



GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #556.1

Approved Minutes

Friday, July 30, 2021

Via E-Vote

Present: M. Mahon, (Chair), K. Alexander, J. Blum, G. Bonifacio, C. Carnaghan, B. Cummins, A. Dymond, I. Genee, K. Godfrey, K. Greenwood, T. Harrison, M. Hawkins, M. Helstein, M. Ingraham, M. Letts, S. Malla, R. Marynowski, K. Massey, J. Mather, I. McAdam, D. McIntyre, D. McMartin, A. Mendenhall, D. O'Donnell, G. Ogilvie, E. Okine, B. Parker, T. Patel, N. Rebry, J. Rice, J. Sheriff, M. Stingl, S. Urquhart, K. Walker, N. Walker, P. Wilson, S. Wismath

Regrets: L. Barrett, R. Bright, N. Buis Deering, C. Currie, J. Dobbie, A. Dodd, P. Dutt, C. Fleischman, H. Jansen, D. Jarvie, L. Kennedy, M. Kildaw, H. Kletke, O. Kovalchuk, Y. Li, R. Lindblad, M. Magnuson, C. Mattatall, D. Olsen, T. Oosterbroek, R. Parkkari, D. Scott, M. Serebryansky, P. Shao, L. Spencer, C. Steinke, D. St. Georges, A. Taylor, J. Victor, R. Wood, R. Yalamova

1. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1.1. GFC CCC – Academic Schedule Recommendation

MOTION: gfc.2021.09.03

Massey/Okine

That General Faculties Council approves the following change to the Fall 2021 academic dates, as presented. Exceptionally, to support the implementation of the new, important federal holiday (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, September 30), which falls on a Thursday, it is recommended that:

- the Academic Schedule dates remain unchanged in Fall 2021, except that classes and assessments will be cancelled on Thursday, September 30;*
- instructors will be given the flexibility to determine whether and how to make up the Thursday class meeting time in this first year of the implementation of the new statutory holiday;*
- instructors will be provided with support and a structural framework in determining the best possible ways to address the lost Thursday from Student Affairs and the Teaching centre;*
- Students, including graduate students with other planned academic activities, should not be disadvantaged by the new plans,*
- All students, staff and faculty will be invited to attend ceremonies and events taking place on the holiday, and*
- going forward, the new federal holiday will be incorporated in future fall terms in the Academic Schedule (2022 and beyond), with related*

adjustments to strive to ensure classes are not missed and will be approved through the usual governance process.

Motion: Carried (1 abstention)

A question arose regarding a Faculty of Education Indigenous Education Conference scheduled for all Professional Semester One students to participate in on September 30th and October 1st and it was indicated that given the topic that this was okay to proceed. It was also noted that it will be difficult for those with a 3-hour Thursday class, but there does not seem to be any alternatives that will work fairly.

Members were supportive of this important day of recognition and in the future, and noted that being able to plan ahead of time in the future with this day being incorporated within the academic schedule will be beneficial.

2. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

2.1. GFC Convocation Committee Update

Received as information. No questions raised.

2.2. GFC Executive Committee Report – July 23, 2021

Received as information. No questions raised.