



Athabasca University General Faculties Council

Approved minutes for Meeting 66 of the Athabasca University General Faculties Council held on August 25, 2021, via Microsoft Teams.

Present: Deborah Meyers (Chair), F. Haider Alvi, Murray Anderson, Jolene Armstrong, Jane Arscott, Terry Beckman, Karie-Lynn Chambers, Nicole Collins, Almigdad Eldoma, Elaine Fabbro, Mark Fabbro, Glen Farrelly, Shawn Fraser, Stella George, Anita Girvan, Lorelei Hanson, Kareena Hart, David Head, Bob Heller, Alyson House, Richard Huntrods, Deborah Hurst, Stacey Hutchings, Margaret Kierylo, Vive Kumar, Glynnis Lieb, Douglas MacLeod, Manijeh Mannani, Chris McTavish, Sue Mitchell, Ken Munyikwa, Terra Murray, Aga Palalas, Andrew Perrin, Matthew Prineas, Jennifer Schaeffer, Anne-Marie Scott, Jessica Butts Scott, Myra Tait, Kristine Williamson

Regrets: Raju Aryal, Luisa Barton, Rhiannon Bury, Marc Cels, Mark Crawford, Annette Lane, Elizabeth Loree, Alain May, Mark Morpurgo, Adrienne Weare, Barret Weber, Shauna Zenteno

Others: Corinna Lewis, Gilbert Perras, Charlene Polege

Governance Staff: Sara Kunto, Chief Governance Officer and General Counsel, Eileen Hendy (Recording Secretary)

The Chair welcomed the following new members and introduced Sara Kunto, Chief Governance Officer and General Counsel.

- Alyson House, Faculty of Business
- F. Haider Alvi, Faculty of Business
- Mark Morpurgo, Faculty of Business
- Jolene Armstrong, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences
- Mark Crawford, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences
- Myra Tait, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences
- Karie-Lynn Chambers, Non-Academic Staff

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM and noted the following:

Athabasca University respectfully acknowledges that we are on and work on the traditional lands of the Indigenous Peoples (Inuit, First Nations, Métis) of Canada. We honour the ancestry, heritage, and gifts of the Indigenous Peoples and give thanks to them.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 1.1 Motion 66-01** That the General Faculties Council approves the agenda and thereby approves the consent agenda, including the minutes of Meeting 65 held June 24, 2021, as presented.

Elaine Fabbro/Jessica Scott

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.

Mark Fabbro, Acting Registrar declared a conflict with agenda item 4.6: Library & Scholarly Resources Annual Report 2020-2021.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Report of the Chair

The Chair presented the Report.

4. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 Strategic Issues Roundtable

The following items were discussed:

- Annual Report
 - The final version of the annual report will be posted on AU's website on September 30th
 - September 30th, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, it was suggested this be a discussion item at the August GFC meetings
 - 2021-2022 GFC work plan will be shared with members
- Fair workloads
 - Discussed fair workloads for all AU team members. It was agreed further discussion was required on what resources are needed to support what AU does or wants to do and a workload analysis needed to be completed before further discussion held.
- Fair compensation
 - Workloads and compensation to be discussed following a workload analysis being completed.
- Decolonization
 - Need for strategic direction on decolonization and suggested there be ongoing discussions held at GFC meetings

4.2 Draft Athabasca University Annual Report FY 2020-21

The Chair presented this item. It was suggested a statement about the Kamloops School discovery be added and going forward, more information about AU's academic environment be included in the annual report. Members were asked to send minor edits/comments directly to the Vice President University Relations.

4.3 Integrated Learning Environment (ILE) Update

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



4.4 Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Update

The Co-chairs presented this item, noting the MSCHE decision has been postponed and AU must provide further evidence on Standard V: Educational Effectiveness Assessment, both at the institutional level and program level by December 1, 2021.

A template is under development to inventory how assessment is occurring across the institution and an RFP for assessment software is in development. It was noted faculties have different needs and attention needs to be given to decolonization.

4.5 Changes to Campus Alberta Program Approval and Quality Oversight Processes

The Provost and Vice-President Academic and Associate Vice President, Integrated Planning and Assessment presented this item.

4.6 Library & Scholarly Resources Annual Report 2020-2021

The University Librarian presented this item. It was agreed further discussion is needed about AU Space.

4.7 Motion 66-02 That General Faculties Council approves the Temporary Compassionate Grading Policy, effective August 25, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

Murray/Mark Fabbro

Depending on the Covid situation, the policy may need to be extended beyond December 31, 2021 and compassionate grading continue to be examined beyond the pandemic.

Carried

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

None

The Chair thanked Carol Lund, University Secretary for her long-standing commitment to the success of Athabasca University.

6. ADJOURNMENT

6.1 The meeting adjourned at 3:13 PM