

General Faculties Council – OPEN SESSION
January 20, 2023 at 9am – 11am
Lincoln Park Room J301

ATTENDANCE:

Tim Rahilly, CHAIR	Lee Easton	Kenna Olsen
Chad London, VICE-CHAIR	Maryam Elahi	Stephen Price
Tala Abu Hayyaneh	Cynthia Gallop	Katharin Pritchard
Yasmin Ahmed	Shane Gannon	Maggie Quance
David Bird	Geri Lynn Gouglas	Shelley Rathie
Julie Booke	Leah Hamilton	Luis Rios
Arianna Borrueal	Sally Haney	Kari Roberts
Vicki Bouvier	Brenda Lang	Paul Rossmann
Meagan Bowler	Michelle LoGullo	Peter Ryan
Adam Cave	Moussa Magassa	Marc Schroeder
Fiona Chetty	Rusna Mahoon	Cheryl Techentin
Peter Choate	linda manyguns	Deepa Upadhyaya
Liza Choi	Colin Martin	Connie Van der Byl
Erik Christiansen	Tori McMillan	Paul Varella
David Clemis	Cari Merkley	Phil Warsaba
Christian Cook	Lavinia Moldovan	Gaye Warthe
Evan Cortens	Mustansar Nadeem	Kelly Williams-Whitt
Anupam Das	Guy Obrecht	Jonathan Withey
Trevor Day	Nancy Ogden	

Resources

Sheena Jensen, RECORDING SECRETARY

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Christine Brownell	Joseph Nguyen	Joyce Totton
Troy Burnett	Aida Patient	Michael Uzoka
Nabeel Muhammad	Jennifer Pettit	
Elaine Mullen	Tabussom Qureshi	

Resources

Amy Nixon, SECRETARY

T. Rahilly, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and confirmed quorum.

Land Acknowledgement

Gaye Warthe opened the meeting with a Land Acknowledgement.

1. **Approval of Agenda** (*motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the January 20, 2023 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved.

Motion carried by unanimous consent

2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

2.1. Minutes from November 25, 2022 (*motion*)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the November 25, 2022 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved.

In response to questions:

- The data on contract teaching in 2021/22 at MRU would be made available to GFC
- No update on gender inclusive washrooms, but is being looked at
- The Registrar indicated that fall exam period deferral requests were at a similar level as previous years

Motion carried by unanimous consent

2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

Addressed above. There was no additional business arising from the minutes.

3. **Approval of Curriculum** (*motion*)

Faculty of Science and Technology:

3.1. New Program/Major – Biology, B.Sc. (Honours)

Moved and seconded:

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the new program/major for Biology, B.Sc. (Honours).

Motion carried

4. **Committee Chair Reports**

4.1. Executive Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the January 11, 2023 EC meeting was provided and highlighted at the meeting.

Questions:

- A member brought forward concerns about the use of “ChatGPT” and made a motion for a secondary body to report to GFC to address the concerns and how it affects university policy
 - The motion was seconded and the Chair placed it as a motion to consider
 - Discussion ensued with various concerns about ChatGPT expressed
 - The Chair received consensus from GFC to proceed with looking into this request
 - **ACTION:** The Chair will follow-up about which secondary body is best suited to address the topic of “ChatGPT” and about reporting to GFC.

4.2. Academic Planning and Budget Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the January 12, 2023 APBC meeting was provided.

In response to questions:

- The APBC Chair agreed to revisit the wording in the report with APBC to clarify that, as an established standing committee of GFC, the committee's discussions consider "*how ~~whether~~ the committee contributes to the work of GFC*"
- Clarification was provided that APBC's feedback on the Academic Plan consultation questions were for the purpose of bringing that feedback to the Academic Plan Steering Committee to address

4.3. Academic Programs and Curriculum Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the December 6, 2022 APCC meeting was provided and highlighted the section about a proposed pathway for amending the Program Definitions Policy to incorporate a three-credit or equivalent Indigenous component, as directed by GFC in April 2020. Discussion ensued on the various models APCC had looked at and challenges they had, and concerns were raised about resources and capacity of faculty within Indigenous Studies to support.

4.4. Academic Standards Committee

The ASC Chair gave a verbal update on upcoming consultations with Faculty Council's on ASC's proposed changes to the *Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria* to acknowledge Indigenous Peoples ways of knowing and doing.

4.5. Research and Scholarship Committee

The RSC Chair gave an update that, in consultation with the RSC working group, the MRFA President and other MRFA representatives to address the concerns raised at the November 2022 GFC meeting, RSC approved for recommendation to GFC the revised "*Procedure for Addressing Allegations of Misconduct in Research*" at the February 2023 GFC meeting.

4.6. Student Affairs Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the November 22, 2022 SAC meeting was provided.

4.7. Teaching and Learning Committee

A written Committee Chair report of the November 24, 2022 TLC meeting was provided and highlighted at the meeting.

In response to questions and feedback:

- The editorial updates to the forms for teaching and promotion will be amended to add the field "Pronouns" instead of "Preferred Pronouns" to align with current language
- The TLC Chair agreed to bring back to TLC that request to reconsider the removal of "distracting mannerisms" from those forms, where an example was shared to explain how in some instances that feedback may be helpful

- The TLC Chair provided an explanation about the issues with importing courses into D2L and how the ADC is addressing them and providing support to faculty

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

No written questions were submitted for inclusion in the package.

5.2. Questions from the Floor

There were no questions from the floor.

6. Other Reports

6.1. GFC Chair and Vice-Chair Report

The GFC Chair and Vice-Chair submitted a written report with academic updates.

In response to questions and comments:

- A status update on responding to the MOU regarding tenure and promotion dossiers was given and it is on track
- Regarding the comment that raised concern with the process to select the Provost (a closed search) that GFC was not involved and that future searches be an open search, the Chair explained how the Provost Search committee had addressed the matter of having a closed search process, and acknowledged the comments made

The Provost and Vice-President, Academic, shared an update on the number of Academic Plan consultation sessions, including the number of participants, that have been held and are upcoming, and reminded GFC of the next steps in the planning process.

Additional comments about the report were heard, including a suggestion to seek input from UTPC members on the tenure and promotion dossiers system process, feedback on the Academic Plan consultation questions, and consideration to look at the previous academic plan and associated work as part of the development of the new plan.

6.2. Report from the Board of Governors

A written report was submitted for the December 2, 2022 Board of Governors open session meeting.

In response to questions:

- The link to the public mandate letters to ministers that was referenced in the report would be shared with GFC
- The Chair acknowledged the question about bringing future Investment Management Agreements to GFC in advance of signing
- Clarification was provided that the Board had received an update and not actual plans on the item *“Internal renovation project update- G-Wing and Springbank Hangar”*

7. Consent Agenda

7.1. Items Removed for Discussion
No items were removed for discussion.

7.2. Items for Information

The following items were received for information:

- 7.2.1. Enrolment Summaries
- 7.2.2. Committee Meeting Minutes
- 7.2.3. Faculty Council Approved Curriculum

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment 10:33AM