



Athabasca University General Faculties Council

Approved minutes for Meeting 65 of the Athabasca University General Faculties Council held on June 24, 2021, via Microsoft Teams.

Present: Deborah Meyers (Chair), Murray Anderson, Jane Arscott, Raju Aryal, , Rhiannon Bury, Marc Cels, Nicole Collins, Almigdad Eldoma, Elaine Fabbro, Glen Farrelly, Shawn Fraser, Stella George, Anita Girvan, James Greenwood Lee, Lorelei Hanson, Kareena Hart, David Head, Bob Heller, Richard Huntrods, Deborah Hurst, Stacey Hutchings, Tilly Jensen, Margaret Kierylo, Vive Kumar, Annette Lane, Glynnis Lieb, Douglas MacLeod, Richard MacLeod, Manijeh Mannani, Alain May, Sue Mitchell, Ken Munyikwa, Aga Palalas, Andrew Perrin, Meaghan Peuramaki-Brown, Matthew Prineas, Saktinil Roy, Jennifer Schaeffer, Anne-Marie Scott, Barret Weber, Kristine Williamson, Shauna Zenteno

Regrets: Laura Barakeris., Luisa Barton, Terry Beckman, Michael Dabrowski, Pamela Hawranik, Elizabeth Loree, Chris McTavish, Terra Murray, Teresa Rose, Jessica Butts Scott, Adrienne Weare

Others: William Agbakoba, Marta Gold, Corinna Lewis, Gilbert Perras, Charlene Polege, Pauline Smeltz

Governance Staff: Carol Lund (University Secretary), Eileen Hendy (Recording Secretary), Laura Knoblock (Executive Assistant)

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 1.1 Motion 65-01** That the General Faculties Council approves the agenda and thereby approves the consent agenda, including the minutes of Meeting 64 held May 19, 2021, as presented.

May/Zenteno

Carried

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 2.1 Action** Subject to the Code of Conduct for Members of the University Community and the Conflict of Interest provision (clauses 11.1 and 11.2) of the General Faculties Council Rules, members were asked to declare any conflict they may have with respect to particular agenda items contained within the meeting agenda.

No conflicts declared.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Faculty of Business Faculty Council Report

The Dean, Faculty of Business, presented this report.

3.2 Faculty of Graduate Studies Faculty Council Report

The Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, presented this report.



3.3 Faculty of Health Disciplines Faculty Council Report

The Faculty of Health Disciplines Faculty Council Report presented for information.

3.4 Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty Council Report

The Interim Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FHSS), presented this report, noting

- a circle of squares has been established to provide Indigenous students an opportunity to hold monthly discussions
- Memorandum of Agreement signed with Red Deer Polytechnic to create pathway for students in psychology – 25 students registered
- Memorandum of Agreement signed with the Canadian Writing Centers Association

3.5 Faculty of Science and Technology Faculty Council Report

The Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology, presented this report, noting a survey will be distributed to students to gather input and feedback to assess the success of the Mobius pilot project.

4. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 Strategic Issues Roundtable

Discussion held on the OneAU initiatives currently in progress; timelines for the initiatives; and communication and engagement of AU community members in the near virtual initiative. A quarterly update on OneAU initiatives will be provided to the AU community.

4.2 Integrated Learning Environment (ILE) Update

The Provost and Vice-President Academic and Deputy Provost, Academic Operations presented this item.

4.3 Near-virtual Presentation

The Chief Human Resources Officer provided a presentation on the near-virtual working environment strategy. The Near-Virtual Working Group (NVWG) will be engaging with members of the governing bodies, AU committees, AU team members & student associations to obtain input and feedback. Members were encouraged to get involved by providing input/feedback, participating in the upcoming survey and attending the scheduled engagement sessions.

Discussions held on timing of virtual engagement sessions and survey; need for physical space to accommodate offices, labs and meetings; use of AU Athabasca campus; aggregation of culture and work life.

It was agreed to extend the meeting time and agenda items 4.5 and 4.6 be presented prior to continuing the discussion for agenda item 4.3.

4.4 Library & Scholarly Resources Annual Report 2020-2021

It was agreed the Library & Scholarly Resources Annual Report 2020-2021 be deferred the August GFC meeting.

4.5 Motion 65-02 That General Faculties Council approves the new Digital Business Transformation specialization in the existing Masters in Business Administration program effective January 1, 2022, or thereafter at the discretion of the Provost and Vice President



Academic, pending approval by the Board of Governors and Alberta Advanced Education.

Hurst/Mitchell

The Dean, Faculty of Business, and the CRC Digital Disruption & Organizational Transformation Professor presented this item.

Carried

- 4.6 Motion 65-03 That General Faculties Council approves the new Strategic Leadership and Change specialization in the existing Masters in Business Administration program effective January 1, 2022, or thereafter at the discretion of the Provost and Vice President Academic, pending approval by the Board of Governors and Alberta Advanced Education.**

Hurst/May

The Dean, Faculty of Business, and Associate Dean/Program Director presented this item.

Carried

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA
None

The Chair thanked the following members for their service and contribution on General Faculties Council as their term concludes on June 30, 2021:

- Saktinil Roy (Faculty of Business)
- Teresa Rose (Faculty of Business)
- Tilly Jensen (Faculty of Business)
- Michael Dabrowski (Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences)
- Meaghan Peuramaki-Brown (Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences)
- James Greenwood-Lee (Faculty of Science & Technology)
- Laura Barakeris (non-academic staff member)

6. ADJOURNMENT

- 6.1** The meeting adjourned at 11:53 AM