



Monday, December 13, 2021

3:00 p.m. via Zoom

Present: M. Mahon, (Chair), K. Alexander, L. Barrett, J. Blum, G. Bonifacio, R. Bright, N. Buis Deering, C. Carnaghan, B. Cummins, C. Currie, C. Devoy J. Dobbie, A. Dodd, P. Dutt, A. Dymond, C. Fleischman, I. Genee, K. Godfrey, K. Greenwood, T. Harrison, M. Hawkins, M. Helstein, M. Ingraham, M. Letts, S. Malla, R. Marynowski, H. Jansen, D. Jarvie, L. Kennedy, M. Kildaw, H. Kletke, O. Kovalchuk, Y. Li, R. Lindblad, M. Magnuson, K. Massey, J. Mather, C. Mattatall, I. McAdam, D. McIntyre, D. McMartin, A. Mendenhall, D. O'Donnell, G. Ogilvie, E. Okine, D. Olsen, T. Oosterbroek, B. Parker, T. Patel, N. Rebry, J. Rice, D. Scott, M. Serebryansky, P. Shao, L. Spencer, C. Steinke, D. St. Georges, M. Stingl, A. Taylor, S. Urquhart, J. Victor, K. Walker, N. Walker, P. Wilson, S. Wismath, R. Wood, R. Yalamova

Regrets: R. Parkkari, J. Sheriff

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

Oki. The President opened the meeting with a welcome and the Territorial Statement. A moment of silence was held for Hal Weaver, former sociology faculty member and Jay Johnston, from the Department of Drama.

As Chair of GFC, some activity that has been occurring was addressed. GFC is a legislated body with a diverse representation of members. Hearing the diverse voices around this table is what makes this body and the institution in the end successful. All our voices need to be valued and respected and the Chair has unfortunately been informed by some individuals to their feeling uncomfortable, confused and even bullied by some side groups and conversations that led some people to be confused and requests to be removed from these GFC discussions. These are not GFC and undermine GFC as it is not treating all legislated members equally and is silencing voices of some members of GFC. These are difficult times and to ensure equity, diversity and inclusion within GFC, we need to act with sincerity and integrity to ensure effective governance.

M. Serebryansky introduced the Pass the Hat fundraiser and gave some background on the foodbank usage. The results will be tabulated and circulated in the new year.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: gfc.2021.12.01

McIntyre/Schultz

That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #560 held Monday, December 13, 2021 be approved.

Motion: Carried

Clarification was given that E. Okine is chairing 5.4 and M. Mahon is abstaining from voting.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: gfc.2021.12.02

Mattatall/S. Scott

That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #559 held Monday, November 1, 2021 be approved.

Motion: Carried

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Mahon reported:

- SHINE Campaign wrap up in the Grove. We were able to recognize the faculty and staff who donated to the internal campaign.
- Giving Tuesday - we were able to buy 1000 breakfasts for students and raise more than \$12,000 dollars for the ULSU Food Bank and Little Library Food Pantries, as well as collecting some non-perishable food items.
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) – Diversity Metre survey project will be launching in January. Please participate if possible. The University of Lethbridge participated in the Scarborough Charter Signing which moves the bar for EDI at our institution
- Town Hall – November 22 Budget & Recommendations; all this input is critical for us to move forward.
- Iikaisskini is now open for students – the grand opening will happen in March. Faculty and staff are excited to be in the middle of campus and have found that a large number of students are using the facility. There is more work to be done to decorate the space.
- December 6 (Ecole Polytechnique) Moment of silence. Virtual event continues to be a reminder of continuing to focus on violence against women especially on our campus.
- Parkland Shooting – Debrief and Lessons Learned event on December 7 – we had a large gathering of police and our security services to make sure that our campus is safe and that we are prepared for any situation.
- COVID outbreaks in Eastern Canada related to Omicron were noted.
- Faculty & Staff Winter Carnival – December 14 in the Grove, it is an outdoor event to limit Covid exposure and individuals were encouraged to attend.
- Campus will shut down December 24 for the whole day. The university will be closed until the new year. Take to heart to have no meetings the week before and after to take the time to take care of yourselves.

