

General Faculties Council
GFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting 61
May 28, 2019, 2:00 p.m.

A167

Voting Members

Ed McCauley, Chair
Dru Marshall, Vice-Chair – arrived during Item 2
Mohamed Abdelsamie
Tara Beattie *
Joule Bergerson – left during Item 15
Eloise Carr
Lorraine Radtke *
Lesley Rigg – arrived during Item 2, left during Item 11
Hussein Warsame

Non-Voting Member

Paul Rogers

Secretary

Susan Belcher

Scribe

Elizabeth Sjogren

Regrets

Jessica Revington
Dennis Sumara
Trevor Tombe

* by telephone

The Chair started the meeting without quorum. The Committee proceeded with the Chair's remarks, and quorum was achieved at 2:05 p.m. during Item 2.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The Chair reported that Item 6 (Appointment of One Academic Staff Member to the Academic Program Subcommittee (APS) and Appointment of the APS Academic Co-Chair) will be addressed before Item 4.

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the May 28, 2019 General Faculties Council Executive Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Remarks of the Chair and Vice-Chair

The Chair included the following in his remarks:

- Mohamed Abdelsamie, Graduate Students' Association, was welcomed to his first meeting
- There have been no changes to several of the provincial Deputy Ministers and Chiefs of Staff,

including the Deputy Minister of Advanced Education, Rod Skura

- In response to a question, it was confirmed that the provincial government outlined its priority action items during the May 22, 2019 throne speech, including supporting job-creation, tax reform, and deficit reduction, and that it is expected that there will be quick action on several of these. University representatives are communicating regularly with representatives of the government.

The Vice-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- The University's Comprehensive Institutional Plan will be submitted to the provincial government near the end of June
- The pow-wow celebration for graduating Indigenous students will be held on June 1, 2019, convocation ceremonies for the Faculties will be held from June 3-7, 2019, and the Continuing Education graduation event will be held on June 12, 2019

3. Approval of the April 30, 2019 Meeting 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 April 30, 2019 be approved.

Carried

4. Appointment of the Academic Co-Chair of the Academic Staff Criteria and Processes Working Group

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Susan Belcher presented this item.

The Committee rank-ordered the academic staff members listed by the Faculty Association to be considered for appointment as the Academic Co-Chair of the Academic Staff Criteria and Processes Working Group. The first individual to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

5. Continuation of Appointment of Academic Staff Members to the Academic Staff Criteria and Processes Working Group

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Susan Belcher presented this item.

The Committee named, in rank order, additional academic staff members to be approached by the University Secretariat to serve on the Academic Staff Criteria and Processes Working Group. The first five nominees to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

6. Appointment of One Academic Staff Member to the Academic Program Subcommittee (APS) and Appointment of the APS Academic Co-Chair

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Susan Belcher presented this item.

Highlights:

- It was reported that Leslie Reid, Co-Chair of the APS, and Jim Brandon, Academic Co-Chair of the APS, have recommended that Jim Brandon be re-appointed as a member and as the Academic Co-Chair of the APS. He has indicated that he is willing to serve.
- It was observed that, since the committee is perceived to be functioning well, this consistency should be supported

Moved/Seconded

That the General Faculties Council Executive Committee:

- a) Appoint Jim Brandon to the Academic Program Subcommittee (APS), effective July 1, 2019 for a term ending June 30, 2022, and
- b) Appoint Jim Brandon as the Academic Co-Chair of the APS, effective July 1, 2019 for a term ending June 30, 2022.

Carried

7. Nominations for Election by GFC of Two Academic Staff Members to an Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Susan Belcher presented this item.

The Committee named, in rank order, academic staff members to be approached by the University Secretariat to stand for election to an Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The first four nominees to agree to stand for election will be presented on a ballot at the June 13, 2019 General Faculties Council (GFC) meeting.

8. Nominations for Election by GFC of Two Members of GFC to the GFC Executive Committee

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Susan Belcher presented this item.

The Committee named, in rank order, academic staff members of GFC to be approached by the University Secretariat to stand for election to the GFC Executive Committee. The first four nominees to agree to stand for election will be presented on a ballot at the June 13, 2019 GFC meeting.

9. Appointment of Two Academic Staff Members to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Susan Belcher presented this item.

The Committee named, in rank order, academic staff members of GFC and academic staff members at large to be approached by the University Secretariat to serve on the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee. The first two nominees, one from each pool, to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

10. Appointment of One Academic Staff Member to the Campus and Facilities Development Subcommittee

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Susan Belcher presented this item.

The Committee named, in rank order, academic staff members to be approached by the University Secretariat to serve on the Campus and Facilities Development Subcommittee. The first nominee to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

11. Appointment of One Member of GFC to the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Susan Belcher presented this item.

The Committee named, in rank order, academic staff members of GFC to be approached by the University Secretariat to serve on the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee. The first nominee to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

12. Appointment of Two Members of GFC to the Senate

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Susan Belcher presented this item.

The Committee named, in rank order, members of GFC to be approached by the University Secretariat to serve as a GFC representative to the Senate. The first two nominees to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

13. 2019 General Faculties Council Member Survey Report

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Susan Belcher presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Chair remarked that GFC provides valuable feedback to proponents and presenters, and it is important to encourage the continuance of engaged, respectful dialogue and the sharing of broad opinions
- The University Secretary noted that the report on the results of the 2019 GFC Member Survey is formatted differently this year, as providing the rough data for the members to read is considered to be a better approach

- The Committee reviewed the report, and discussed that:
 - When proponents introduce their items at GFC meetings, it would be useful for them to briefly review the development of their proposal and highlight elements such as the proposal's grounding principles. This background would help GFC members to understand how the item came to be before them.
 - It is difficult for people to hear one another at GFC meetings, and so the use of hanging and roving microphones could be trialed
 - A new meeting space, or the possibility of renovating ST147, should be investigated
 - The use of technology to allow members to use their devices to participate in GFC meetings, through the answering of short polling questions or other prompts, which would then be projected on the screen in the meeting room to further discussion, could be investigated
 - The survey asks persons responding 'no' to questions to elaborate with a written comment; thus the comments tend to have an overall negative tone
 - GFC members are not required to report to their units, such as at Faculty Council meetings, but this is encouraged
 - GFC minutes are not available to the broader community until approved, but the GFC meeting packages are uploaded to the GFC webpage following each meeting
 - Approximately one-third of the GFC members responded to the survey, which is fewer than hoped but not poor for a survey of this sort
 - It is important that GFC see that the survey comments are taken seriously, and are being responded to
- In response to a question, the University Secretary confirmed that the GFC standing committees are asked to review their terms of reference and evaluate their performance at each committee's last meeting of the year

14. Review of the Draft June 13, 2019 GFC Agenda

The Committee reviewed the draft June 13, 2019 GFC Agenda.

15. Annual Committee Performance Review and Review of the EC Terms of Reference

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Vice-Chair presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Committee discussed that:
 - The Committee is a high level, strategic committee, and is functioning well
 - Members find the Committee's appointment work challenging at times, especially when a number of names are needed
 - The 'call for names' published in the UToday in advance of any appointment work should be placed as prominently as possible, and that some articles could be published in the

UToday next year in order to raise awareness of the work of the GFC

- Members of the Committee should feel free to speak at GFC meetings, even though the Committee has already seen some of the items at its own meetings, as members may have valuable additional questions or comments, may be able to speak to the evolution of a proposal, or may be able to stimulate discussion by GFC

16. Other Business

There was no other business.

17. Adjournment

The May 28, 2019 General Faculties Council Executive Committee meeting was adjourned by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Susan Belcher
University Secretary