



## GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #564

### Approved Minutes

**Monday, May 2, 2022**

**3:00 p.m. via Zoom**

- Present:** E. Okine, (Chair), K. Alexander, L. Barrett, K. Bhatt, J. Blum, G. Bonifacio, R. Bright, N. Buis Deering, C. Carnaghan, B. Cummins, J. Cunningham, G. DeSteur, J. Devos, C. Devoy, J. Dobbie, A. Dodd, A. Dymond, A. Ebenmelu, K. Godfrey, T. Harrison, M. Helstein, H. Jansen, D. Jarvie, S. Johnsrude, L. Kennedy, O. Kovalchuk, M. Letts, Y. Li, M. Mahon, R. Marynowski, K. Massey, J. Mather, I. McAdam, D. McIntyre, D. McMartin, D. O'Donnell, G. Ogilvie, T. Oosterbroek, B. Parker, T. Patel, J. Pickle, R. Preston, Y. Raza, J. Rice, A. Schultz, D. Scott, Sam Scott, S. Scott, P. Shao, J. Sheriff, C. Skiba, L. Spencer, C. Steinke, A. Taylor, S. Urquhart, N. Walker, S. Wismath, R. Yalamova, L. Zink, A. Zovoilis
- Regrets:** P. Ghazalian, K. Greenwood, P. Kellett, M. Magnuson, S. Malla, C. Mattatall, N. Rebry, D. St. Georges, P. Wilson
- Other:** V. Grisack, M. Whipple, M. Mathurin-Moe

*Due to illness, E. Okine will Chair the meeting. M. Mahon will be present and participate in the meeting but not chair. J. Gallais, due to family emergency, has been called away so D. McMartin will act as Parliamentarian. M. Mahon welcomed the new students to their first meeting. He then turned the meeting over to E. Okine to Chair.*

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

### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: gfc.2022.05.01

Bright/Marynowski

*That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #564 held Monday, May 2, 2022 be approved with amendments as follows E. Okine will chair and M. Helstein will move Item 5.1 Appointment of Student Members and Introduce Item 6.2 Faculty Structures. Item 6.5 GFC Nominations Committee will be presented first in Items for Information.*

Motion: Carried

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: gfc.2022.05.02

Jansen/Wismath

*That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #563 held Monday, April 4, 2022 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

**3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The President's Report will not be presented due to illness.

**4. QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions raised.

**5. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

5.1. Appointment of Student Members

MOTION: gfc.2022.05.03

Helstein/Massey

*That General Faculties Council (GFC) approves the appointed student members below to GFC for terms ending on April 30, 2023 as amended.*

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

<i>Student (Arts &amp; Science)</i>	<i>Samantha Scott</i>	<i>April 30, 2023</i>
<i>Student (Arts &amp; Science)</i>	<i>Jonah Pickle</i>	<i>April 30, 2023</i>
<i>Student (Business)</i>	<i>Coral Skiba</i>	<i>April 30, 2023</i>
<i>Student (Business)</i>	<i>Juanita Devos</i>	<i>April 30, 2023</i>
<i>Student (Business)</i>	<i>Roberto Bello</i>	<i>April 30, 2023</i>
<i>Student (Education)</i>	<i>Rachele Preston</i>	<i>April 30, 2023</i>
<i>Student (Fine Arts)</i>	<i>Alexandra Dodd</i>	<i>April 30, 2023</i>
<i>Student (Health Sciences)</i>	<i>Annie Ebenmelu</i>	<i>April 30, 2023</i>

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

<i>Graduate Student</i>	<i>Yamin Raza</i>	<i>April 30, 2023</i>
<i>Graduate Student</i>	<i>Chloe Devoy</i>	<i>April 30, 2023</i>

Motion: Carried

Lucas Choi will be removed and Roberto Bello added in as the representative from Business.

5.2. GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee

MOTION: gfc.2022.05.04

Massey/Buis Deering

*That General Faculties Council approve the creation of a new major, Indigenous Governance and Business Management, in the Undergraduate Diploma.*

Motion: Carried

This item that is amended from the last CCC motion where the previous motion was tabled. This reflects information that was received from the Ministry. Additional context was included in the agenda package.

5.3. GFC Admission Standards Committee

MOTION: gfc.2022.05.05

Buis Deering/Massey

*That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #1 - #4 for Student Enrolment and Registrar's Services from the Admission Standards Committee report for implementation May 1, 2022.*

Motion: Carried

**6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

6.1. GFC Nominations Committee – Call for Nominations (This was moved from Item 6.5)

B. Cummins updated GFC on the upcoming vacancies for the Spring. The nomination process is occurring at the moment. He encouraged members to nominate themselves or a colleague. This will come back for approval at the June meeting. Questions were asked about the board member position and the dates for the nominations.

6.2. 2022 – 2023 Budget

N. Walker introduced the Budget update and reminded members what GFC's role is with making recommendations to the Board. The budget must be balanced according to the PSLA. The last four years have been challenging. C. Takeyasu gave a brief presentation on the budget. Last year we used one time funding to balance the budget. From May to July 2021, the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) reviewed the budget taskforce recommendation as well as the input from the Committee of The Whole and Independent Consultation Committee. The BAC made recommendations to President's

Executive who reviewed the recommendations and set timelines for the taskforces. This work continues.