4. QUESTION PERIOD

- M. Serebryansky – What can we do to, formally and informally, work together in addressing the challenges facing the University of Lethbridge. The Students' Union wrote an open letter to all members of the UofL Community. We wanted to facilitate discussion as a means of reflection on what the past semester has been like for the student experience. There is a check engine light for students which we can't ignore. The letter is a call to action to urge all leaders, decision makers and community members to use their connections for government advocacy. We want to work together to help our situation. We are looking for more flexible opportunities to brainstorm ideas because we all know how difficult it has been for the last three years with the governments. To reiterate the question – what can we do formally or informally work together to face the challenges from the government of Alberta? M. Mahon provided thanks to students and the signatories on the letter. The expression is profound. It really is about how to come together to better our situation. We have responsibilities to our constituent groups but at a higher level, we need to work together on the difficult issues. We must be concerned that all voices are being heard and respected. He is committed to find different pathways to make sure all are heard. There will be further discussions in the new year on the various topics of faculty structure and budget taskforces.
- M. Mahon reported that he missed giving the information on Lethbridge College on becoming a Polytechnique Institution. The Board Chair along with the President met with the minister and the deputy minister. Additionally, the president's met and we expressed concern that they are moving down this path.

5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1. Appointment of Student Members

MOTION:

gfc.2021.12.03

Okine/Bright

That General Faculties Council (GFC) approves the non-ex-officio appointed members to GFC for terms ending as noted below.

APPOINTED UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT MEMBERS

(Nominated by Students' Union) [8] Section 25 & GFC Bylaws – (GFC Appoints)

<i>Student (Arts & Science)</i>	<i>Shae-Lynn Dauncey</i>	<i>April 30, 2022</i>
<i>Student (Business)</i>	<i>Mitchell Nixon</i>	<i>April 30, 2022</i>
<i>Student (Health Sciences)</i>	<i>Annie Ebenmelu</i>	<i>April 30, 2022</i>

Motion: Carried

5.2. GFC Admission Standards Committee Reports

N. Buis-Deering introduced the reports.

Immediate implementation – Report 1

Recommendation #1 – Faculty of Arts & Science – M. Letts

MOTION: gfc.2021.12.04

Letts/Jansen

That GFC approve the undergrad new program admission information for the Certificate in Arts and Science, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

**Immediate implementation – Report 2
Recommendation #1 - #3 – School of Graduate Studies – J. Rice**

MOTION: gfc.2021.12.05

Rice/Alexander

That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1 - #3 for School of Graduate Studies from the Admission Standards Committee, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried

**May 1, 2022 implementation – Report 3
Recommendation #1 - #2 – School of Graduate Studies – J. Rice**

MOTION: gfc.2021.12.06

Rice/Helstein

That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1 - #2 for School of Graduate Studies from the Admission Standards Committee, effective May 1, 2022.

Motion: Carried

**Implementation pending Ministerial Approval – Report 4
Recommendation #1 - #3 – School of Graduate Studies – J. Rice**

MOTION: gfc.2021.12.07

Rice/Patel

That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1 - #3 for School of Graduate Studies from the Admission Standards Committee, pending Ministerial Approval.

Motion: Carried

5.3. GFC Nominations Committee – Committee Appointments

MOTION: gfc.2021.12.08

Cummins/McIntyre

That GFC approve the following slate of nominees to fill committee vacancies.

GFC Convocation Committee

- *Olu Awosoga (December 13, 2021 to June 30, 2023)*

GFC Strategic Planning Committee

- *Stacey Gaudette-Sharp (December 13, 2021 to June 30, 2023)*
- *Pei Shao (December 13, 2021 to June 30, 2023)*

Naming Advisory Committee (Current Member of GFC)

- *Tracy Oosterbroek (December 13, 2021 to June 30, 2023)*

Motion: Carried

5.4. GFC Nominations Committee – President & Vice-Chancellor Search Committee

Appointments

[E. Okine Chaired this Item.]

