



General Faculties Council

November 19, 2009

MINUTES

Present:

K. Street, Speaker
L. Ash
Z. Bishop
C. Brownell
A. Bruton
M. Chikinda
D. Clark
T. Davis
Y. Dean
E. Delamont
P. Dornian
P. Dozois
S. Engler
R. Fisher
B. Fleming
W. Fraser
M. Gardiner
S. Gottheil
M. Haworth
B. Hendrickson
K. Hoehn
M. Huston
D. Hyttenrauch
P. Johnston
L. Jones
C. Konsmo
D. King
B. Kunz
R. Kurji
S. Kurji
I. Lagu
B. Lane
D. Legg

M. MacMillan
K. Manarin
D. Marshall
M. McGregor
J. McNichol
M. Mertin
G. Mossiere
I. Naested
T. O'Connor
N. Ogden
K. Olsen
B. Paterson
A. Piltingsrud
M. Pollock
T. Powell
I. Ratushniak
B. Ravelli
D. Sabiston
R. Saint Fort
M. Schroeder
J. Semenoff
C. Sessarego
C. Shepstone
M. Sinotte
R. Spencer
E. Sweeney
J. Szabo Hart
S. Valliani
P. Varella
C. Vidella
K. Westbrook
J. Zimmer
D. Carpenter, Recording Secretary

Absent with Regrets:

R. Harrison
M. Huston
R. Jones
M. Lafave
D. Marshall
T. McIntosh
P. Price
R. Roberts
K. Robertson
A. Wight Felske

Absent:

L. Black
W. Fraser
C. Konsmo
J. Pavelka

Guest:

C. Merkley

K. Street, Speaker, convened the November 19, 2009 meeting of the General Faculties Council.

1.0 Agenda for November 19, 2009

Moved by R. Ravelli; seconded by L. Ash:

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the agenda for the November 19, 2009 meeting.

Carried.

2.0 Minutes for October 15, 2009

Moved by M. Haworth; seconded by B. Paterson:

THAT the General Faculties Council approve minutes of the October 15, 2009 meeting.

Carried.

3.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

Moved by T. Davis; seconded by D. Hyttenrauch:

THAT the General Faculties Council postpone consideration of *POL 585-7: Intellectual Property* to the December 10, 2009 meeting.

Carried.

4.0 Announcements

4.1 President

No announcements.

4.2 Provost and Vice-President, Academic

R. Fisher announced that:

- ↗ the Institutional Access Plan will be submitted to the December 10, 2009 General Faculties Council meeting for consideration;
- ↗ Campus Alberta Quality Council approved an MRU proposal to establish a set of new minors in the BBA and to move students from applied business degrees to the BBA. This is intended to accommodate new students who wish to complete a BBA; existing applied degree students will continue to completion of their programs;
- ↗ R. Fisher attended, as the first MRU representative, the National Vice-Presidents Academic meeting;
- ↗ S. Gottheil and J. Bonus are currently meeting with Faculty Councils to discuss issues relating to the scheduling system. It is necessary to proceed with implementation of this in order to gain efficiencies in the allocation of classroom space and to avoid the need to dedicate further funding to this project. The system is designed on an institutional, rather than departmental basis. It is intended to address student needs and to eliminate a considerable amount of manual work currently undertaken by chairs;

- ↻ a joint MRFA and GFC workshop focusing on Robert's Rules of Order is scheduled to occur at 4:00 p.m. on January 7, 2010. Notices which contain additional information will be made available in the near future.

4.3 Vice-President, Administrative Services

No announcements.

4.4 Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services

S. Gottheil announced that:

- ↻ the first MRU Convocation on November 6, 2009 was successful;
- ↻ a recent Open House enjoyed a 30% increase in attended from last year. A positive response was received with prospective students and parents indicating that they are impressed with MRU and its programs;
- ↻ it is expected that a provincial government student application system—APAS—will move to online implementation by Christmas. Students who apply through APAS may order Alberta post-secondary transcripts free of charge.

4.5 Associate Vice-President, Research

T. Davis announced that:

- ↻ internal grants for the next funding period have been announced. These will include a special opportunities fund as well as a student travel fund;
- ↻ a number of research policies will come forward for GFC consideration in preparation for CFI and NSERC eligibility.

4.6 Executive Director, Student Affairs and Campus Life

B. Fleming reported that Counselling Services and Student Learning Services have reorganized their operations in order to respond to increased numbers of students who seek their services. A psychiatrist is on campus one day each week to meet with students—on referral from Counselling Services—who face serious mental health issues. In addition, a Behaviour Intervention Team will be established to respond to serious events and potentially threatening behavior.

7.0 Decision Items

7.1 Curriculum

The following curriculum submissions were removed from the agenda:

- ↻ CHYS 11124
- ↻ SWDS 11147
- ↻ CYCC 11246

Moved by I. Lagu; seconded by M. Mertin:

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the following curriculum submissions:

- 7.1.1 Faculty of Teaching and Learning
 - ⇒ UGST 11430

- 7.1.2 Faculty of Arts
 - ⇒ SLAN 11051
 - ⇒ SLAN 10557
 - ⇒ SLAN 11079

- 7.1.3 Faculty of Science and Technology
 - ⇒ BIOL 11529

- 7.1.4 Faculty of Communication Studies
 - ⇒ COMM 11049
 - ⇒ COMM 11371
 - ⇒ COMM 11443

- 7.1.5 Bissett School of Business
 - ⇒ MGMT 10520
 - ⇒ MKTG 11056
 - ⇒ HRES 11057
 - ⇒ MGMT 11070
 - ⇒ HRES 11071
 - ⇒ ACCT 11244
 - ⇒ BBOO 11253
 - ⇒ HRES 11254
 - ⇒ NPRO 11322
 - ⇒ HRES 11332
 - ⇒ MGMT 11333
 - ⇒ HRES 11343
 - ⇒ MGMT 11346
 - ⇒ INBU 11348
 - ⇒ ACCT 11229

- 7.1.6 Faculty of Health and Community Studies
 - ⇒ CHYS 10527
 - ⇒ ASHS 10986
 - ⇒ MICH 11032
 - ⇒ PERS 11093
 - ⇒ PERS 11096
 - ⇒ CHYS 11125
 - ⇒ CHYS 11127
 - ⇒ SWDS 11146
 - ⇒ PERS 11202
 - ⇒ PERS 11203
 - ⇒ PERS 11205
 - ⇒ NURS 11283
 - ⇒ SLWK 11288
 - ⇒ ACCN 11434
 - ⇒ ACCN 11435
 - ⇒ CHST 11524
 - ⇒ CHST 11525

Carried.

8.0 Reports**8.1 Executive Committee****8.1.1 Minutes for November 10, 2009**

Counsellors were referred to November 10, 2009 Executive Committee minutes. In addition, R. Fisher advised that Executive Committee has determined that discussion of items at GFC may be accomplished through reports, written questions and oral questions.

8.2 By-laws and Striking Committee

No report.

8.3 Academic Program and Policy Committee**8.3.1 Draft Minutes for October 27, 2009**

Counsellors were referred to October 27, 2009 Academic Program and Policy Committee minutes. In addition, I. Lagu advised that the next APPC agenda includes 5 policies and 160 curriculum submissions, thereby necessitating an extraordinary meeting scheduled for November 30, 2009. In concert with Executive Committee minutes, he suggested that a bottleneck at the Faculty Council level may impact the process for curriculum approval.

8.4 Appointments, Promotion and Tenure Committee**8.4.1 Minutes for October 1, 2009**

Counsellors were referred to October 2, 2009 Appointments, Promotion and Tenure Committee minutes. In addition, M. Schroeder reported that APTC is currently working with Faculty Councils to compile a list of required academic credentials or their equivalents and is also working to develop criteria for tenure.

8.5 Library Advisory Standing Committee**8.5.1 Minutes for September 22, 2009**

Counsellors were referred to September 22, 2009 Library Advisory Standing Committee minutes. In addition, C. Shepstone reported that the LASC recently reviewed statistics which reveal a 15% increase in Library usage compared to a similar period last year.

8.6 Learning Outcomes Standing Committee**8.6.1 Report for November 10, 2009**

Counsellors were referred to a November 10, 2009 Learning Outcomes Standing Committee Report. A. Bruton advised that the LOSC wishes to move from consultation to recommendations to GFC.

8.7 Research and Scholarship Advisory Committee

No report.

8.8 Student Awards Committee

No report.

9.0 New Business

9.1 Cover Sheet for Submissions to General Faculties Council

Moved by M. Mertin; seconded by D. King:

THAT the General Faculties Council approve a cover sheet which will accompany submissions to Executive Committee and to GFC.

Carried.

10.0 Information

10.1 Board of Governors: Minutes of Regular Meeting, June 9, 2009

No comments.

11.0 Question Period

11.1 Written Questions

11.1.1 Library and Learning Centre

In response to a written question from the LASC regarding the progress of the Library and Learning Centre building, including site, R. Fisher provided a comprehensive presentation on the Conservatory and Library buildings at MRU.

Discussion followed.

11.2 Questions from the Floor

A question was asked whether it is possible to better inform GFC of Board issues as they move through their cycle—perhaps by providing Board agendas to GFC in a timely fashion.

R. Fisher responded that it is possible to do so. In addition, a joint meeting between the Board and GFC may be feasible. This matter will be considered at the next Executive Committee meeting.

A question was asked whether it is possible to arrange, at Convocation, to have the platform party and the faculty gowned in the same area.

S. Gottheil responded that this practice is common among institutions and may, in part, be a matter of space and logistics. Nevertheless, the suggestion will be considered by a committee formulated to discuss Convocation processes and practices at MRU.

12.0 Closed Session

General Faculties Council did not move to a Closed Session.

13.0 Adjournment

Moved by P. Varella:

THAT the November 19, 2009 General Faculties Council meeting adjourn at 5:30 p.m.
Carried.