

Academic Standards Committee
April 21, 2026 at 3pm – 5pm
University Boardroom A341

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lee Easton	GFC Academic Staff Member, CHAIR
Karim Dharamsi	Vice-Provost, Academic, VICE-CHAIR
Phil Warsaba	Vice-President, Students
Peter Ryan	MRFA Academic Policy and Governance Officer
Kelly Williams-Whitt	Dean Representative
Mary-Lee Mulholland	GFC Academic Staff Member (Arts)
Todd Burton	GFC Academic Staff Member (Business & Communication Studies)
Sarah Hamilton	GFC Academic Staff Member (Health, Community & Education)
Jon Mee	GFC Academic Staff Member (Science & Technology)
Kalen Keavey	Academic Staff Member (University Library)
Meekena Erkin	Student Representative
Jelena Stojic	Student Representative
<u>Resources</u>	
Geri Lynn Gouglas	University Registrar & Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Management
Radwa Mohamed	Academic Quality Assurance Coordinator
Kathy Homer	Assistant University Secretary, Board, RECORDING SECRETARY

Guests

Chad London	Provost and Vice-President, Academic
Linda Van der Zande	Director, Office of the Provost

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Christina Lovestone	Continuing Education Representative
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The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00PM.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the April 21, 2026 Academic Standards Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from March 17, 2026

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the March 17, 2026 Academic Standards Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

2.2.1. Update on Process for Revising the Tenure, Promotion and Permanency Handbook

C. London, Provost and Vice-President, Academic, was present to discuss the current practices and processes related to amending the *Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria* and the *Tenure and Promotion Handbook*. The March 17, 2026 Memo from the past meeting and the draft Terms of Reference for a proposed Working Group were provided in the meeting package for reference.

Highlights:

- The ASC Charter permits the establishment of subcommittees or working groups to address emerging issues as they relate to academic standards matters. The Committee may also make recommendations to GFC on policies and procedures related to *Institutional Criteria* and to the *Tenure, Permanency and Promotion Handbook* that the Committee deems to be substantive.
- While practices over the past three years have been consistent, the process has not been formally documented; this will be a key task of the working group.
- Proposed membership, activities, and timeline for the working group were presented.
- It was noted that some changes to ASC membership are expected next year. Continuing members were invited to join the working group to initiate its work.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Academic Standards Committee strike a working group to review the processes related to amending the Institutional Tenure and Promotion Criteria and the Tenure Promotion and Permanency Handbook.

Motion carried.

C. London left the meeting.

3. Presentations & Discussion: ELSC and GESC

3.1. Experiential Learning Steering Committee (ELSC)

K. Dharamsi presented the Experiential Learning Framework - Draft Recommendations (ELSC Phase 2). The committee was asked to review the Experiential Learning Framework - Draft Recommendations (Google Site), as prepared by the Experiential Learning Steering Committee (ELSC).

Highlights:

- Background on the ELSC was provided.
- Differences between Co-operative Education and Work-Integrated Learning Canada (CEWIL) and Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) were discussed.
- Clarification was provided that the Faculty Experiential Learning (EL) Lead role will be at the Vice-Dean level.
- Outstanding ELSC action items were noted.

- The inclusion of international education was discussed. Student exchanges, field schools, and other international experiential learning opportunities are not yet fully reflected but will be incorporated.

3.2. General Education Steering Committee (GESC)

An update was shared on the Draft Liberal Education Model (GESC Phase 2). The Committee was asked to review the Draft Liberal Education Model (Google Site), as prepared by the General Education Steering Committee (GESC).

Discussion / Highlights:

- Core values, nine learning outcomes, and three domain areas were presented; domains are being refined based on consultations.
- The proposed model reduces General Education requirements from 10 to 8 courses (aligned with the 24-credit government requirement) and does not include foundation-level courses. Rationale for these changes was discussed, including that the current model is not scalable. GESC is addressing issues of scale and quality, as well as determining whether composition and mathematical literacy or quantitative reasoning (QR) courses will be included in the 8 required courses.
- The potential use of two “freed-up” courses (6 credits) was discussed, including concerns about programs absorbing them into core requirements versus preserving student choice and breadth.
- Members emphasized the importance of maintaining breadth and supporting student exploration within Liberal Education.
- Questions were raised about whether GESC will provide specific guidance on how courses are to be used and whether recommendations will come forward to APCC through the Programs Definitions Policy. It was noted that implementation will be a lengthy process (potentially up to six years), involving multiple pathways and cohorts, and will present challenges for General Education.
- The Committee expressed support for the Liberal Education component and commended GESC’s work.
- Implementation considerations were discussed, including transition planning (e.g., crosswalk between models), enrolment management, and ensuring course availability for students.
- Additional considerations included impacts on faculties, student distribution across programs, and implications for contract academic staff within General Education.
- The proposal will be presented to GFC for an update in May and again for approval in the Fall.

Linda Van der Zande left the meeting.

4. ASC Committee Charter Review

The ASC Committee Charter was reviewed. No changes were recommended.

5. Draft ASC 2025-26 Annual Report

The draft ASC 2025-26 Annual Report was discussed. The Chair will finalize the report and circulate it to members by email for feedback in advance of submission to the GFC May meeting.

6. Reports

6.1. Update on Academic Program Reviews

A written update was provided on current, upcoming and in progress program reviews.

6.2. Report from the Senior Administrator to the Committee

No additional report.

6.3. Committee Chair Report

A copy of the most recent Committee Chair's Report to GFC was provided for information.

7. For Information:

The following items were provided for information:

7.1. Proposed ASC Meeting Schedule 2026-27

7.2. Draft ASC Membership List 2026-27

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment 4:00PM