



GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #586

Approved Minutes

Monday, November 4, 2024

3:00 p.m. in W646

- Present:** D. Jayas, (Chair), S. Alam, O. Awosoga, Y. Belanger (virtually), J. Blum, N. Buis Deering, C. Burton, C. Carnaghan, J. Cunningham, H. Davis-Fisch, Y. Dixit, J. Doan, J. Dobbie, A. Dymond (virtually), A. Ebenmelu, A. Enigbokan (virtually), D. Gaur, B. Gerwin, P. Ghazalian (virtually), K. Godfrey, K. Greenwood (virtually), M. Helstein B. Hughes, K. Ito, H. Jansen, S. Johnsrude, I. Kovalchuk (virtually), O. Kovalchuk (virtually), M. Letts, D. Lucas, K. Massey, J. Mather, D. McNeill (virtually), L. Michael (virtually), E. Mundell, A. Oblak (virtually), W. Osborn, N. Patel, S. Pelech, N. Rebry, J. Reiter, J. Rice, Y. Sackey-Forson, R. Schiff, K. Schwarz, D. Scott, L. Starr (virtually), J. Sumbera, R. Sutherland (virtually), A. Taylor, M. Thomas, S. Thomas, G. Tian (virtually), P. Visentin (virtually), A. von Heyking, P. Wilson (virtually), J. Wiltshire (virtually), J. Youngdahl, D. Zalesak (virtually)
- Regrets:** S. Findlay, J. Ford, C. Hopkinson, C. Mattatall, D. McMartin, J. Oldfield, D. Slomp, C. Steinke, L. Vogelsang
- Other:** A. Chubb, G. DeSteur (virtually), K. Fuglerud, J. Gallais, V. Grisack, L. Little Bear (virtually), M. Mathurin-Moe, R. Westlund, M. Whipple (*other guests were present on Zoom*)

Oki. The Chair opened the meeting with a welcome and the Territorial Statement. A moment of silence was held for former academic staff members Dr. Paul Upton and Russell Spencer.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the GFC Meeting #586 November 4, 2024 Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the GFC Meeting #585 October 7, 2024 Minutes

INFORMATION

- 1.3. GFC Executive Committee Report – October 28, 2024
- 1.4. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – #569 – September 27, 2024 Meeting

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.01
Youngdahl/Letts

That the General Faculties Council approve the November 4, 2024 Consent Agenda.

Motion: Carried

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

D. Jayas referred to the President's Report that was included in the agenda package.

A few highlights and additions were noted:

- Thanks to everyone for attending convocation. It was a wonderful celebration.
- Senate Plan Metrics – Last year the Senate Plan was approved and this is the report of the yearly progress.
- Honorary Degree Nominations – January 15, 2025 is the deadline. Please submit nominations for any worthy candidates.
- He was disappointed to see the items passed at the UCP annual general meeting. We will respond as the government moves on the items. We are committed to the EDI work that the university is doing and will continue to do. Our Board is very supportive of this work.

2.1. Questions Received in Advance

- J. Mather – *The Board agreed to support the building of a Sports Dome if we were able to find the external financing. Has such financing been found, and if not is there any construction effort?* D. Jayas reported that the funding has not been identified yet but we continue to work on getting it. There is some earth moved from other sites on the site. It will be cleaned up to return it to the original state.

2.2. Question Period on Report Items

- M. Helstein - Update on Lights – as of Thursday Oct 31st, the new light schedule change has been implemented from 5:00 am until 8:00 pm. The lights have been dimmed in the lounges as well.
- J. Reiter requested more information on the collaboration of the southern Alberta institutions – The following institutions have committed to work together (ULethbridge, Lethbridge Polytechnic, Red Crow College and Medicine Hat College). They are developing articulations to allow students to move between institutions.

3. ITEMS FOR ACTION

3.1. Appointment of Student Member

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.02
Helstein/M. Thomas

That General Faculties Council (GFC) approves the appointed student members below to GFC for terms effective immediately and ending on April 30, 2025.

*APPOINTED UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT MEMBERS
(Nominated by Students' Union) [8] Section 25 & GFC Bylaws –
(GFC Appoints)*

Student (Arts & Science) Emi Mundell April 30, 2025

Motion: Carried

3.2.GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Reports
Report 1 – Implementation May 1, 2025

Faculty of Arts & Science

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.03
Letts/Reiter

That GFC approve Recommendations #1 - #2 for the Faculty of Arts & Science from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1, effective May 1, 2025.

Motion: Carried

Dhillon School of Business

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.04
Godfrey/Rice

That GFC approve Recommendations #3 - #8 for the Dhillon School of Business from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1, effective May 1, 2025.

Motion: Carried

It was noted that the elimination of the language requirement is disappointing.

Faculty of Education

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.05
Starr/von Heyking

That GFC approve Recommendations #9 - #12 for the Faculty of Education from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1, effective May 1, 2025.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Health Sciences

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.06
Doan/Awosoga

That GFC approve Recommendations #13 - #17 for the Faculty of Health Sciences from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1, effective May 1, 2025.

Motion: Carried

School of Graduate Studies

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.07
Rice/Reiter

That General Faculties Council approve changes to course requirements and corresponding note to relate changes to new Comprehensive requirements, effective May 1, 2025.

Motion: Carried

Student Enrolment & Registrar Services

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.08
Buis Deering/M. Thomas

That GFC approve Recommendations #19 - #20 for Student Enrolment & Registrar Services from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1, effective May 1, 2025.

Motion: Carried

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.09
Buis Deering/M. Thomas

That General Faculties Council approve the changes to the Undergraduate Leave of Absence policy, effective May 1, 2025.

Motion: Carried

Report 2 – Pending Ministerial Approval

Dhillon School of Business

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.10
Godfrey/Mather

That GFC approve Recommendations #1 - #2 for the Dhillon School of Business from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 2, pending ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Arts & Science

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.11
Letts/M. Thomas

That General Faculties Council approve the deletion of the Nursing Preparation Program (pending approval of new major General Health Sciences), pending ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Health Sciences

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.12

Doan/Awosoga

That GFC approve Recommendations #4 - #5 for the Faculty of Health Science from the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 2, pending ministerial approval.

Motion: Carried

3.3. GFC Admission Standards Committee Report

Report 1 – Implementation Immediately

Student Enrolment & Registrar Services

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.13

Buis Deering/Rice

That GFC approve updates to the graduate admission requirement for Philippines, for immediate implementation.

Motion: Carried

Faculty of Health Sciences

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.14

Doan/Awosoga

That GFC approve Recommendations #2 - #3 for the Faculty of Health Sciences from the GFC Admission Standards Committee Report 1, for immediate implementation.

Motion: Carried

Dhillon School of Business

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.15

Godfrey/M. Thomas

That GFC approve Recommendations #4 - #5 for the Dhillon School of Business from the GFC Admission Standards Committee Report 1, for immediate implementation.

Motion: Carried

Report 2 – Implementation May 1, 2026

Faculty of Health Sciences

MOTION:

gfc.2024.11.16

Doan/Awosoga

That GFC approve the new program admission requirements for the Bachelor of Health Sciences with a major in General Health Sciences, for implementation May 1, 2026.

Motion: Carried

3.4. GFC Nominations Committee Membership

J. Dobbie gave a short presentation on the committee as well as what replacements are needed on the GFC Nominations Committee.

The floor was then open to nominations.

The following nominations were received:

One-year term:

- Academic Staff Member, (immediately to Nov. 3, 2025) Nimesh Patel

Two-year term:

- Academic Staff Member, (immediately to Nov. 2, 2026) Daya Gaur
- Academic Staff Member, (immediately to Nov. 2, 2026) Susan Findlay

MOTION:

gfc.2023.11.17

Dobbie/Helstein

That nominations cease.

Motion: Carried

Thank you to all those who volunteered for the committee.

4. ITEMS FOR REVIEW (Prior to Board Action)

4.1. None

5. ITEMS FOR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION

5.1. GFC Strategic Planning Committee – Strategic Plan Draft

D. Jayas introduced the draft for the Strategic Plan. He gave a brief update on the planning process. The consultation began in the fall with the various stakeholders of the campus community as well as external stakeholders. A survey was circulated with 1000 responses in addition to the 800 interactions with community members for a total of 1800 responses for feedback. It was felt that the themes were captured in the feedback. They also consulted the Indigenous leaders to review that the plan had all the things needed in it as there will be no separate Indigenous plan. The survey was sent out again

for further feedback and closes at midnight tonight. The final document will come to GFC before it comes to the Board for approval in December. The design team will then work on the document for launch in March. Unit level plans will help support our higher-level goals. Items noted in the plan were not enough mention of liberal education, critical thinking as well as being funded by the public for the public. M. Helstein noted that some of the things will be addressed in the feedback that will be incorporated into the plan. People value liberal education but don't necessarily know what it is. Thank you for the feedback and we will take this back to the GFC Strategic Planning Committee.

5.2. GFC Meeting Room Space

M. Helstein reported that GFC Executive has been discussing options for meeting space. One piece of feedback received from the annual evaluation was that people like the in-person meetings with the option of virtual. The room is not ideal, and the seating can be difficult. There was discussion on the various types of rooms available with classroom spaces being most likely the only size large enough to hold everyone. It was also noted that it would take a large room out of circulation every Monday for only one meeting a month. J. Gallais will be meeting with facilities to discuss different arrangements options in W646. D. Jayas commented that we want to encourage people to be in person versus online which makes this a conversation that we need to have. It was suggested that space booking/timetabling staff would be a good resource for some of the spaces on campus that may not have been considered. There was further discussion on technology in rooms, mobility issues, as well as classroom vs boardroom set up.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1. Question Period on Other Items

- Some questions arose on ULBC: There is an absence of a meeting schedule and are the meetings open, and there are no students or Indigenous representation on the ULBC. It was noted that at this time the plan is to meet four times a year, and being that it is a business corporation, the meetings will likely not be open to the public. The UofA, UofC and UofM do not have open session meetings. It was noted that the Board of Governors approved the structure and there is a skill set to ensure the best development of the property not constituency requirements. M. Thomas encouraged ULFA and the GSA to contact ULBC to present to their organization. The individual M. Kelly was willing to have conversations on our input and was very responsive to the questions asked by the ULSU. D. Jayas will bring this feedback to the ULBC.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: gfc.2024.11.18
Awosoga/M. Thomas

That the GFC meeting of November 4, 2024 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried