
GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL – OPEN SESSION

April 22, 2022

VIRTUAL

IN ATTENDANCE:

Tim Rahilly, CHAIR	Shane Gannon	Stephen Price
Elizabeth Evans, VICE-CHAIR	Leah Hamilton	Michael Quinn
Terri Baker	Sally Haney	Kari Roberts
Arianna Borruel	Tim Haney	Paul Rossmann
Meagan Bowler	Brenda Lang	Peter Ryan
Tom Buchanan	Michelle LoGullo	Marc Schroeder
Fiona Chetty	Brad Mahon	Bill Scott
Liza Choi	Linda ManyGuns	Robyn Stewart
Erik Christiansen	Tori McMillan	Spirit River Striped Wolf
David Clemis	Cari Merkley	Michael Uzoka
Christian Cook	Lavinia Moldovan	Annalise Van Ham
Holly Crowe	Nabeel Muhammad	Paul Varella
Trevor Day	Scott Murray	Phil Warsaba
Israel Dunmade	Nancy Ogden	Gaye Warthe
Lee Easton	Carlton Osakwe	Therese Wiat Jenkinson
Mohamed El Hussein	Jill Parnell	Kelly Williams-Whitt
Maryam Elahi	Akash Parmar	Jonathan Withey
Angela Galeos	Aida Patient	
Cynthia Gallop	Jennifer Pettit	

Resources:

Amy Nixon, General Counsel and University Secretary
Sheena Jensen, RECORDING SECRETARY

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Yasmin Ahmed	Doug Doucette	Katharine McGowan
Peter Choate	Geri Lynn Gouglas	Kenna Olsen
Nader Dehghany	Travis Imber	Tabussom Qureshi

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

TERRITORIAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Phil Warsaba opened the meeting with a Territorial Land Acknowledgement.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the April 22, 2022 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved.

Motion carried by unanimous consent.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Minutes of the March 18, 2022 General Faculties Council open session meeting be approved, as presented.

Motion carried by unanimous consent.

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS REGARDING PERFORMANCE-BASED FUNDING AND INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS

Moved and seconded:

THAT General Faculties Council recommend the following course of action to the Board of Governors:

That the Board raise with the Minister of Advanced Education GFC's concern that performance-based funding threatens the University's autonomy by subordinating the University to government policy objectives, thus compromising what should be its broader academic mission. Further, that the Board communicate to the Minister GFC's concern that the imposition of performance-based funding through investment management agreements violates well-recognized principles of collegial governance and therefore, among other harms, compromises the academic freedom of the University's academic staff.

Discussion:

- Marc Schroeder highlighted areas of the briefing note that provided an overview of the rationale for the proposed motion he submitted (context and background information, key considerations), and clarified that the motion was framed as a recommendation to the Board and offers a way to express concerns about performance-based funding and the University's autonomy
- Discussion took place within the context of GFC's authority to make recommendations to the Board of Governors on any matters considered by GFC to be of interest to the University, and focused on concerns raised by members regarding the IMA and the negative impacts of performance-based funding
- Support for the motion was shared, including the importance of expressing the concerns about the performance-based funding and the University's autonomy
- Concerns were raised about how the proposed motion was presented, including the potential impact of the approach from a governance perspective and a government relations perspective, with a suggestion that the motion could be amended to communicate the overall concern with performance-based funding and institutional autonomy without recommending a specific action for the Board to take that is at an operational-level

Motion carried.

T. Rahilly will bring the recommendation forward to the Board and report back to GFC.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Executive Committee (EC)

T. Rahilly, Chair of EC, submitted a written report for the April 13, 2022 EC meeting. It was announced that a GFC Member Appreciation Lunch will follow the May 20 GFC meeting. A question was raised regarding an update on APBC's mandate. There will be a GFC Assessment conducted at the end of the academic year that will include the GFC committees.

Academic Planning and Budget Committee (APBC)

There was no report, as the committee has not met since the previous GFC meeting.

Academic Programs and Curriculum Committee (APCC)

P. Warsaba, Vice-Chair of APCC, gave a verbal update on the committee's recent discussions of the three-credit Indigenous component and revisions for the Program Definitions policy. A suggestion was made for APCC to also give consideration to EDI in curriculum development.

Academic Standards Committee (ASC)

L. Easton, Chair of ASC, submitted a written report with an update on ASC's work in February and March 2022 and highlighted areas of the report, adding that at their April meeting ASC approved the Environmental Science program review.

Research and Scholarship Committee (RSC)

M. Quinn, Chair of RSC, provided a written report for the April 12, 2022 meeting, and acknowledged the Research & Scholarship Recognition Award winners.

Student Affairs Committee (SAC)

P. Warsaba, Chair of SAC, provided a written report for the March 21 and April 11, 2022 meetings and highlighted areas of the report.

Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC)

C. Cook, Chair of TLC, shared updates on the committee's review of the Syllabus Guidelines, the working groups of TLC, highlights for the upcoming Celebrate! Event on May 4 and 5, and the Learning Management System project.

QUESTION PERIOD

Written Questions

No written questions were submitted to GFC.

Questions from the Floor

There were no questions from the floor.

OTHER REPORTS

Report from the Board of Governors

A written report was submitted summarizing the March 17, 2022 open session board meeting.

President and Vice-Chancellor

T. Rahilly submitted a written report that included an update on Convocation 2022 and an update on new hires for senior leadership roles.

Provost and Vice-President, Academic (Interim)

E. Evans submitted a written report with academic updates, and updates from the Vice-Provost and AVP, Academic, Vice-Provost and AVP, Students, and AVP, Indigenization and Decolonization.

Discussion of Reports from Senior Administration

There was no discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items Removed for Discussion

No items were removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

Items for Information

The following items were received for information:

- Committee Meeting Minutes
- Faculty Council Approved Curriculum

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

10:06AM