GFC Executive Committee
September 9, 2026 at 3pm – 4:30pm
University Boardroom A341

IN ATTENDANCE:

Tim Rahilly	President and Vice-Chancellor, CHAIR
Geri Lynn Gouglas	University Registrar and Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Management
Jennifer Pettit	Deans' Council Representative
Michael Roberts	GFC Academic Staff Member
Christina Tortorelli	GFC Academic Staff Member
Margaret MacConnachie	GFC Academic Staff Member
Tanya Trussler	GFC Academic Staff Member
Julia Madden	Student Member of GFC
Resources	
Amy Nixon	General Counsel and University Secretary
Sheena Dyer	Assistant University Secretary, GFC, RECORDING SECRETARY

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Chad London	Provost and Vice-President, Academic, VICE-CHAIR
Scott Murray	GFC Academic Staff Member

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:01PM.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved and seconded:
THAT the Agenda for the September 9, 2026 Executive Committee meeting be approved.
Motion carried

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1. Minutes from May 6, 2026

Moved and seconded:
THAT the Minutes of the May 6, 2026 Executive Committee meeting be approved.
Motion carried

2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. EC Orientation

The following items were provided for information:

3.1. EC Membership List 2026-27
3.2. EC Meeting Schedule 2026-27
3.3. EC Charter

4. Approval of GFC Agenda

4.1. GFC Open Session Agenda – September 18, 2026

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the September 18, 2026 GFC Open Session meeting be approved.

Motion carried

4.2. Review of Items for Inclusion on the GFC Agenda

The "Briefing Note – Cyber Update" item was reviewed for inclusion on the GFC agenda.

4.3. Speaker for Land Acknowledgement

A GFC member was confirmed as the speaker for the Land Acknowledgement at the next GFC meeting.

5. Draft EC Annual Plan

The draft EC 2026-27 Annual Plan was reviewed.

6. GFC and Committees Assessment Results 2026

The GFC and Committees 2026 assessment results were provided in the meeting package for review and discussion.

Members discussed the decreased participation rate relative to prior years and how to increase it in future, such as adjusting survey timing to mitigate survey fatigue and clearly communicating members' obligation to participate.

Regarding the GFC results, it was noted it could be clarified for members the importance that the reporting function of GFC provides for members (particularly since most are taken as read).

EC decided that the GFC Assessment findings will be presented to GFC at its October meeting.

7. GFC Governance Essentials Session Planning

For upcoming Governance Essentials Sessions, the University Secretariat presented options for input from EC to finalize the chosen topics and timing of the sessions. Consideration was given to past topics and the number of sessions provided in the previous years.

With many major topics covered over the past few years, EC decided to hold two Governance Essentials Sessions this academic year, with one session later this Fall, and one session in Winter. The topics will be 1) Key Aspects of GFC Meetings and 2) Shared Governance.

8. Formal GFC Bylaw Review Process

To initiate the formal review of the GFC Bylaws in accordance with the GFC Bylaw review requirements, the University Secretariat proposed that with EC's support, the Secretariat lead the preparation of the draft Bylaw revisions in consultation with EC members between the September and October meetings. The timeline is proposed, but is not mandatory pending the number of revisions that may be required.

EC expressed support for this approach. It was also suggested that alongside this review EC could look at Committee Chair structures given the challenge to fill these positions.

9. For Information

The following items were provided for information:

9.1. GFC and Committees Meeting Schedule 2026-27

9.2. GFC Orientation Schedule Details

10. New Business

There was no new business.

11. Adjournment 3:55PM