



GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #573

Approved Minutes

Monday, June 5, 2023

3:00 p.m. in W646

- Present:** M. Mahon, (Chair), B. Allen, K. Anderson-Bain, L. Barrett, V. Baulkaran, Y. Belanger, G. Bonifacio, R. Bright, N. Buis Deering, C. Carnaghan, A. Dymond, A. Ebenmelu, P. Ghazalian, K. Godfrey, K. Greenwood, K. Haight, M. Helstein, C. Hosgood, B. Hughes, P. Kellett, L. Kennedy, I. Kovalchuk, O. Kovalchuk, M. Letts, A. Martin, R. Marynowski, K. Massey, I. McAdam, D. McMartin, A. Mukherjee, D. O'Donnell, E. Okine, T. Oosterbroek, N. Patel, R. Patel, J. Pickle, R. Preston, J. Rice, Y. Sackey-Forson, J. Sadr, K. Schwarz, D. Scott, S. Scott, D. Slomp, L. Spencer, N. Thakor, M. Thomas, G. Tian, J. Victor, N. Walker, P. Wilson, E. Wong, J. Youngdahl
- Regrets:** R. Boon, L. Burkes, J. Burke, J. Dobbie, S. Findlay, H. Jansen, S. Malla, D. McIntyre, N. Rebry, J. Reiter, D. St. Georges, M. Stingl, S. Thomas, S. Urquhart, A. von Heyking, F. Wright, A. Zovoilis
- Other:** G. DeSteur, J. Gallais, 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 Betty Bastien who passed away on May 9, 2023, at the age of 74. The Chair welcomed new and acknowledged departing members of GFC.

J. Gallais recognized President Mike Mahon for chairing GFC for the last 13 years as President and Vice-Chancellor. Some of the important work that occurred at GFC during his time as Chair was highlighted in the over 270 GFC and Committee meetings he attended and chaired during his tenure.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the June 5, 2023 Meeting #574 Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the GFC Meeting #575 – May 1, 2023 Minutes

INFORMATION

- 1.3. GFC Executive Committee Report – May 1, 2023
- 1.4. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – #555 – April 27, 2023

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.01

Allen/Thomas

That the General Faculties Council approve the June 5, 2023 Consent Agenda.

Motion: Carried

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Mahon reported on the following:

- The Chair thanked everyone who has participated in convocation last week. Over 1,300 graduates graduated and 3 honorary degrees were awarded to Timothy Caulfield, Esther Tailfeathers, and Fred Bradly.
- An update on the Provost search committee was provided as the search is underway and currently in the hands of the search consultant.
- The terms of Provost & Deputy Provost have been extended by 2 months, this was decided in consultation with incoming President, Dr. Digvir Jayas. Thank you to Dr. Okine and Dr. Helstein for staying on an extra 2 months in their respective roles.
- Rural Medical Education – A report was submitted to provincial government prior to the writ being dropped. We will wait until the new Minister of Health and Advanced Education is announced to continue consultation on this.
- Congratulations to:
 - Excellence in Teaching Award recipient Dr. Devon Smither; Dr. Trushar Patel for winning the Speaker Research Medal; and this years Board of Governors Teaching Chair Dr. Chris Mattatall.
- June 19th is the Pride Flag Raising event here on campus, all of those on campus are encouraged to attend.

3. QUESTION PERIOD

No questions arose during question period.

4. ITEMS FOR ACTION

4.1. Appointments of New Members

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.02

Okine/Marynowski

That General Faculties Council (GFC) approves the appointment of Jade Oldfield for a term ending on April 30, 2024.

Motion: Carried

4.2. GFC Nominations Committee Appointment Slates

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.03

D. Scott/Bright

That GFC approve the slate of nominees for committee vacancies effective July 1, 2023 until June 30, 2025.

GFC Academic Appeals and Discipline Committee

Tracy Oosterbroek (Alternate)

GFC Convocation Ceremony Committee

Romany Craig (Library)

GFC Research Planning Committee

Daniel O'Donnell (A& Sc. - Humanities)

Yllias Chali (A& Sc. - Sciences)

Rhiannon Mesler (Dhillon School of Business)

GFC Strategic Planning Committee

Tracy Oosterbroek (Health Sciences)

Brad Olson (Business)

Artur Luczak (Arts & Science)

Sheila McManus (Arts and Science)

GFC Student Awards Committee

Hadi Kharaghani (Arts & Science)

Motion: Carried

The floor was then open to nominations for the other vacant positions. No nominations arose and it was clarified that there will be another call for nominations in the September GFC meeting. Committee work as required will proceed and any vacancies do not negatively impact quorum.

4.3.GFC Admission Standards Committee (ASC) Reports

N. Buis-Deering, chair of the Committee introduced the report.

Report 1 – Immediate Implementation

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.04

Godfrey/Massey

Recommendation #1

That GFC approve Dhillon School of Business admission language updates for immediate implementation.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.05

Rice/Allen

Recommendation #2

That GFC approve the removal of the latest date of notification charts in the SGS calendar and replace them with an approximate timeline of 10 weeks for immediate implementation.

Report 2 – For Implementation September 1, 2023

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.06

Hosgood/Massey

Recommendation #1

That GFC approve the Bachelor of Nursing after degree CASPer pilot for implementation September 1, 2023.

Motion: Carried

C. Hosgood provided rationale for factoring in CASPer scores for admission rather than GPA alone and the benefit that this will have for students and the University. It was highlighted that this is only a pilot project to measure the change and impact of these scores, specifically in the number of applications and would this help more students gain admission to our programs. It was mentioned about other schools using these scores and how we would be matching their admission standards. Question arose on historically marginalized groups and it was noted the priority for ensuring access, and it is not a standardized test, but rather a situation leadership test and equity deserving groups don't fare worse on these kinds of tests, compared to standardized tests. Equitable access is a priority for the faculty.

At this point in the meeting a procedural concern was raised with report 2 – recommendation two “*That GFC approve new program admission requirements for the Dual Degree Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws in conjunction with Bond University for implementation on September 1, 2023.*” and the resolution by the chair and member was to bundle the recommendation with recommendation #22 from GFC CCC Report #1. See the end of 4.4 for this section.

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.07

Buis-Deering/Preston

Recommendation #3

That GFC approve the undergraduate admission deferral policy.

Motion: Carried

N. Buis Deering discussed the need for an admission deferral, as we currently don't have a policy for undergraduate admission deferrals.

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.08

N. Buis-Deering/Marynowski

Recommendation #4

That GFC approve the competitive program definition in the undergraduate academic calendar.

Motion: Carried

Report 3 – Pending Ministerial Approval

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.09

Godfrey/Rice

Recommendation #1

That GFC approve the new program admission requirements for Master of Financial Analytics and Innovation, pending ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.10

Godfrey/Marynowski

Recommendation #2

That GFC approve the new program admission requirements for the Undergraduate Diploma in Marketing, pending ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

At this point in the meeting the same procedural concern was raised due to approval order with report 3 – recommendation three “*That GFC approve the program admission requirements for the B.A. (Philosophy, Policies, and Law), pending approval of the program and subsequent ministerial approval.*” and the resolution by the chair and member was to bundle the recommendation. See the end of 4.4 for this section.

4.4.GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee (CCC) Reports

K. Massey, Chair of the Committee introduced the report and provided a brief rationale behind these recommendations.

Report 1 – Immediate May 1, 2024

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.11

Bright/Allen

That recommendations #1-4 (Faculty of Education) be approved by GFC.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.12

Hosgood/Preston

That recommendations #5-6 (Faculty of Health Sciences) be approved by GFC.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.13

Scott/Dymond

That recommendations #7-10 (Faculty of Fine Arts) be approved by GFC.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.14

Letts/Marynowski

That recommendations #11-21 and #23-28 (Faculty of Arts and Science) be approved by GFC.

Motion: Carried

Recommendation #22 will be brought forth at the end of this agenda item.

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.15

Godfrey/Mukherjee

That recommendation #29-32 be approved by GFC.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.16

Buis Deering/Godfrey

That General Faculties Council approve the Academic Schedule for 2024-2025.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.17

Buis Deering/Thomas

That GFC approve the introduction of an Academic Framework.

Motion: Carried

A concern was raised about using the term laddering and the use of this term and definition. N. Buis Deering highlighted that we already use the term laddering, and that the provincial government also uses this term. It was also highlighted that this is internal document to help facilitate planning within each of the faculties. The language in this recommendation is meant to facilitate the possibility, where appropriate.

Report 2 – Pending Ministerial Approval

Recommendation #1 is being brought forth at the end of this agenda item.

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.18

Letts/Thomas

Recommendation #2

That General Faculties Council approve the termination of the Canadian Studies major.

Motion: Carried

A question was raised about how this different from a program redundancy. It was highlighted that there is no faculty employed in the Canadian Studies program and that program is staffed with faculty from other departments.

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.19

Godfrey/ Mukherjee

Recommendation #3

That General Faculties Council approve the new Marketing diploma.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.20

Godfrey/Rice

Recommendation #4

That General Faculties Council approve the new Master of Financial Analytics and Innovation program.

Motion: Carried

K. Godfrey gave a brief rationale behind the new course-based program for finance.

The following 4 motions were pulled out of the ASC Report and the CCC Reports:
Bond Law Motions:

Recommendation #22 from Report 1 – CCC

MOTION gfc.2023.06.21

Letts/Godfrey

That General Faculties Council approve the new Dual Degree Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Law (Bond University) program.

Motion: Carried

M. Letts discussed the rationale for this motion. There is no LSAT test at Bond University, in Australia. This provides a pathway for students to pursue a law degree at the University of Lethbridge. It was highlighted that other institutions also have similar arrangements with universities in the United Kingdom.

Significant discussion occurred on this item. It was clarified as a dual degree program and that the focus of study is Canadian Law. This program is designed to be a pathway back to Canadian law.

They will be only admitting domestic students to this program to start with potentially opening to international students later. This is an international partnership and that this partnership aids in our institutional goal of increasing internationalization. It was noted that we have not yet approved courses yet as we need to approve the program before we can approve the courses. The resource implications are not yet known for these courses but would be required at year 5 of the program. The Faculty of Arts and Science has approved the offering of these courses, pending the appropriate GFC approvals.

It was also asked if it was possible for students to go to Bond and enrolling in another type of law program that Bond offers, rather than Canadian Law. We are only approving the dual degree concept and that Arts and Science Academic Advising, and the Student Enrolment and Registrars Services (SEARS) will put tighter Program Planning Guides and resource tools to help guide students on the best pathways for their needs. It was also highlighted that these programs are highly nuanced and requires study permits and preparation before the first day of classes here at our institution. Students highlighted that students have the ability to make their own independent choices, in terms of what they study, and they should get to make the choice of what they want to study.

Recommendation #2 from Report 2 – ASC

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.22

Letts/Preston

That GFC approve new program admission requirements for the Dual Degree Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws in conjunction with Bond University.

Motion: Carried

BA (Philosophy, Policies & Law):

Recommendation #1 Report 2 – CCC

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.23

Letts/Thomas

That General Faculties Council approve the implementation of a new B.A. major: Philosophy, Politics and Law.

Motion: Carried

A question about if there is potential for the University of Lethbridge to become a law school itself with offering these law courses. It was noted that this would be 7 years out minimum before that would even be possible.

Recommendation #3 Report 3 – ASC

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.24

Letts/Buis-Deering

That GFC approve the new program admission requirements for the B.A. (Philosophy, Policies, and Law), pending ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

4.5.GFC Executive Committee Nominations

E. Okine explained the process and the floor was open to nominations. No nominations arose from the floor at this time. Another call for nominations will take place at the September GFC meeting.

4.6 GFC Nominations Committee Nominations

E. Okine explained the process and the floor was open to nominations. No nominations arose from the floor at this time. Another call for nominations will take place at the September GFC meeting.

MOTION: gfc.2023.06.25

Preston/Massey

That GFC approve the extension of the meeting past 5:00 pm.

Motion: Carried

5. CLOSED SESSION

5.1.ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Strategic Enrolment Management Report

The report was presented and discussed in a closed session. K. Massey and N. Buis Deering discussed the presentation and talked about this being a confidential document/presentation and this data that cannot be shared outside GFC.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- M. Mahon mentioned that the budget was approved at the May 30th board meeting. This was the budget that was presented to GFC at the May GFC Meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

gfc.2023.06.26

Preston/Baulkaran

That the GFC meeting of May 1, 2023 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried