



Monday, February 6, 2023

3:00 p.m. in W646

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

Oki. The Chair opened the meeting with a welcome and the Territorial Statement. A moment of silence was observed for Professor Emeritus Akira Ichikawa, who passed away at his Lethbridge home on January 3, 2023 at the age of 84.

E. Okine noted that as per the GFC Bylaws that he would be serving as Chair in the President's absence as he has sent his regrets. E. Okine went over the guidelines for visitors attending the meeting. The Chair welcomed new and returning members, J. Burke, J. Victor, G. Tian and V. Baulkaran to General Faculties Council.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the February 6, 2023 Meeting #570 Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the GFC Meeting #569 – December 12, 2022 Minutes

INFORMATION

- 1.3. GFC Executive Committee Report – January 30, 2023
- 1.4. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – #551 – December 5, 2022

MOTION: gfc.2023.02.01

Massey/DeSteur

*That the General Faculties Council approve the February 6, 2023
Consent Agenda with editorial change in agenda*

Motion: Carried

In the agenda package, correct the spelling of Theresa Burg's name.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

E. Okine reported on behalf of the President:

- President Announcement – In-Person Event (February 7-9, 2023) to welcome the new incoming President Digvir Jayas and his wife Manju in the Science Commons atrium. E. Okine encouraged everyone to attend the Community Welcome on Feb 7th at 10:30 am.
- Black History Month - The University of Lethbridge celebrates Black History Month under the theme: Building a Culture of Authentic Inclusion: Moving from Resistance to Change. Inclusion goes beyond being invited to the table to have a conversation, it is about being psychologically safe to share ideas and to make decisions. Last week's kickoff was a wonderful event.
- Play Day – Monday Feb 20th; North & Company LLP - With more than half of their partners and associates being ULethbridge alumni, we're excited to welcome the family-oriented firm back to campus to help us host another fun-filled day! Volunteers are always welcome and needed. Contact Alumni Relations or visit the website to sign up to help.
- PrairiesCan Investment – The University of Lethbridge will receive nearly \$1.5 million to create the Centre for Neuroengineering Solutions and nearly \$870,000 to establish a work-integrated learning centre for Indigenous youth after the Government of Canada announced \$11.2 million in funding for eighteen projects in the Lethbridge region.
- R.E.C Room launch - ULethbridge and the ULethbridge Students' Union have partnered to create the R.E.C. Room (Refresh, Energize, Connect). A space that provides somewhere for students to enjoy ping pong, Jenga, giant chess, and conversation. The Chair reminded everyone that they are invited after the meeting to come and play.
- AACSB International extends Dillion School of Business accreditation.
- Giving Tuesday was a huge success; 1,000 student breakfasts and \$1,200 to ULSU food bank
- Blaine Thacker Memorial Award established - the life and legacy of Dr. Blaine Thacker (LLD '06) and his spirit of giving to community are at the heart of a new endowed scholarship at the University of Lethbridge that will support graduate students conducting agricultural research.
- Women in STEM conference – Feb 9th at the Science Commons; The Women In STEM Conference aims to bring together the amazing women at the U Of L across all STEM disciplines to showcase the work being done at our institution. Please consider participating if you are an undergraduate, graduate, postdoc, or researcher at the U Of L, identify as a woman, and want to connect. The welcome address will be given by Martha Mathurin-Moe (Vice-Provost Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) and the keynote address by Dr Jackie Rice (Associate Vice President Research & Dean of Graduate Studies).

- February 10th -18th – UofL Fine Arts “Little Prince” Production
- February 20th – Play Day
- March 23rd – Donor Gala

3. QUESTION PERIOD

- R. Preston – regarding the gender-based training deadline, what guidelines are in place for the staff and faculty to get their training done? M. Helstein noted that we need to move this through the collective agreement process and right now are only able to encourage all faculty to take the training. Senior administration made it a requirement for them to be done by January 31st.
- G. Bonifacio – follow-up to question above– what about the staff? M. Helstein responded that we have to work through all collective agreements with each employee group before moving forward with these groups.

4. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

4.1. Fostering a Respectful Community

E. Okine introduced Dr. L. Little Bear to speak to GFC. One of Canada’s most respected Indigenous academic leaders, Dr. Leroy Little Bear (BA ’72, DASC ’04), has been appointed Vice-Provost, Iniskim Indigenous Relations. This key portfolio signifies ULehigh’s commitment to meaningfully implement the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s Calls to Action and is entrusted with ensuring the University is a safe and welcoming community for Indigenous students, staff, faculty and community members and that programs, strategies, and initiatives reflect an institutional commitment to incorporating Indigenous knowledge, perspectives and ways of knowing. This was a topic discussed by the GFC Executive. Dr. Little Bear gave a wonderful talk on working together for the benefits of the students and our university. He discussed how the Buffalo treaty brought different groups together to benefit the whole, and this is how GFC is as well. Dr. Little Bear brought some copies of the Buffalo Treaty for those who wanted a copy.

4.2. Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee

D. McMartin gave some introductory information on the ESAC Committee, some of whom were present at the meeting. The Vice-President Research went over the various types of sustainability with a focus on environmental sustainability. The committee has existed for several years and are working on terms of reference to really engage the community on action. A list of programs around campus was given, including composting, light conversion, the installation of EV charging stations as well as the new heating and cooling plant systems. There is a lot of good work on campus to bring environmental sustainability into research and into the classroom. The committee will take the lead in creating a sustainability plan for the university. They are in the process of collecting information on what is taking place here and at other institutions of our size, as well as looking at places in similar semi arid environments. The committee is looking at reporting structures so they are accountable for the principles. One of the core principles is the Iniskim governance process guided by the one health approach and respect for all ways of knowing and knowledge. D. McMartin stated that they want feedback from all constituencies.

Following the presentation by the Vice-President Research, there was a robust discussion on how they would integrate Indigenous ways of knowing, adding GFC representation to the committee to increase engagement and how the committee members were chosen. GFC members also discussed the climate emergency and what we are and could be doing on our part. D. McMartin discussed that there are subsidies for environmental endeavours such as window films that are passive or active solar. However, wind energy is not viable for our campus as it is not zoned for it. There are restrictions to what we can do.

5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

5.1. GFC Bylaws Revisions

MOTION: gfc.2023.02.02

Scott/Massey

That GFC approve the revised GFC Bylaws, effective immediately.

Motion: Carried 2/3 approval

D. Scott reported that GFC Exec had some feedback after the bylaws didn't pass at GFC at the last meeting. The committee decided to pull the pieces on diversity and bring the rest forward. J. Gallais reported that some of these recommendations have come through the various GFC committees. This is an opportunity to move forward with things to start work on the Iniskim Academic Development Advisory Circle committee. Some of the other changes were adding discipline to the GFC Academic Appeals Committee title as well as GFC Exec and Nomination committee continuity clarification. The committee members discussed the wording in the Iniskim piece and made a friendly amendment to add "make recommendations to GFC and GFC standing committees" to section 10 (b)(i).

The second part of this item relates to the revisions that were pulled from the motion put forth in December. Most of that discussion surrounded diversity. GFC Exec would like to request volunteers from the floor at GFC to help with the working group. The following names were received: K. Haight, S. Findlay, G. DeSteuer, D. O'Donnell, P. Wilson. Members were asked to let J. Gallais know by Friday if they would like to be part of the committee.

5.2. GFC Nominations Committee Slate

MOTION ONE:

MOTION: gfc.2023.02.03

Scott/Marynowski

That GFC approve the following slate of nominees below to fill the identified committee vacancies:

New Program Review Committee (3 Academic Staff)

- *Wendi Lokanc-Diluzio, Faculty of Health Sciences*
- *David Slomp, Faculty of Education*
- *Gloria Tian, Dhillon School of Business, Calgary Campus*

Associate Vice-President (Information Technology) Search Committee (2 Academic Staff)

- *Majid Mohajerani, Associate Professor, Neuroscience*

Provost & Vice-President Academic Search Committees (6 Academic Staff)

- *Olu Awosoga, Faculty of Health Sciences*
- *Miranda Leibel, School of Liberal Education*
- *Rhiannon Mesler, Dhillon School of Business, Calgary Campus*
- *Emma Scott, Library*
- *Daniela Sirbu, Faculty of Fine Arts*
- *Ying Zheng, Faculty of Arts & Science*
- *(Alternate -Theresa Burg, Faculty of Arts & Science)*

Motion: Carried

Thanks to everyone who put their names forward. There is a full slate for the Program Review Committee and the Provost Search Committee. We will be looking for volunteers for one more for the AVP IT Search Committee next.

The floor was open to nominations for one (1) Academic Staff Member to serve on the Associate Vice-President (Information Technology) Search Committee.

The following nomination was received:

- Sean Fitzpatrick

MOTION: gfc.2023.02.04

Scott/Marynowski

That nominations cease.

Motion: Carried

6. OTHER BUSINESS

M. Thomas reported that WUSC is having a fundraiser tonight with Panago Pizza to help fund courses for refugee students – members were encouraged to participate by purchasing pizza this evening.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: gfc.2023.02.05

DeSteur/Findlay

That the GFC meeting of February 6, 2023 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried