



Monday, May 6, 2024

3:00 p.m. in W646

- Present:** D. Jayas (Chair), A. Akbary, S. Alam, V. Baulkaran, Y. Belanger (virtually), N. Buis Deering, L. Burckes, C. Burton (virtually), J. Cunningham (virtually), H. Davis-Fisch, Y. Dixit, J. Doan, J. Dobbie, A. Ebenmelu, A. Enigbokan, S. Findlay (virtually), J. Ford, K. Godfrey (virtually), K. Haight (virtually), M. Helstein, B. Hughes, H. Jansen, S. Johnsrude, M. Letts, R. Marynowski, K. Massey, C. Mattatall, I. McAdam, S. McDougall, D. McIntyre (virtually), D. McMartin, D. McNeill (virtually), L. Michael, A. Oblak, J. Oldfield, N. Patel (virtually), N. Rebry, J. Reiter, J. Rice, Y. Sackey-Forson, R. Schiff, K. Schwarz (virtually), E. Scott (virtually), D. Smither (virtually), L. Starr, J. Sumbera (virtually), R. Sutherland (virtually), N. Thakor, M. Thomas, G. Tian (virtually), N. Walker, J. Youngdahl, D. Zalesak (virtually)
- Regrets:** L. Barrett, C. Carnaghan, A. Dymond, E. Galway, P. Ghazalian, K. Greenwood, K. Ito, S. Malla, J. Mather, J. Sadr, D. Slomp, S. Urquhart, L. Vogelsang, A. von Heyking, R. Williams, P. Wilson,
- Other:** G. DeSteur (virtually), J. Gallais, V. Grisack, 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 Mankeet Kaur, a student at the Calgary Campus who passed away.

The Chair welcomed the new deputy provost, Rebecca Schiff and the newly elected students. From the ULSU – L. Michael, J. Sumbera, S. McDougall, A. Oblak, Y. Dixit, J. Ford, D. Zalesak and welcome back to M. Thomas, A. Ebenmelu and Y Sackey-Forson. From the GSA – new member A. Engibokan and returning members - J. Oldfield and J. Reiter.

1. CONSENT AGENDA
APPROVAL

- 1.1. Approval of the GFC Meeting #582 May 6, 2024 Agenda
- 1.2. Approval of the GFC Meeting #581 April 8, 2024 Minutes

INFORMATION

- 1.3. GFC Executive Committee Report – April 29, 2024
- 1.4. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – #564 – April 2, 2024

MOTION: gfc.2024.05.01

Reiter/Starr

*That the General Faculties Council approve the May 6, 2024
Consent Agenda with minor changes to attendance in the minutes.*

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:

- Multi Sports Dome update (See Appendix 1 for detailed remarks)– He confirmed that he shared the failed GFC support to the open session of the board for transparency. He suggested to the board that the decision be postponed until the May meeting to allow senior administrators to gather information requested by GFC members and the Board. Both GFC and the Board work for the university but in their own ways to further the best interests of the UofL. Regardless of how the board votes in the end, we have worked collegially together to make all voices heard. We will add at least one member appointed by GFC to the Budget Advisory Committee to help educate and promote transparency in the budget process.
- Bill 18 – Provincial Priorities Act – would require that before defined provincial entities enter into agreements with federal entities prior approval from the provincial government would be required. There are concerns with this as much of the funding that comes from the federal side will need approval such as SSHRC and tri-agencies funding. The negative impact that this bill will have on the UofL will be noted to the government.

3. QUESTION PERIOD

One question was submitted in advance.

- J. Mather - When will the handrail along the slope from Science Commons, explicitly promised in November 2023, actually be installed? Response from TJ Hanson - The team has dug into this further and has confirmed that the interior railing at Science Commons will be installed this weekend by our millwrights. It is anticipated that the exterior railings will be installed in the next week, pending ground conditions.
- C. Burton – Multi-Sports Dome – thank you for the detailed report and for bringing the GFC recommendation to the board. We are pleased that the board is delaying the decision and taking our feedback seriously. Regarding Bill 18 – There are actions across the province and we should make a recommendation before the second reading on May 18. The UofA passed a recommendation that the UofA get an exemption. The minister will consider exemption requests from universities. D. Jayas – the agenda comes to GFC Executive and that was why he was suggesting that it come back. We could issue a public statement that we are committed to getting further information and let the government consult. C. Burton noted they have second reading by May 18 and had introduced this before they had done any consultation with anyone.
- D. McIntyre- if we wait to address and give an opinion, we will have to do it as a constitutional challenge and then we will have to go through the courts.
- J. Rieter – Multi Sports Dome - some things have been done to address student concerns on the fee structure and reaching out for support to students. Can you clarify

what the students support means. M. Helstein – there has been a strong opposition heard from students. What is absent is the student voices who support the dome. It was to allow those students to also give their feedback. The board heard that there is strong student voices against the dome. J. Reiter – what method are you using to garner the feedback. N. Walker reported that there were faculty letters of support in the proposal and they will be included in the business case. M. Helstein responded that the strong objection will also be represented in the documentation. This is simply to address that there is no student support.

- K. Haight – wants to raise the point of concern that we can't bring a motion forward that has a wide impact on our institution. We are being told that we cannot do that now even though it is time sensitive. We would like to be exempt from Bill 18. The president requested a parliamentary pause to discuss the process. D. Jayas returned and noted that because of the timeliness of the issue, we will have a submission of a motion to GFC Executive who could then draft a motion, and approve an agenda, that would be sent out for an email vote to all of GFC. This was seen as acceptable way forth.
- J. Dobbie – please provide an update on printing services closure. N. Walker reported that we are closing the printshop which has unfortunately been losing money for numerous years and an important piece is that they need to at least break even. The bookstore has also been a part of the conversation and we are working very hard to not let it go the same way. We want to get out to faculty/school councils to get the new reality out there and how the services have evolved going beyond books and to still support the Bookstore.
- S. Findlay – Re: printing services closure there is a concern with exam timelines and security. Some of the tests will be sent out to contractors and how do we know that students aren't seeing those before exams. M. Helstein responded that one of the commitments is a staged approach and they are not closed until July. We are working with the small number of internal users to learn what we need to negotiate with the new vendor. We have tried to give ourselves time to work through these issues. N. Walker commented that we are looking at preferred vendors and service so we can have all the security measures in place. M. Helstein reported that this decision was delayed to try to find a way forward. S. Findlay asked at what point will someone reach out to us as users. N. Walker asked that users contact Jim Booth and we will address concerns right away.
- K. Haight – there were more issues with the dome than student support. Is the dome going to need replacing before the loan is paid for? N. Walker reported the lifecycle replacement cost is built into the sports dome business case. M. Helstein noted that the loan will be paid back before the dome's life cycle is done.

4. ITEMS FOR ACTION

4.1. Appointment of Student Members

MOTION:

gfc.2024.05.02

Helstein/Massey

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)*

<i>Student (Arts & Science)</i>	<i>Lulya Michael</i>	<i>April 30, 2025</i>
<i>Student (Arts & Science)</i>	<i>Yewoe Sackey-Forson</i>	<i>April 30, 2025</i>
<i>Student (Arts & Science)</i>	<i>Jessica Sumbera</i>	<i>April 30, 2025</i>
<i>Student (Arts & Science)</i>	<i>Shane McDougall</i>	<i>April 30, 2025</i>
<i>Student (Arts & Science)</i>	<i>Angelina Oblak</i>	<i>April 30, 2025</i>
<i>Student (Business)</i>	<i>Yash Dixit</i>	<i>April 30, 2025</i>
<i>Student (Education)</i>	<i>Juliana Ford</i>	<i>April 30, 2025</i>
<i>Student (Fine Arts)</i>	<i>Demi Zalesak</i>	<i>April 30, 2025</i>

*APPOINTED GRADUATE STUDENT MEMBER (Nominated by
Graduate Students Association) [2] Section 25 & GFC Bylaws –
(GFC Appoints)*

<i>Graduate Student</i>	<i>Ademilayo Michael Enigbokan</i>	<i>April 30, 2025</i>
<i>Graduate Student</i>	<i>Jade Oldfield</i>	<i>April 30, 2025</i>

Motion: Carried

4.2. Library Access Policy (revised)

MOTION: gfc.2024.05.03
Jansen/Reiter

*That the General Faculty Council approve the revised Library
Access Policy effective July 1, 2024.*

Motion: Carried

An overview of the revisions was noted and no concerns arose.

4.3. GFC Admission Standards Committee Reports

4.3.1. Report 1 – For immediate Implementation

Faculty of Education

MOTION: gfc.2024.05.04

Starr/Marynowski

*That GFC approve changes to the BEd Early Years admission
policies supporting Indigenous and international applicants,
effectively immediately.*

Motion: Carried

A question was asked regarding the number of student seats. It was clarified that it is intended for 5 students and if they get more, the rest can be part of the cohort.

4.3.2. Report 2 – Implementation May 1, 2025

Faculty of Arts & Science

MOTION: gfc.2024.05.05

Letts/Thomas

That GFC approve updates to the Bachelor of Health Sciences/Bachelor of Arts in Addictions Counselling/Psychology combined degree admission requirements, effective May 1, 2025.

Motion: Carried

Dhillon School of Business

MOTION: gfc.2024.05.06

Godfrey/Engibokan

That GFC approve the suspension of the Management Certificate programs, effective May 1, 2025.

Motion: Carried

4.4. GFC Bylaws Revision (Adjunct Professor)

MOTION: gfc.2024.05.07

Helstein/Starr

That the GFC approve the removal of the Adjunct Professor definition from the GFC Bylaws and the update to the academic staff definition to remove lecturers.

Motion: Carried

It was noted that the removal of this definition from GFC Bylaws is so people can find the information in one place now, the newly approved Adjunct Professor Guidelines. The removal of the term lecturers is a left over from a previous collective agreement and is no longer relevant.

4.5. GFC Nominations Committee

MOTION: gfc.2024.05.08

Marynowski/Jansen

That GFC Nominations Committee met on April 23, 2024 and recommends to GFC for approval the following slate of nominees:

GFC Academic Appeals and Discipline Committee

- *Brendan Cummins*
- *Marcus Dostie (Alternate)*

GFC Academic Quality Assurance Committee

- *Kevin McGeough*

GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee

- *Keltie Hamilton*

GFC Research Planning Committee

- *Walter Wymer (Dhillon School of Business)*
- *Peter Dibble (School of Graduate Studies)*
- *Janet Youngdahl (Faculty of Fine Arts)*

Senate

- *Olga Kovalchuk*
- *Jade Oldfield*

Senate Honorary Degree Committee

- *Emily Villanueva*

Motion: Carried

There were no questions on the slate.

R. Marynowski noted that there were several spots that were not filled in the nominations.

The floor was opened for Nominations for the following positions:

GFC Academic Quality Assurance Committee

Two (2) Tenured Faculty Members

- NAME
- NAME

GFC Research Planning Committee

Four (4) Academic Staff Members*

- NAME (A&Sc. Social Sciences)
- NAME (Faculty of Education)
- NAME (Faculty of Health Sciences)
- NAME (School of Liberal Education)

GFC Strategic Planning Committee

Two (2) Academic Staff Members

- NAME (School of Liberal Education)
- NAME (School of Graduate Studies)

Senate Honorary Degree Committee
One (1) Academic Staff Member

- Robert LeBlanc

MOTION: gfc.20204.05.09
Marynowski/Jansen

That nominations cease.

Motion: Carried

There was one nomination received. The GFC Nominations Committee will try again to fill the rest of the positions. It was noted that many are academic staff and they don't need to be GFC members.

4.6. Destination Phase II – Governance

MOTION: gfc.2024.05.10
Helstein/Marynowski

General Faculties Council (GFC) approves the Destination Project – Phase II Steering Committee as an ad hoc committee of GFC with the attached noted composition and powers and duties.

The document has been seen before but includes some feedback and members appointed by GFC that were not originally included. The members of the steering committee should direct when and where we need to have additional consultation. It was changed to seven members from among the different areas and the GFC Nominations Committee has been tasked to get a broad range of people from areas in University Hall and beyond.

MOTION: gfc.2024.05.11
Helstein/Thomas

General Faculties Council approves that upon the Destination Phase II project scope completion, the GFC ad hoc Destination Project – Phase II Steering Committee will be officially dissolved.

Motion: Carried

5. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

5.1. Engineering and Medical Programming - Update

M. Helstein updated the Committee on the rural medicine program where we have had funding announcements from the provincial government along with the UofC. We need to have the medical community excited about the work being done as we need their help.

We are moving forward with the renovations and getting the affiliation agreement done with the University of Calgary. We are fortunate to have R. Schiff here as she has previous experience with building a similar program.

Engineering program – there have been a few iterations of this programming over the years. The internal governance has been done first and now we are looking for funding from the government. M. Letts and D. McMartin are working on this. We are hoping to partner with the College as they have some things to offer for us. We have been asked by the government to move this forward quickly. We will submit high level funding so the government understands the needs.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: gfc.2024.05.11

Buis Deering/Massey

That the GFC meeting of May 6, 2024 be adjourned.

Motion: Carried

Appendix 1

The President wanted to highlight the information within his report on the Dome project, and add a bit of additional context.

He confirmed that he shared the GFC feedback, and the failed GFC motion in support of the Dome, with the Board at their April 2024 meeting.

- It was done within the open session of the Board because he wanted this body to trust that regardless of what decisions this body or the Board takes on this matter or any other, the views of this body will be fairly represented.

He asked the Board to consider delaying their consideration of the motion until their May meeting, to provide senior administration time to confirm and clarify a few matters in response to the latest pieces of GFC feedback from the April meeting.

This included:

- Work with the ULSU and GSA to confirm in writing that ASR fees are subject to the normal fee consultation process with them, and that any proposed increase to ASR fees in the next two years would reflect adjustments for expenses and salaries, in line with other proposed fee increases.
- Work with the ULSU and GSA to formalize the proposed advisory committee on student use of all recreation and athletic facilities – to address a number of the concerns raised about type and timing of use.
- Allow those students who have expressed support for the Dome to submit that feedback. This is not meant to undermine the strong student voices of opposition, but to address the GFC feedback that there are no student voices in support.

Senior Administration has reflected on the GFC feedback, not just from May but also from GFC in December and February. It is hoped that GFC recognizes not just the attempt to respond meaningfully to concerns, but also the shifts in the proposal that work to mitigate some of those concerns.

- Most notably that should the project be approved, it will still not proceed unless there is, at minimum, 10% government or philanthropic support.

Senior Administration acknowledges that even with those efforts a GFC motion in support of the Dome failed, and they want GFC to know that they do take that seriously. We must also take seriously the Board's role within bicameral governance and the PSLA.

Both GFC and Board work in the best interests of the University, but each is charged with different concerns.

- The Board is charged with the financial sustainability of the UofL, and it is for this reason they look for projects that find ways to:
 - o diversify our revenues and monetize our assets,

- allow us to leverage funds from other sources,
- and allow us to use strategic priority funds wisely - supporting both academic priorities and revenue generation.

Regardless of how the Board votes in the end, the President thinks it is important for this body to understand their context.

That said, this administration is also committed to helping the Board understand the GFC context, and to engaging collegial governance. And we learned and will respond to some things as a result of this Dome process – regardless of what happens with the Dome.

We cannot change the context of this project, but Senior administration does make the following commitments moving forward:

- The capital plan will annually go to the GFC Strategic Planning Committee, and to GFC, ensuring both bodies can offer perspectives and ideas throughout the capital planning cycle as projects are proposed and developed, rather than encountering them only at the feedback and Board approval stage.
- Administration commits to adding additional academic staff, including at least one GFC appointment, to the Budget Advisory Committee beginning in 2024/2025 academic year and moving forward.
 - We understand that at least one of the significant concerns with the Dome project (even if not always articulated as such) is about how budget assumptions lead to (one-time) strategic priority fund availability rather than investments in positions.
 - We believe that greater involvement of academic staff will demonstrate transparency in the budgeting processing. We are committed to this and will bring the details forward shortly.

The President understands that this will not necessarily change your perspective on the Dome, and he is not asking for a new discussion or recommendation, but he does hope it will assure you that we are not disregarding your feedback – but rather working to ensure effective bicameral governance.