



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

Meeting 69  
May 20, 2020, 2:00 p.m.

By Zoom platform

***Voting Members***

Ed McCauley, Chair  
Dru Marshall, Vice-Chair – absent for Item 11  
Semhar Abraha  
Joule Bergerson  
Eloise Carr  
Sarah Eaton  
Mary O’Brien – absent for part of Item 11  
Alex Paquette  
Lesley Rigg  
Richard Sigurdson  
Trevor Tombe  
Hussein Warsame – left after Item 10

***Non-Voting Member***

Paul Rogers

***Secretary***

Susan Belcher

***Scribe***

Elizabeth Sjogren

***Observer***

Tasha Hodzic, University Secretariat

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

The Chair reported that Item 11 (Nominations for Election by GFC of Three Academic Staff Members to an Advisory Search Committee for a Provost and Vice-President (Academic)) will be addressed after Item 13.

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Agenda for the May 20, 2020 General Faculties Council Executive Committee meeting be approved, with the reported amendment.

**Carried**

**2. Remarks of the Chair and Vice-Chair**

The Chair included the following in his remarks:

- Semhar Abraha, Students’ Union Vice-President (Academic), and Alex Paquette, Graduate Students’ Association Vice-President (Academic), were welcomed to their first Committee

meeting, and Lesley Rigg, Eloise Carr and Trevor Tombe were thanked on this occasion of their last meeting

- Representatives of the University are working with the provincial government to discuss the impacts of COVID-19 on the University, and how the University can contribute to the province's recovery from COVID-19 and the economic downturn

The Vice-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- A notice was sent on May 14, 2020 regarding the partial re-opening of the University for Fall term classes. Faculties are making decisions, such as which specific courses or course components will be offered in person, and additional announcements will be made in due course.
- A subcommittee of the University's Crisis Management Team is considering all aspects of the re-opening of the University's campuses, and information will be shared once decisions are made
- A town hall for academic staff members is being held next week, and a town hall for the broader University community will be held in the future

### **3. Approval of the April 22, 2020 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 22, 2020 be approved.

**Carried**

### **4. Nominations for Election by GFC of Two Academic Staff Members of GFC to the GFC Executive Committee**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

The Committee named, in rank order, academic staff members of the General Faculties Council (GFC) to be approached by the University Secretariat to stand for election to the GFC Executive Committee. Four nominees will be presented for the election of two at the June 11, 2020 GFC meeting.

### **5. Appointment of the Research Ethics Appeals Board Chair**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

Highlights:

- The Chair reported that a question was received in advance of the meeting regarding whether a woman and/or a person of minority has ever held the Research Ethics Appeal Board (REAB) Chair role, and it was noted that the REAB Terms of Reference does not set a length for the term of the REAB Chair
- In response, it was reported that:

- The University's two ethics boards (the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board and the Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board) both have diverse memberships
  - The REAB Terms of Reference will be reviewed and likely revised to reference equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) ideals and to formalize a three-year term for the Chair
  - Appeal cases to be heard by the REAB are rare, and when an appeal is to be heard the Chair pulls together an *ad hoc* committee which could be populated with EDI being considered
  - Two women were on the nominating committee, and the Vice-President (Research) has recommended the appointment of Christopher Sears due to his extensive experience in this area
- The Committee discussed whether to set the term of the current appointment at one year, given the concerns expressed, but it was decided not to do this

**Moved/Seconded**

That the General Faculties Council Executive Committee appoint Dr. Christopher Sears, Faculty of Arts, as the Chair of the Research Ethics Appeals Board, effective immediately and for a three-year term, as recommended by the Vice-President (Research).

**Carried**

Dru Marshall and Richard Sigurdson opposed.

**6. Naming of the CFDS Academic Co-Chair**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

The Committee named, in rank order, academic staff members of the Campus and Facilities Development Subcommittee (CFDS) to be approached by the University Secretariat to serve as the Academic Co-Chair of the CFDS. The first individual to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

**7. Naming of the GAPS Academic Co-Chair**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

The Committee named, in rank order, academic staff members of the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee (GAPS) to be approached by the University Secretariat to serve as the Academic Co-Chair of the GAPS. The first individual to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

**8. Naming of the TLC Academic Co-Chair**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

The Committee named, in rank order, academic staff members of the Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) to be approached by the University Secretariat to serve as the Academic Co-Chair of the TLC. The first individual to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

**9. Appointment of a GFC Member to the Senate**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

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

**10. Appointment of an Academic Staff Member to the Academic Staff Criteria and Processes Working Group**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

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

**11. Nominations for Election by GFC of Three Academic Staff Members to an Advisory Search Committee for a Provost and Vice-President (Academic)**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

The Chair reported that:

- Dru Marshall's term as Provost and Vice-President (Academic) ends June 30, 2021, and the Board of Governors' Human Resources and Governance Committee has expressed that it is desired to have the new Provost and Vice-President (Academic) chosen by January 2021 so that negotiations can occur and they can start their term on July 1, 2021
- A call-for-names would normally have been published in the UToday, but the striking of this committee was not made public until yesterday and so there was no opportunity to do this

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 Provost and Vice-President (Academic). Six nominees will be presented for the election of three at the June 11, 2020 GFC meeting.

**12. Review of the Draft June 11, 2020 GFC Agenda**

The Committee reviewed the draft June 11, 2020 GFC Agenda. There were no changes suggested.

**13. Annual Committee Performance Review and Review of the Executive Committee Terms of Reference**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. There was no discussion.

**14. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**15. Adjournment**

The May 20, 2020 General Faculties Council Executive Committee meeting was adjourned by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

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Susan Belcher  
University Secretary