MOTION: gfc.2021.12.09

Cummins/Schultz

That GFC approve the following slate of nominees to fill the positions on the President & Vice-Chancellor Search Committee.

President & Vice-Chancellor Search Committee

- *Olu Awosoga (Faculty of Health Sciences)*
- *Carla Carnaghan (Dillon School of Business)*
- *Mary Kavanagh (Faculty of Fine Arts)*
- *Dawn McBride (Faculty of Education)*
- *Robert Sutherland (Faculty of Arts & Science)*
- *Alternate - Omar Rodriquez (Faculty of Arts & Science)*

Motion: Carried

B. Cummins reported that M. Mathurin-Moe gave a presentation to the committee and then stayed to guide them as they were making their decisions. This was a great resource. Thank you to our colleagues for making our job difficult in the many excellent candidates that were nominated.

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

6.1. Faculty Structures Process and Feedback Received

M. Mahon introduced the topic and asked E. Okine and M. Helstein to give their presentation. E. Okine reported that at the October 13th meeting of GFC, a motion was passed that a standing information item on faculty structures would be added to the GFC agenda each meeting. The process of feedback and validating the fair summary was discussed at the December 6th GFC Executive meeting. It was noted that nine out of ten presentations have been given. The last one is for those who had not been able to attend other councils or do not belong to a faculty council. Feedback will be invited on the 14th or 15th of December and extended to January 10th to ensure that we have fulsome feedback. It was also noted the feedback will be from all community members of the University including all employee groups. The fair summary process has been used in the appointment of senior administration. The feedback will be requested via Qualtrics and will go directly to the Office of Legal Counsel to prepare the fair summary of all feedback received. The need to allow feedback to be anonymous and the process to validate the fair summary were discussed. GFC Executive will see all the feedback and the draft of the fair summary report. Since we are getting feedback from all members of the university community, the discussion centered around how to get the employee group input such as Alberta Union of Provincial Employees (AUPE), Administrative Professional Officers (APO) and Exempt Support Staff (ESS). It was thought that they should receive the feedback and work alongside GFC Executive to validate that fair summary. Once the fair summary has been validated, it will be made available for review.

The Chair then opened the floor for discussion. Various topics such as what happens if GFC doesn't want the recommendation to go forward, what makes up the fair summary and how is it analyzed, timing as well as a robust discussion surrounding the form.

E. Okine explained the process. Our legal unit has done these fair summary reports many times. GFC Executive and the employee group representatives will look at the fair summary and decide and ensure that it is representative of the feedback.

Another question was posed on how the plan going forward would be developed and how it would be approved. E. Okine stated that the proposal will come from provost's office along with the fair summary to GFC in two meetings prior to anything going to the Board. Some additional information was noted on the budget and taskforces and M. Helstein referred to the task force diagram and that the diagram is inclusive of all of those taskforces (not just the faculty restructuring taskforce). The Chair commented that the Board of Governors expects a proposal that allows us to balance the budget for this year. A discussion followed regarding the timing and how we line up the processes to fall into the timing. N. Walker commented that blueprint is a good word to use. If we can't get the budget savings for April 1st but we can get it by a certain date and if we have a blueprint of how we will do it, we can present that to the board. It is a legislative requirement that we have a balanced budget. The Chair emphasized the need to continue to move forward having received lots of feedback.

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

7.1. GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Update

K. Massey reported that there has been a change and so we will be introducing the Business Analytics concentration for a fall 2022 intake. As a result, we need to remove the pending ministerial approval of Graduate Certificate in Foundations of Data Science restrictions from the CCC form. This allows us to admit students now for the fall.

7.2. GFC Executive Committee Report – December 6, 2021

Received as information. No questions raised.

7.3. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes - #540 – October 25, 2021 Meeting

Received as information. No questions raised.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

The Chair thanked GFC members for the fulsome discussions that have happened over the last year. He appreciates that this has been an angst-ridden process but we can work together to find solutions. He wished a peace filled time over the next few weeks and for all to come back as refreshed as possible.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: gfc.2021.12.10

Massey/K. Walker

That the GFC meeting #560 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried