



Monday, May 5, 2025

3:00 p.m. in W646

- Present:** D. Jayas, (Chair), N. Attarifard, O. Awosoga, J. Blum, N. Buis Deering, C. Carnaghan B. Cummins, J. Cunningham, H. Davis-Fisch, J. Doan, J. Dobbie, A. Dymond, K. Edwards, A. Figueroa, S. Findlay, D. Gaur, B. Gerwin, P. Ghazalian, K. Godfrey, K. Greenwood, M. Helstein, C. Hopkinson, B. Hughes, H. Jansen, S. Johnsrude, I. Kovalchuk, O. Kovalchuk, M. Letts, D. Lucas, K. Massey, J. Mather, T. Matemera, D. McMartin, R. Mujaarab, M. Oladoye, B. Pike, N. Rebry, J. Rice, R. Schiff, D. Scott, D. Slomp, L. Starr, J. Sumbera, B. Sumner, R. Sutherland, R. Tajudeen, A. Taylor, S. Thomas, L. Vogelsang, A. von Heyking, R. Wevers, P. Wilson, J. Wiltshire
- Regrets:** S. Alam, Y. Belanger, C. Burton, K. Ito, C. Mattatall, D. McNeill, J. Oldfield, W. Osborn, R. Patel, S. Pelech, C. Steinke, G. Tian, P. Visentin, J. Youngdahl
- Other:** K. Acheson, A. Boschmann, C. Bell, A. Chubb, G. DeSteuer, K. Fuglerud, J. Gallais, C. Kanashiro, S. Marchant, M. Mathurin-Moe, M. Sawa, T. Schmaltz, K. Thurston, R. Westlund, M. Whipple (*other guests were present on Zoom*)

Oki. The Chair opened the meeting with a warm welcome and the Territorial Statement. The Chair also acknowledged today May 5, marks the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ People—also known as Red Dress Day.

Newly elected student members were welcomed: Alejandro Figueroa, Bradley Pike, Kimoya Edwards, Moyosoreoluwa Oladoye, Brannon Sumner, Rylee Wevers, Niosha Attarifard, and Tadiwanashe Matemera. Returning members Jessica Sumbera and Rikin Patel were also acknowledged. The Graduate Students' Association (GSA) representatives were recognised: Ridwan Tajudeen, Razeen Mujaarab, and returning member Jade Oldfield. Additionally, the Chair extended a welcome to the new Governance Officer, Lavonne Svenson.

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## 1. CONSENT AGENDA

### APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the GFC Meeting #591 May 5, 2025 Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the GFC Meeting #590 April 7, 2025 Minutes

### INFORMATION

- 1.3. GFC Executive Committee Report – #575 April 28, 2025
- 1.4. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – #574 – March 31, 2025 Meeting

MOTION: gfc.2025.05.01

Mather/Massey

*That the General Faculties Council approve the May 5, 2025 Consent Agenda.*

Motion: Carried

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## 2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

D. Jayas referred to the President's Report that was included in the agenda package.

An addition was noted:

- D. Jayas reported that the University has been invited to present to the Mintz Panel – Expert Panel on Post-Secondary Institution Funding – which is currently conducting a review of funding models and methodology. The University's presentation is scheduled for May 27. At the Panel's request, financial data has been submitted in advance of the meeting.

Question Period on Report Items

- No Questions

## 3. ITEMS FOR ACTION

### 3.1. Appointment of Student Members

MOTION: gfc.2025.05.02

Helstein/ Letts

*That General Faculties Council (GFC) approves the appointed student members below to GFC for terms effective immediately and ending on April 30, 2026.*

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

<i>Student (Arts &amp; Science)</i>	<i>Bradley Pike</i>	<i>April 30, 2026</i>
<i>Student (Arts &amp; Science)</i>	<i>Jessica Sumbera</i>	<i>April 30, 2026</i>
<i>Student (Arts &amp; Science)</i>	<i>Moyosoreoluwa Oladoye</i>	<i>April 30, 2026</i>
<i>Student (Arts &amp; Science)</i>	<i>Brannon Sumner</i>	<i>April 30, 2026</i>
<i>Student (Arts &amp; Science)</i>	<i>Rylee Wevers</i>	<i>April 30, 2026</i>
<i>Student (Business)</i>	<i>Niosha Attarifard</i>	<i>April 30, 2026</i>
<i>Student (Education)</i>	<i>Rikin Patel</i>	<i>April 30, 2026</i>
<i>Student (Fine Arts)</i>	<i>Tadiwanashe Matemera</i>	<i>April 30, 2026</i>

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

<i>Graduate Student</i>	<i>Ridwan Tajudeen</i>	<i>April 30, 2026</i>
<i>Graduate Student</i>	<i>Razeen Mujarrab</i>	<i>April 30, 2026</i>

Motion: Carried

### 3.2. GFC Admissions Standards Committee

MOTION: gfc.2025.05.03

Buis Deering/ Massey

*That the General Faculties Council (GFC) approve updates to the Incoming Exchange ELP requirements for the Duolingo English Test.*

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2025.05.04

Godfrey/Buis Deering

*That GFC approve the addition of an undergraduate summer intake for the BBA General Management on the Calgary Campus effective Summer 2026.*

Motion: Carried

### 3.3. GFC Nominations Committee

MOTION: gfc.2025.05.05

Dobbie/Mather

*That GFC Nominations Committee met on April 29, 2025 and recommends to GFC for approval the following.*

*That General Faculties Council approve the slate of nominees below, as amended, for two-year terms, unless otherwise noted, commencing July 1, 2025:*

***GFC Academic Appeals and Discipline Committee***

- *Olu Awosoga (Health Sciences)*
- *Kien Tran (Alternate – Arts & Science)*

***GFC Academic Quality Assurance Committee (3-year terms)***

- *Olga Kovalchuk (Arts & Science)*
- *Emma Scott (Library)*

***GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee***

- *Wendy Osborn (Arts & Science)*

***GFC Iniskim Academic Advisory Circle***

- *Jennifer Burke (Arts & Science)*

***GFC Research Planning Committee***

- *Nehal Thakor (Arts & Science, Sciences)*

***GFC Strategic Planning Committee***

- *Stacey Gaudette-Sharp (Career Bridge)*
- *Igor Kovalchuk (Arts and Science)*
- *Olga Kovalchuk (Graduate Studies)*

***Destination Project Phase II Steering GFC Ad Hoc Committee  
(commencing immediately and ongoing term)***

- *Stacey Gaudette-Sharp (Career Bridge)*

***New Program Review Committee***

- *Daniela Sirbu (Fine Arts)*

***Board of Governors***

***(commencing upon Ministerial approval for a 3-year term)***

- *Brendan Cummins (Liberal Education)*

Motion: Carried (2/3 approval)

J. Dobbie noted a correction to the nomination slate presented in the meeting package with the removal of an individual for ineligibility purposes.

MOTION: gfc.2025.05.06

Dobbie/Carnaghan

*That GFC open the floor for Nominations for the following:*

***GFC Iniskim Academic Development Advisory Circle***

*Two (2) Academic Staff Members*

***GFC Research Planning Committee***

*One (1) Academic Staff Members\**

***GFC Strategic Planning Committee***

*Three (3) Academic Staff Members*

***GFC Convocation Committee\*\****

*Three (3) Academic Staff Members*

J. Dobbie noted that if the positions are not filled during the GFC meeting, the committee slate will return to the Committee for further review and an additional nomination slate will be brought back to the GFC for appointment.

***GFC Iniskim Academic Development Advisory Circle***

*Two (2) Academic Staff Members*

- *Patrick Wilson (Arts & Sciences)*

MOTION: gfc.2025.05.07

Buis Deering/Massey

*That nominations cease.*

Motion: Carried

***GFC Research Planning Committee***

*One (1) Academic Staff Member*

- *Amy Shaw (A& Sc. Social Sciences)*

MOTION: gfc.2025.05.08

McMartin/Rice

*That nominations cease.*

Motion: Carried

***GFC Strategic Planning Committee***

*Three (3) Academic Staff Members*

- *Richelle Marynowski (Education)*
- *Mark Ward (Business)*

MOTION: gfc.2025.05.09

Massey/Carnaghan

*That nominations cease.*

Motion: Carried

***GFC Convocation Committee***

*Three (3) Academic Staff Members*

- *Wayne Lippa (Arts & Sciences)*
- *Romany Craig (Library)*
- *Maurice Needham (Arts & Sciences) (1 Year Term)*

MOTION: gfc.2025.05.10

Letts/Buis Deering

*That nominations cease*

Motion: Carried

The Chair expressed gratitude to members for putting their names forward for Committee memberships, emphasizing that the Committees play a vital role.

