



## GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #568

### Approved Minutes

**Monday, November 14, 2022**

**3:00 p.m. in W646**

- Present:** E. Okine (Chair), L. Barrett, Y. Belanger (virtually), R. Bello (virtually), K. Bhatt, G. Bonifacio (virtually), R. Boon (virtually), R. Bright, N. Buis Deering, G. DeSteuer, J. Devos, C. Devoy, S. Findlay, P. Ghazalian, K. Haight, M. Helstein, C. Hosgood, B. Hughes, H. Jansen, P. Kellett, L. Kennedy, E. Koo, O. Kovalchuk (virtually), M. Letts, R. Marynowski, K. Massey, J. Mather, I. McAdam, D. McIntyre, D. McMartin, D. O'Donnell, N. Patel (virtually), R. Preston, Y. Raza, N. Rebry, J. Rice, J. Sadr (virtually), K. Schwarz, D. Scott (virtually), Sam Scott, Sh. Scott (virtually), C. Skiba, D. Slomp, L. Spencer, D. St. Georges (virtually), C. Steinke (virtually), M. Stingl, N. Thakor, M. Thomas, S. Thomas, S. Urquhart, A. von Heyking, N. Walker, P. Wilson (virtually), S. Wismath, A. Zovoilis (virtually)
- Regrets:** L. Burckes, C. Carnaghan, J. Dobbie, A. Dodd, A. Dymond, D. Fredrickson, K. Godfrey, K. Greenwood, I. Kovalchuk, M. Mahon, S. Malla, T. Oosterbroek, J. Pickle, H. Warraich, J. Youngdahl, L. Zink,
- Other:** J. Gallais, V. Grisack, M. Mathurin-Moe, R. Westlund, M. Whipple  
(other guests were present on Zoom)

*Okie. The President opened the meeting with a welcome and the Territorial Statement. A moment of silence was observed for D. Ferguson, a professor in the Department of Mathematics.*

*E. Okine noted that in the President's absence, and as articulated to GFC Executive and in the GFC Bylaws he will chair GFC.*

### 1. **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the November 14, 2022 Meeting #568 Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the GFC Meeting # 567 – October 3, 2022 Minutes

#### INFORMATION

- 1.3. GFC Executive Committee Report – October 31, 2022
- 1.4. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – #549 – September 26, 2022
- 1.5. GFC Bylaw Revisions Feedback – Extended

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.01

Massey/Jansen

*That the General Faculties Council approve the November 14, 2022 Consent Agenda.*

Motion: Carried

Concern was noted regarding the consent agenda concerning corrections to the minutes and if the minutes should be separate. J. Gallais explained how the consent agenda is used and is hoping to educate members that things could be added and changed during the Consent agenda. It is a way to deal with something routine. This will be brought back to GFC Executive for further discussion.

## **2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

In the President's absence, E. Okine reported:

- Response to a follow-up from last meeting where a question arose at last GFC on how many of the new hires were on term and or continuing tenure track contracts. The percentages are 60% continuing and 40% term. E. Okine reported back on the question from last meeting that he had stated 51 had been recruited. There were actually 53 recruited.
- Board Meeting Items Related to Prior GFC Recommendations
  - The Board met on Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> and approved to proceed with contracting an international student pathway partnership with Navitas. It was an in-depth discussion and the longest open session meeting many can recall (Oct 3 GFC recommendation to Board).
  - The Board approved the extension to 2024 of the University of Lethbridge Strategic Plan 2014-2022 (June 6 GFC recommendation to Board).
- Chancellor Search – first meeting of the search committee was on Oct 11<sup>th</sup>; Nominations close November 30<sup>th</sup> with a new Chancellor in place by March 16, 2023; email [governance@uleth.ca](mailto:governance@uleth.ca) for more information.
- Long Service Awards – celebrated employees who have 10 – 40 years service.
- Let There Be Light Night – community came together to recognize the accomplishments of our 2022 Alumni Achievement Award honorees.
- Fall 2022 Convocation - A total of 233 grads, 63 of them from 2020 and 2021 classes, participated in Fall 2022 Convocation ceremonies. In addition to presenting an honorary degree to Dr. Nancy Southern (LLD '22), the ceremony celebrated Dr. Sean Fitzpatrick, mathematics instructor, as the Excellence in Teaching Award winner and Leanne Elias (BFA '95, MEd '03), new media professor, as the recipient of the Board of Governors Teaching Chair. As well, this was the first Convocation as board chair for Dean Gallimore (BMgt '84).
- Community Update was held on Oct 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Open House Fall 2022 – 1800 future students and their family members attended the event; 150 staff volunteers and 60 student volunteers. A big thank you to all the staff and student volunteers who took care of the 1800 future students.
- Operation Red Nose - returns for its 26th year of community service, reviving the annual holiday drive-home campaign in Lethbridge starting December 2, 2022.
- New Premier – Danielle Smith

- Continued work with local and provincial government, and working with the city to update them on our accomplishments at a meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November.
- Scholarship Program – Board approved \$10 Million In Matching Funds; New Endowed Student Scholarships
- Mastercard Foundation – National Launch of The ELEV Program, A Goal Of Supporting 100,000 Indigenous Youth By 2030. Dr. Leroy Little Bear attended to represent the U of L, as well as Mike Mahon, Shanda Webber, and Students. Thank you for the hard work on the national launch.
- Robert Sutherland was appointed chair of Campus Alberta Neuroscience
- ULeth Grad student, Yamin Raza (BSc '22) capped off her undergraduate degree by winning an award for the best undergraduate thesis in the field of Ecotoxicology. A round of applause was given to her.
- Nov 16<sup>th</sup> Celebrating Research Reception.
- Nov 24-26<sup>th</sup> Royal Society Celebration of Excellence in Calgary.
- Dec 12<sup>th</sup> UL Community Holiday Celebration.

### **3. QUESTION PERIOD**

- D. O'Donnell – what was the final determination on hybrid meetings. J. Gallais was unable to attend the meeting so it was deferred to next meeting when she could attend.
- P. Wilson – MC Foundation - What is the structure of the office of Indigenous Education. Who is in charge and what does this mean for indigenization. E. Okine stated that Heather Mirau retired and we are having conversations on a new lead for this department. It is a priority for the University. P. Wilson will email his question to the Provost as it refers to an individual.
- G. Bonifacio – regarding the Navitas approval. Will there be parallel activities or will there be other faculties involved or just Dhillon School of Business. E. Okine mentioned that other pathways were not on the table yet. For the first few years, we will focus on the Dhillon School of Business.
- K. Haight - November 29<sup>th</sup> presentation – what is the purpose of this? E. Okine reported that we want to ensure that the government doesn't forget about us. R. Westlund reported that the presentation is the first opportunity to offer a presentation to the city councillors as a group. We want to build up their knowledge base of the UofL. Slides are similar to those presented at the community update.

### **4. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

#### **4.1. GFC Nominations Committee Nominations**

M. Helstein updated the committee on the vacancies on the GFC Nomination committee and the process on how it will go. We need current members of GFC and will staff the committee from the floor. We should try to ensure diversity from equity deserving groups and from facilities.

E. Okine opened the floor to nominations. The following nominations were received and acclaimed:

- Bryn Hughes, (immediately to Nov. 6, 2023)
- Nimesh Patel, (immediately to Nov. 6, 2023)
- Susan Findlay (immediately to Nov. 4, 2024)
- Richelle Marynowski (immediately to Nov. 4, 2024)

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.02

Helstein/Rice

*That nominations from the floor cease.*

Motion: Carried

#### 4.2. GFC Nominations Committee – Chancellor Search Committee

D. Scott gave an update that the Chancellor Search Committee had one person step down but we feel that we still should fill the vacancy as the committee has just begun their work. The next meeting is Dec 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am and the member should be able to attend the meeting at that time.

E. Okine opened the floor to nominations. The following nominations were received:

- Gage DeSteur was nominated.

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.03

Scott/Rebry

*All nominations cease.*

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.04

Scott/

*That GFC Nominations Committee is requesting to open nominations to the floor of GFC to fill a vacant position on the Chancellor Search Committee.*

- Chancellor Search Committee
  - o Gage DeSteur

Motion: Carried

#### 4.3. Strategic Research Plan Extension

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.05

McMartin/Thakor

*That General Faculties Council extend the term of the current Strategic Research Plan to June 30, 2024.*

Motion: Carried

D. McMartin reported that information in the package is what we have achieved. She would like to spend more time in consultation on how we are seen and to grow and enhance research at our university. Concern was noted on delaying - what impact the delay will have on recruitment of faculty and on the early career research faculty. It seems like a long delay. D. McMartin stated that the current plan speaks to where we are and speaks to current faculty in who we are. We are staying true to core values and strengths. The values are not going to wholesale change overnight. There was discussion on why the consultation process is long as we want to hear from us to the community, as well as nationally. To build the relationships with the community, we need to promote the university. The Vice-President Research stated that she doesn't have a preconceived idea on what the plan looks like. The members further discussed the plan guiding research as well as the autonomy researchers have on how to do their research.

#### 4.4. GFC Admission Standards Committee Reports

##### **October 24, 2022 Report**

##### **Faculty of Arts & Science**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.06  
Letts/Rice

*That GFC approve changes to the delivery mode for the Graduate Certificate in Bioinformatics.*

Motion: Carried

##### **Faculty of Health Sciences**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.07  
Hosgood/Rice

*That GFC approve changes to the delivery mode for Public Health Graduate Certificates in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and Public Health Program and Policy Planning and Evaluation.*

Motion: Carried

##### **September 28, 2022 Report**

##### **School of Graduate Studies**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.08

Rice/Bright

*That GFC approve the March 15 deadline change for Master of Education (General) and (Educational Leadership).*

Motion: Carried

**Student Enrolment and Registrar Services**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.09

Buis Deering/Findlay

*That GFC approve the changes to the petition for re-evaluation section of the calendar.*

Motion: Carried

**4.5. GFC Curriculum Coordinating Reports**

K. Massey introduced the recommendations.

**Immediate Implementation**

**Student Enrolment and Registrar's Services**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.10

Buis Deering/DeSteur

*That General Faculties Council approve the addition of an appendix to the Academic Schedule Guidelines.*

Motion: Carried

Related to the class cancellation due to national holidays announced. Historically it was managed at the classroom level but we have had requests for a more standard approach and would like to add it to the academic schedule.

**Implementation May 1, 2023**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.11

**Student Enrolment and Registrar's Services**

Buis Deering/DeSteur

*That General Faculties Council approve the removal of repetitive and outdated language in the Student Policies section of the Academic Regulations part of both calendars.*

Motion: Carried

**Faculty of Arts & Science**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.12

Letts/Scott

*That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #2 – 14 for implementation May 1, 2023.*

Motion: Carried

**Dhillon School of Business**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.13

Massey/Bhatt

*That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #15 – 18 for implementation May 1, 2023.*

Motion: Carried

**School of Liberal Education**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.14

Wismath/Marynowski

*That General Faculties Council approve the addition of courses MGT 1500 and IMGT 3670 to List II of the Liberal Education Lists.*

Motion: Carried

**Faculty of Fine Arts**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.15

Scott/Jansen

*That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #20 – 34 for implementation May 1, 2023.*

Motion: Carried

Overall, the primary goal is to make the curriculum more accessible to students.

**Faculty of Health Sciences**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.16

Hosgood/Buis Deering

*That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations #36 – 37 for implementation May 1, 2023.*

Motion: Carried

Removing recommendation #35 at this time.

### **Implementation Pending Ministerial Approval**

#### **Faculty of Education**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.17

Bright/Preston

*That General Faculties Council approve the Bachelor of Education Early Years Education program.*

Motion: Carried

This has been discussed for several years and we are now able to bring it forward. The program will prepare teachers for kindergarten to grade 3. The rationale is meeting both learner and labour market demands. Early years teachers need more support in literacy/numeracy/physical development/child development. A four-year program allows us to be competitive. There was a discussion on the curriculum.

#### **Faculty of Arts & Science**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.18

Letts/Findlay

*That General Faculties Council approve Recommendations 3 & 4 pending Ministerial approval.*

Motion: Carried

#### **Student Enrolment and Registrar's Services**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.19

Buis Deering/Haight

*That General Faculties Council approve the additions of the Bachelor of Education Early Years Education program and the Indigenous Student Success Certificate to the undergraduate Residence Requirements and Time Limits chart.*

Motion: Carried



## **5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

### **5.1. 2021 -2022 Academic Plan Progress Report**

M. Helstein updated the committee on the 2021 Academic Plan Progress report as this is a progress report on the planned initiatives. The academic plan was developed before covid and the job action. These two pieces have affected the timeline of the progress report. There was discussion on the need to draw attention to work around internationalization and indigenisation. What is lacking is a commitment to offer curriculum that focus on international content. With indigenization there is good work to attract more Indigenous students but what is lacking is the ways in which the way the university is responding to the TRC. M. Helstein noted these comments. Further discussion occurred on who gets the report and when it is approved. The Provost signs off on the report. The presentation here and then any feedback here could be added to the report. M. Helstein noted that we have to get back to members with the information on government requirements. It was asked where this information gets circulated. Prior to her retirement, H. Mirau would talk to the deans and then it was discussed at Statutory Deans' Council. When the provost signs off, it is because the deans have indicated that the information is corrected. The discussion then moved on to recruitment and enrolment, what language is used in the report as not to place blame on low enrolment, and finally on how to help students with cultural shock.

Discussion arose on recruitment and retention being vital and K. Massey has made good progress. We all have a stake in this as a university to attract the best students and retain them. K. Massey would be happy to meet with the dean and faculty to discuss the unique needs of the Faculty of Fine Arts and others.

### **5.2. Draft Policies**

J. Gallais introduced the draft policies that we bring them to GFC and indicated that they are on the policies website for feedback until noon on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

K. Massey gave an overview of the Sexual Violence Policy. The changes have been worked on the last 6-8 months. This was directed by the provincial government. This brought up several themes or requirements that the majority of these were already in our policy. There were two consultation periods in September and October to meet with students, faculty, staff, LGBTQ2+. There is required training on gender based bias. Statutory Deans' Council will complete training by December 31<sup>st</sup>. K. Massey asked M. Slomp to add comments. Most of the feedback has been addressed in the previous versions of the policy. Feedback on the changes is welcome. K. Bhatt thanked them for the work that has gone in the policy so far to make the campus as safe and equitable as possible.

E. Okine handed the Chair over to M. Helstein so he could address the next item.

E. Okine updated the committee on the changes to the policy Designation and Appointment of Senior Administration policy. Changes have been made to ensure alignment to position titles with other CARU institutions. The language we use is congruent with others such as the government. It helps us identify EDI training for search

committees. The composition of the committee is simplified. We ensure that all employee groups are identified. We identified the excluded professionals as a group that was previously missed. This is a title change only and will not come with a salary change.

M. Helstein opened the floor for comments. It was commented that it seems like there is an increasing number of senior admin. E. Okine stated that there is not an expansion of titles for senior admin. A comment arose on importance of portfolios like Vice-Provost Indigenous and that a deputy provost is a norm for what we have called the vice provost, so it is just a change in title. It was then commented that this is a best practice solution.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: gfc.2022.11.20

Scott/DeSteur

*That the GFC meeting of November 14, 2022 be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried