomplete as some of the students were still in school at the time. University of Manitoba data shows that 90% graduate where our highest graduate rate was 81%. Their data looks really good. We are not proceeding with any decisions unless we have a very good handle on their stats. M. Helstein reported that the data J. Cunningham is citing is a summary of a large report which is also public data. 557 students were eligible to complete their program with 505

actually completing. The report link will be posted when we upload the question and answers section for the town hall. (<https://uleth.sharepoint.com/sites/navitas-consultation>)

5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1. GFC Nomination Committee - Executive Director, EDI Search Committee Membership

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.03

Stingl/Laurendeau

The GFC Nominations Committee recommends to GFC the appointment of the three academic staff members below to fill the positions on the Executive Director, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Search Committee:

- *Glenda Bonifacio*
- *Gideon Fujiwara*
- *Michelle Hogue*
- *Olu Awosoga (alternate)*

Motion: Carried (1 abstention – M. Helstein)

M. Helstein abstained from voting on this item due to a conflict of interest as she is the chair of the EDI Search Committee. M. Stingl thanked the council for putting forward the list of nominations. It was a good slate of potential candidates. The committee looked for experience as well as diversity and after due consideration, came up with the slate of candidates listed in the motion. There was some discussion on that the majority of the candidates being from one faculty. M. Helstein suggested that staffing the committee is the first step. Consultation with students, faculty and staff will be one of the next steps.

5.2. GFC Nomination Committee Nominations

M. Mahon went over the needs of the committee. E. Okine reported that there are three vacancies for academic staff members on the GFC Nomination Committee. Two members are required for two-year terms (November 3, 2020 - November 14, 2022), and one member is required for a one-year term (November 3, 2020 – November 2, 2021). E Okine went over the procedures for the nominations and the approval voting as required by the GFC Bylaws. We are hoping for diversity on the committee. M. Mahon opened the floor to nominations.

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

- Majid Mohajerani
- Jason Laurendeau

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

- Leanne Elias

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.04

Okine/Letts

All nominations cease.

Motion: Carried

- 5.3. Centres & Institutes - Collaborative Health Research Institute of Southern Alberta
MOTION: gfc.2020.11.05

Spenceley/Letts

That General Faculties Council approve the Collaborative Health Research Institute of Southern Alberta, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried (1 abstention)

S. Spenceley gave some background on the history of CHRISA. It has been in the works since 2017 with the involvement of a number of health sciences stakeholders and university researchers. It was put on hold while the Centres and Institutes policy was revised. Jon Doan, Brenda Leung and Rob Sutherland have brought this together at the faculty level with Dean Letts also supporting the proposal. There was discussion surrounding how the list was decided and it was compiled three years ago and things have changed so there will be a new round of consultations to update the list of researchers. A question was raised on the challenges of funding and it was noted that these positions will be funded from moneys the principals apply for and the faculty has committed some funds for the first year but these are not continuing.

- 5.4. GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Reports

K. Massey introduced the reports and stated that there will be one change noted after the first set of recommendations are completed.

May 1, 2021 Implementation

School of Graduate Studies

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.06

Rice/Cummins

That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1 & 2 for the School of Graduate Studies from the CCC report for implementation May 1, 2021.

Motion: Carried

Dhillon School of Business

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.07

Godfrey/Ingraham

That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #3 & 4 for the Dhillon School of Business from the CCC report for implementation May 1, 2021.

Motion: Carried

Registrar's Office

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.08
Buis-Deering/Marynowski

That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #5-8 for the Registrar's Office from the CCC report for implementation May 1, 2021

Motion: Carried

Dhillon School of Business

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.09
Godfrey/Spenceley

That General Faculties Council approve the changes to limitations on Series courses for the International Management major for the B.Mgt., Second-Degree, and Post-Diploma programs; as well as the B.A./B.Mgt. and B.Sc./B.Mgt. combined degrees with the implementation date changed to May 1, 2021.

Motion: Carried

The implementation date was approved at CCC for May 1, 2022 but the faculty requested the date to be moved up to May 1, 2021. This only affects Dhillon School of Business and so the proposed change is now reflected in the motion for this recommendation.

Pending Ministerial Approval

School of Graduate Studies

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.10
Rice/Spenceley

That General Faculties Council approve the addition of a new Graduate Certificate in Bioinformatics, pending Ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Arts & Science

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.11

Letts/Godfrey

That General Faculties Council approve the addition of a new Certificate in Arts and Science, pending Ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Fine Arts

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.12

Ingraham/Dobbie

That General Faculties Council approve the addition of a new major in Cinema Studies in the Bachelor of Arts program, pending Ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

Dhillon School of Business

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.13

Godfrey/Spenceley

That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #4 & 5 for the Dhillon School of Business from the CCC report for implementation pending Ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

Registrar's Office

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.14

Buis-Deering/Rice

That General Faculties Council approve the addition of the Graduate Certificate in Bioinformatics and the Certificate in Arts and Science to the Residence Requirements and Time Limits charts in the graduate and undergraduate Calendars, respectively, pending Ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

5.5. GFC Convocation Committee – PhD in Education Parchment

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.15

Buis-Deering/Rice

That the General Faculties Council approve the addition of the concentration to the parchment for the Doctor of Philosophy in Education, effective October 17, 2020 as recommended by the GFC

Convocation Committee.

Motion: Carried

N. Buis-Deering gave some background on the recognition of majors/credentials/streams. The GFC Convocation Committee received a request from the Faculty of Education for a listing of the concentration on the parchment as this is beneficial to employment. The request was approved at the committee level and brought to GFC for final approval.

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1. GFC Executive Committee Report – October 26, 2020

Received as information. No questions raised.

6.2. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – #529 - September 28, 2020

Received as information. No questions raised.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

K. Massey stated that it is Career Month in November and it kicked off today, and there are a number of activities planned.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: gfc.2020.11.16
Spencer/Ingraham

That the GFC meeting #550 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried