

General Faculties Council  
**GFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
Approved Minutes

Meeting 38  
November 22, 2016, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

A167

***Voting Members***

Elizabeth Cannon, Chair  
Dru Marshall, Vice-Chair  
Abubaker Abdelhafiz \*  
David Cramb  
Tina Gabriele  
Alicia Lunz  
Lorraine Radtke

***Non-Voting Members***

Sandra Hoenle

***Secretary***

Susan Belcher

***Scribe***

Elizabeth Sjogren

***Regrets***

Tara Beattie  
Mike Foley  
Nancy Pollock-Ellwand  
Dennis Sumara  
Jo Towers

***Guests***

Loren Falkenberg, Chair of the Energizing Eyes High Secretariat – present for Item 7

*\*by telephone*

---

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. and confirmed quorum.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Agenda for the November 22, 2016 General Faculties Council Executive Committee meeting be approved.

**Carried**

**2. Remarks of the Chair**

The Chair included the following in her remarks:

- The provincial government may release its budget in February 2017. Pre-budget submissions from

the province's post-secondary institutions have been sent to the Finance Minister and others, and the institutions are aligned in seeking stable, predictable funding and backfill funding to compensate for the current tuition freeze. The institutions have also highlighted the need to leverage federal funding and the possible impacts of the new provincial carbon levy.

- The federal government's review of federal funding for fundamental science is nearing its end and the report should be available in the new year. It is hoped that the next federal budget will include greater funding for the post-secondary sector, including for the Tri-Council.
- The Energizing *Eyes High* initiative is going well. Events include dinners with community leaders, which have provided engaged dialogue and valuable feedback.
- It has been announced that University alumnus James Thorogood has won a Rhodes Scholarship
- The Dinos will play for the Vanier Cup on November 26, 2016

### **3. Remarks of the Vice-Chair**

The Vice-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- The province's Comprehensive Academic and Research Institutions (CARI) are producing a joint submission relating to the current review of tuition and mandatory non-instructional fees
- Consultation is ongoing with stakeholders, including graduate students, colleges and the CARI, regarding the possible changes to the Post-Secondary Learning Act respecting labour relations
- The University's Mental Health Strategy is now being implemented. As part of this, the Canadian Mental Health Commission is presenting a weeklong train-the-trainer workshop on campus.
- The University's Indigenous Strategy is in development, and consultation with stakeholders, including elders and knowledge keepers, is continuing. The next phase will be the drafting of the strategy document.

In response to a question, it was explained that it would be difficult for the University to add a reading week in November, as Mount Royal University has recently announced. The University has a block week at the beginning of the Fall term, and to add a reading week in November would push exams late into December. It is not feasible to start the Fall term before Labour Day, and feedback from students has indicated that most prefer having a block week. Remembrance Day does provide a short break in November. This matter will be relayed to the Registrar for consideration.

### **4. Approval of the October 28, 2016 Minutes**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

#### **Moved/Seconded**

That the Minutes of the General Faculties Council Executive Committee meeting held on October 28, 2016 be approved.

**Carried**

## **5. Nominations for GFC Election of Two Academic Staff Members to an Advisory Search Committee for a Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning)**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

The Vice-Chair announced that Lynn Taylor, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), will be retiring in 2017. An Advisory Search Committee for a new Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning) is therefore being struck.

The EC nominated, in rank order, academic staff members to be approached by the University Secretariat to stand for election to the Advisory Search Committee for a Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning). The first four persons to agree to stand for election will appear on the ballot at the December 8, 2016 General Faculties Council (GFC) meeting.

## **6. Review of Draft December 8, 2016 General Faculties Council Agenda**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

The Committee reviewed the draft December 8, 2016 GFC agenda. One revision was requested.

## **7. Energizing Eyes High Update**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Loren Falkenberg, Chair of the Energizing Eyes High Secretariat, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter reported on participation to date in the *Energizing Eyes High* focus groups, surveys, weekly polls, and other events. It was reported that engagement has been strong, and that valuable feedback is being received.
- The first consultation phase of the *Energizing Eyes High* initiative is nearing the end, and the feedback is now being analysed. Word clouds identifying the themes of the feedback for each of the initiative's pillars (Research and Scholarship, Teaching and Learning, Integration with Community, Campus Culture, and Student Experience) will be produced, and a report will be written.
- The report will be presented to various groups in December/January 2017, and then the draft renewed *Eyes High* strategy document will begin moving through the consultation and approval process in February
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - Offering the Faculty-specific focus groups has been worthwhile. The results of these will be shared with the Faculty's Dean, so that they can also consider the feedback collected.
  - The survey and focus group feedback is the most informative
  - The survey will remain open until November 30, 2016
- The presenter reported that, at its December 8, 2016 meeting, GFC will receive a presentation on the final participation statistics and a high level overview of the analysis of the feedback. This will allow the GFC members to consider the broad themes of the feedback before they see the report

and the draft strategy in the new year.

- The Committee suggested that the presenter be prepared to speak to GFC about the qualitative methodology used in analysing the feedback and sorting it into themes

#### **8. Other Business**

There was no other business.

#### **9. Adjournment**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the General Faculties Council Executive Committee adjourn the November 22, 2016 meeting.

**Carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.