



General Faculties Council
GFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting 87
May 25, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

By Zoom platform

Voting Members

Ed McCauley, Chair
Jessica Ayala
Joule Bergerson
Shaziah Jinnah
Rachel Lauer
Bill Rosehart
James Steele
April Viczko

Non-Voting Member

David Stewart

Secretary

Lise Houle

Scribe

Elizabeth Sjogren

Regrets

Teri Balsler, Vice-Chair
Meghan McDonough
Richard Sigurdson
Jennifer Winter

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the May 25, 2022 General Faculties Council Executive Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Remarks of the Chair

The Chair included the following in his remarks:

- Shaziah Jinnah, Students' Union (SU) Vice-President (Academic), and James Steele, Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Vice-President (Academic), were welcomed on this occasion of their first General Faculties Council (GFC) Executive Committee meeting
- This is Asian Heritage Month and the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion has posted information on its webpage recognizing and celebrating this

- The provincial government's targeted enrolment expansion program is providing \$61 million to fund the creation of more seats in high-demand programs in Data Science, Software Engineering, Commerce, Rural Nursing, and Quantum Computing
- The U15 Presidents met in Ottawa last week, and spoke with representatives of the federal government regarding the budget. There was also a Universities Canada meeting in Ottawa last week, with elections to the Board and discussions about post-secondary funding.
- Following an internal competition, the University is submitting a Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) proposal in the area of child health and wellness
- Testimony has been given to the parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Research regarding the need for support for top undergraduate and graduate students, increased funding for the Canada Research Chairs program, and expanded direct support for developing research partnerships

3. Approval of the April 14 and April 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the General Faculties Council Executive Committee meetings held on April 14 and April 27, 2022 be approved, with the requested amendment to the April 14 minutes.

Carried

James Steele and Shaziah Jinnah abstained.

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

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Interim University Secretary presented this item.

In response to a question, it was confirmed that the Deans' Council representatives on the GFC Executive Committee are chosen by Deans' Council.

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 individuals to agree to stand for election will be presented on a ballot for the election of two by the GFC. The election will be held electronically following the June 16, 2022 GFC meeting.

5. Nominations for the Election by GFC of Two Academic Staff Members to the Advisory Selection Committee for a Dean of the Haskayne School of Business

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Interim University Secretary presented this item.

The Committee named, in rank order, academic staff members to be approached by the University Secretariat to stand for election to the Advisory Selection Committee for a Dean of the Haskayne School of Business. The first four individuals to agree to stand for election will be presented on a ballot for the election of two by the GFC. The election will be held electronically following the June 16, 2022 GFC meeting.

6. Appointment of a GFC Member to the Senate

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Interim University Secretary 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 individual to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

Secretary's Note: Following the meeting, Francine Smith, Cumming School of Medicine, agreed to serve.

7. Appointment of an Academic Staff Member of GFC to the Graduate Academic Program Subcommittee

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Interim University Secretary 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 individual to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

Secretary's Note: Following the meeting, Andy Knight, Schulich School of Engineering, agreed to serve.

8. Extension of the Appointment of the Academic Co-Chair of the Academic Staff Criteria and Processes Handbook Working Group (ASCPHWG)

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Interim University Secretary presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Committee was informed that the term of Francine Smith, Cumming School of Medicine, as the appointed Academic Co-Chair of the ASCPHWG is set to end June 30, 2022, but it is being proposed to extend her term so that this appointment can be addressed by the Committee at its August 31 or September 21, 2022 meeting
- It was reported that the Faculty Association provides seven academic staff member names from which the Academic Co-Chair is chosen, but since there is value in continuity at this time and since Francine Smith may want to continue, options for flexibility in the process set out in the ASCPHWG Terms of Reference for appointing/re-appointing the Academic Co-Chair are being explored

Moved/Seconded

That the General Faculties Council Executive Committee extend the appointment of Francine Smith, Cumming School of Medicine, as the Academic Co-Chair of the Academic Staff Criteria and Processes Handbook Working Group from June 30, 2022 to September 30, 2022.

Carried

9. Appointment of Academic Staff Members to the ASCPHWG

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Interim University Secretary presented this item.

The Committee named, in rank order, academic staff members to be approached by the University Secretariat to serve on the ASCPHWG. The first three individuals to agree to serve will be deemed appointed by the Committee.

Secretary's Note: Following the meeting, Andy Knight, Schulich School of Engineering, Jennifer Lock, Werklund School of Education, and Maria Victoria Guglietti, Faculty of Arts, agreed to serve.

10. Review of the Draft June 16, 2022 GFC Agenda

The Committee reviewed the draft agenda for the June 16, 2022 GFC meeting.

It was observed that some of the informational presentations that the GFC receives would be enjoyed by a broader audience, and it was suggested that consideration be given to offering some of these in a townhall or webinar format.

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

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair and Interim University Secretary presented this item.

The Committee was given opportunity to discuss its functioning and Terms of Reference, and discussion included:

- Holding the Committee's meetings on Zoom has worked well
- There is more than one method that the Committee can follow when rank-ordering its nominees for election/appointment, including clustering nominees by Faculty or ordering individual nominees and giving clear direction to the University Secretariat. The Committee should be thoughtful about its choice of rank-ordering method on a case-by-case basis.
- It would be helpful if the appointment work documentation were to include description of the desired skillsets of members, in addition to providing the Terms of Reference and other general information about the body to which the Committee is appointing
- Confirmation that the Committee reviews and provides direction respecting the agenda for the upcoming GFC meeting, but does not formally approve it

General related discussion about the GFC included:

- The GFC is responsible for the academic affairs of the University, and, while the *Post-Secondary Learning Act* does provide that the GFC can provide advice to the Board of Governors on matters of interest to the University, open discussion sometimes creeps into territory that is not properly within the GFC's purview
- Members of GFC have expressed desire to have earlier input into some items of business, which is a challenge because current practice is for at least one of the GFC standing committees to address items of business before they reach the GFC

12. Other Business

There was no other business.

13. Adjournment

The May 25, 2022 meeting of the General Faculties Council Executive Committee was adjourned by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

Lise Houle
Interim University Secretary