#### **4. ITEMS FOR REVIEW (Prior to Board Action)**

##### **4.1 2025/2026 -2027/28 Budget Plan**

C. Kanashiro provided an overview of the budgeting processes and the consolidated budget for information and feedback from the GFC – prior to approval by the Board of Governors. The presentation included both ongoing and one-time funding. The focus was on the ongoing budget, particularly the unrestricted funds for General Operating and Ancillary Services, with a projected surplus in Ancillary Operations. The presentation underscored the significant impact of provincial grant funding reductions from 2019 to 2022.

Kanashiro outlined opportunities and risks. Opportunities included increasing domestic student enrollment, partnerships with Navitas (UICC), expanding the Calgary Campus, and developing a Rural Medicine Program. Revenue generation strategies involved leveraging land assets, diversifying revenue streams, and introducing new programs. However, risks included enrollment fluctuations, Calgary campus facility issues, reliance on one-time funds, equipment lifecycle management, supply chain disruptions, inflation, tariffs, aging IT systems, and compensation challenges. Significant budgetary challenges encompassed grant reductions, labor disruptions, decreased domestic enrollment, increased competition, inflation, government caps on tuition increases, changes to international study permits, and post-graduate work permit eligibility. Ongoing strategies included workforce efficiencies, enrollment efforts, tuition increases, and discretionary funding cuts. Reinvestment in personnel was planned but limited by changes in international enrollment. The institution plans to apply to use reserve funds for a deficit budget, with a request for \$3 million in 2025/2026.

C. Kanashiro also emphasized that the university's website provides access to financial statements, including budget reports and the budget approval process.

Discussion ensued regarding several key budgetary topics for the university. It was noted that the sustainability plan's impact on expenditures for 2025/2026 would be addressed through the capital budget. Questions were raised about property tax appeals and C. Kanashiro noted that the university successfully appeals its property taxes each year. However, the budget does not reflect the results of the current year's appeals due to the lag caused by the appeal process. The return of Board Chairs Program was confirmed, despite past spending being much lower. The effect of tariffs on research material costs was acknowledged, as well as the university's capacity to accept more international students, which is limited by IRCC regulations. It was clarified that consultation outside of the Budget committee includes employee groups, especially when position reductions are considered.

##### **4.2 2025-2030 Capital Projects Priorities**

D. Lucas provided an overview of the Capital Projects priorities and explained that this document, which is submitted to the government annually, follows a government-issued template with limited options for classification. As a result, projects that don't fall under specific categories are grouped accordingly. M. Helstein stated that the predetermined

nature of the line items can make it challenging to categorize some projects appropriately. It was also observed that administration is actively working with both the government and private organizations to ensure that 10% of the required funding for the Sports Dome is met.

Additionally, the discussion highlighted that sustainability projects, such as ongoing lighting system upgrades and other initiatives focused on sustainability, are integrated into the capital budget as part of the university's broader capital initiatives.

#### 4.3 Strategic Plan Progress and Achievement Report

M. Whipple provided an update on the progress of the new metrics, which are being aligned with the recently launched strategic plan. He also invited questions or suggestions regarding the approach for reporting these metrics to the Board.

No questions were raised.

#### 4.4 Branding Strategy (CLOSED SESSION)

As stated in the agenda, guests were asked to leave the room for the Branding Strategy presentation and discussion due to proprietary information, leaving only voting and resource members. R. Westlund and K. Thurston presented the branding strategy project, highlighting extensive consultation and alignment with the strategic plan. The strategy aims to renew pride, inspire faculty and staff, and be utilized for over 10 years in the competitive post-secondary space. Effective branding will distinguish the institution.

### 5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

#### 5.1. Revoking Academic Credentials Policy (Revised)

M. Helstein presented the policy to the committee for comments and questions, noting that it will be brought back to the GFC in June for approval. No questions or comments were added.

#### 5.2. Appeals of Application of Policy (Revised)

M. Helstein presented the policy to the committee, inviting feedback and questions, and noted that it will be brought forward to the GFC for approval in June. While no comments or questions were raised during the meeting, members were encouraged to share any feedback directly with M. Helstein following the session.

### 6. OTHER BUSINESS

#### 6.1. Question Period on Other Items

No questions were noted.

### 7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: gfc.2025.05.11

Buis Deering/Dobbie

*That the GFC meeting of May 5, 2025 be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried