



Athabasca University General Faculties Council

Approved minutes for Meeting 68 of the Athabasca University General Faculties Council held on January 18, 2022 via Microsoft Teams.

Present: Peter Scott (Chair), F. Haider Alvi, Murray Anderson, Jolene Armstrong, Jane Arscott, Raju Aryal, Luisa Barton, Terry Beckman, Rhiannon Bury, Marc Cels, Karie-Lynn Chambers, Alex Clark, Nichole Collins, Mark Crawford, Elaine Fabbro, Glen Farrelly, Shawn Fraser, Karen Fletcher, Stella George, Anita Girvan, Lorelei Hanson, Kareena Hart, Bob Heller, Alyson House, Richard Huntrods, Stacey Hutchings, Margaret Kierylo, Vive Kumar, Angela Kuzyk, Annette Lane, Glynnis Lieb, Elizabeth Loree, Douglas MacLeod, Manijeh Mannani, Alain May, Chris McTavish, Deborah Meyers, Sue Mitchell, Mark Morpurgo, Kristin Mulligan, Ken Munyikwa, Terra Murray, Agnieszka Palalas, Andrew Perrin, Matthew Prineas, Jennifer Schaeffer, Anne-Marie Scott, Myra Tait, Adrienne Weare, Kristine Williamson, Shauna Zenteno

Regrets: Barret Weber

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

Others: Priscilla Campeau

The Chair welcomed the following new members and introduced himself:

- Lisa Watson, Dean, Faculty of Business
- Karen Fletcher, AUSU representative

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 1.1 Motion 68-01** That the General Faculties Council approves the agenda and thereby approves the consent agenda including the minutes of Meeting 67 held October 14, 2021, as presented.

Clark/Watson

Amendments:

- Remove CA1 Minutes of General Faculties Council Meeting 67, held October 14, 2021

The motion now reads:

That the General Faculties Council approves the agenda and thereby approves the consent agenda, as amended.

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 Report of the Chair

The Vice President Finance and Performance Services & CFO (former Interim President) presented the Report of the Chair.

Discussed AU's endorsement of the Scarborough Charter and what the impact was for AU. It was agreed a further discussion on the Scarborough Charter be held at a future GFC meeting.

The metrics noted on page 3 of the Report for growing and shrinking programs were discussed. It was agreed the context for these metrics needed to be looked at. It was also noted the metrics only show learner headcounts for credential and non-credential programs, but do not identify visiting students and that it was important for AU to include these students. The need for there to be better communications with visiting students and first year students was required.

The OneAU Intranet initiative was discussed. It was noted the OneAU Intranet was not part of the 13 OneAU initiatives and is in the discovery stage at this time. It was further noted the dashboard for OneAU initiatives is updated quarterly.

Discussed the outcomes of the two-day Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) workshop held in November. It was noted further sessions were held in December and January and a conservative approach is being taken for a balanced budget. The IRP will be presented for discussion to GFC in March.

3.2 Faculty of Business Quarterly Report

The Dean, Faculty of Business presented this report.

3.3 Faculty of Graduate Studies Quarterly Report

The Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies presented this report.

3.4 Faculty of Health Disciplines Quarterly Report

The Dean, Faculty of Health Disciplines presented this report.

3.5 Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Quarterly Report

The Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences presented this report. It was noted students greatly appreciate the support given by the AU write site.

The relationships happening among faculties and items that are integrative to OneAU principles should be included in faculty quarterly reports. The Chair noted this could be discussed further at Deans' Council.



3.6 Faculty of Science and Technology Quarterly Report

The Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology presented this report.

4. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 Nukskahtowin Strategic Plan 2020 Update

The Chair/Program Administrator presented this item, providing an overview of the formation of Nukskahtowin (Meeting Place), the individuals that have and are involved in the work of Nukskahtowin, and the engagement process for the development of the Nukskahtowin Strategic Plan. She also noted a Council of Elders, and a Council of Allies are being established, and a wall celebrating Nukskahtowin will be created in the Academic Research Centre building.

It was suggested that the Imagine Strategic Plan be reviewed to better place the Nukskahtowin Strategic Plan as a foundational piece of *Imagine*.

The importance of land acknowledgement was discussed. It was noted, Elder Campbell encourages people to personalize land acknowledgement.

4.2 Integrated Learning Environment (ILE) Update

The Provost and Vice-President Academic and the Deputy Provost, Academic Operations presented this item, noting the term minimal viable product is now referred to as initial launch.

Discussed the expectations of students and staff for the initial launch in the fall of 2022. It was noted a training plan will be developed for the initial launch.

4.3 Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Update

The Provost and Vice-President Academic and co-chairs presented this item.

Discussed the compilation of data for the supplementary information report on Standard V. It was noted an institutional assessment framework will be developed and software for learning outcomes assessment at the program and institutional levels will be purchased and implemented.

Item 4.7 was presented prior to item 4.4

4.4 Receive final report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Re-Imagining Assessment and in Support of the Learning Framework

It was agreed to defer this item to the next GFC meeting.

Motion 68-03 That General Faculties Council defers receiving the final report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Re-Imagining Assessment and in Support of the Learning Framework to the next meeting.

Prineas/Fletcher

Carried



4.5 Update on Faculty Council Program Regulation Review Report

The Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies presented this item, noting the initial meeting of the working group is scheduled to be held at the end of January.

4.6 Strategic Issues Roundtable

The Chair requested members to send him topics they wish to discuss at the next meeting.

4.7 Motion 68-02 That General Faculties Council approves extending the Temporary Compassionate Grading Policy, January 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022.

Clark/Watson

The Deputy Provost, Academic Operations presented this item noting approximately 50 learners have utilized the policy and that learners who utilized the policy will be asked what impact it had on their journey to determine if the policy should be extended beyond the pandemic.

Carried

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Motion 68-04 That General Faculties Council approves the minutes for Meeting 67, held October 14, 2021.

Heller/Clark

Member Heller noted at the October 14, 2021 GFC agenda item 4.1 IT Optimization impact on ILE was deferred to the November meeting, which was cancelled, and requested this item be placed on the next GFC meeting agenda.

The Chief Governance Officer and General Counsel asked member Heller to follow up with her after the meeting, noting this item will be added to the next GFC meeting agenda, under Strategic Issues Roundtable.

Carried

6. ADJOURNMENT

6.1 Motion 68-05 That the meeting be adjourned.

Heller/Fabbro

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.