The operating budget has been reduced by 22 % for a total of \$24 million dollars. Tuition revenue has increased by \$11 million. If we do not find a path forward, positions will have to be abolished as we do not have funds to continue. A hiring restraint has been implemented to help save \$4.3 million/additional summer session tuition revenue with new students - \$112,000/lifecycle replacement fund – \$1 million/reduction in faculty/dept discretionary funding \$300,000/utilities provisions reserve 2022/23 and 2023/24 lock in until rates stabilize – \$500,000

There was discussion surrounding the effect of Covid on the unique circumstances at the UofL, concerns regarding enrolment and how all the University's community members become a champion of the university and to become engaged in the promotion of the UofL to encourage students to enrol here. K. Massey stated that for every one percent decrease in enrolment, we lose \$380,000 in tuition. There is a decrease in enrolment projected for the Fall semester. The members also discussed the amount of carry over funding and asked for clarification on how the new ten million dollar endowment is being funded. It moves strategic priority funds into endowment. We are trying to entice donations to the UofL. The strategy is to reduce scholarships that come out of operating and ultimately to come from endowments. It cements in the scholarships so they will continue to be paid out and will not be affected by budget crunches. Questions were asked about the reputational hit the University has taken this year and what we are doing to actively recruit new students.

E. Okine stated that we all need to rebuild the reputation and we are actively recruiting students. It was reported that there are new events in five cities and one location in BC. There are evening events so that parents could attend as well. Retention is a real concern as we have lost many continuing students and we are trying to encourage them to stay. Undergraduate international recruitment is a new venture. There was a robust discussion on the investment of ten million dollars versus reducing it to only one million dollars. The argument was made that this is an investment in students and to reduce that would take away resources that would encourage students to stay. Concern was noted that we cannot keep using one time funding to balance the budget. M. Mahon emphasized the ten million could be put towards the deficit but then next year we would have to find the 10 million as well as whatever the decrease will have to be next year. The Board agrees that putting this money into the future as a long-term investment is what they want. E. Okine suggested that the concerns be minuted here and that M. Mahon as the Chair of GFC will report those concerns to the Board.

- Suggest putting information to the public to inform them of the budget deficit situation at the University and ask the public to lobby the government on the impact of the operating grant reductions on the University
- Ask the Minister of Advanced Education to allow a deficit budget
- The University transferred \$10M to a student endowment fund for scholarships from the Strategic Priority Funds – GFC suggestion that rather than transfer the \$10M this year to transfer \$1M for each of the next 10 years and use the funds not transferred to cover the budget deficits.

### 6.3. Faculty Structures

M. Helstein gave an update to members on this standing item. The activity on this subject has been on the fair summary. It is now with the GFC Executive and the other employee group members as directed. This will be validated by June GFC meeting and will be available to the public after that.

### 6.4. GFC Strategic Planning Committee Progress and Achievement Report

E. Okine introduced the Progress and Achievement report. This comes to GFC annually and M. Whipple gave some background on the document. The draft content is in the package and went to the GFC Strategic Planning Committee this morning for approval. If there are any corrections, suggestions, or feedback please send them to M. Whipple. M. Moser, Director, Institutional Analysis was also present to answer questions.

### 6.5. Navitas

M. Helstein reported that this is text heavy set of slides at the request of GFC Executive. The presentation is in the package and you can provide feedback to M. Helstein. The slides were seen in 2020 but the data has been updated. Exploration of a partnership with Navitas is merely one avenue available to us. Initial consultation has occurred with initial report to GFC. Not all international pathway programs are the same and not all Navitas/University partnership are the same. If we choose to enter in a partnership, we have the agency on what it will look like. There were questions about oversight and if students and staff would be involved in the oversight.

We reached out to the partnership institutions to get data on students once they are in the partnership in the partnership institution. We received data from SFU and University of Manitoba.

MOTION: gfc.2022.05.06

Zink/Massey

*That the GFC meeting continue past 5:00 pm.*

Motion: Carried

There was discussion on what happens to the students once they are at the institution, protections for academic staff, workloads and how the pathway programs will work. There was concern noted of shift from Calgary campus to the Lethbridge campus. A robust discussion occurred on how to address these concerns of possibly limiting programs to those that can be completed at the Calgary campus. The members also discussed other options such as to replicate Navitas through in-house program/competitor pathways. We don't have the funds to do this and we need to limit exposure to risk.

Multiple concerns were discussed about how Navitas practices, and others can be seen predatory where recruiters could take advantage of the international students making them pay multiple fees to recruiters and then Navitas. M. Helstein registered the concerns. She noted that we have to be serious about access and the distribution of funds

to support students. The difference between public/private partnership and privatization is the oversight piece. They have all of the right immigration processes as a direct college access. Further questions were asked if we talked to the institutions who chose not to enter an agreement with Navitas and why this process is not going out for tender. It was indicated that we develop these relationships and then discuss agreements/partnerships and that this is normal in research relationships. It was noted that if we go down this path, a recommendation may be to introduce a joint oversight committee who is actively involved in validating that the experience that the students are having is what they intended.

6.6. GFC April 4 – Follow up Requests

Information was requested at the last meeting and has been provided in the agenda package. No questions or comments.

6.7. GFC Executive Committee Report – April 25, 2022

Received as information. No questions raised.

6.8. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes - #544 – March 28, 2022 Meeting

Received as information. No questions raised.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: gfc.2022.05.07

Massey/Jansen

*That the GFC meeting #564 be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried