

Approved minutes for Meeting 75 of the Athabasca University General Faculties Council held on October 6, 2022 via Microsoft Teams.

**Present:** Peter Scott (Chair), Nina Acharya, Carmen Allen, Murray Anderson, Josie Auger, F. Haider Alvi, Jolene Armstrong, Terry Beckman, Priscilla Campeau, Karie-Lynn Chambers, Alex Clark, Nichole Collins, Lynn Corcoran, Graeme Denney, Eliana El Khoury, Elaine Fabbro, Glen Farrelly, Shawn Fraser, Karen Fletcher, Stella George, Alyson House, Richard Huntrods, Paul Kellogg, Angela Kuzyk, Cynthia Lambertson-Poon, Jacqueline Limoges, Manijeh Mannani, Alain May, Helen Mayes, Deborah Meyers, Sue Mitchell, Mark Morpurgo, Terra Murray, Agnieszka Palalas, Cori Paul, Andrew Perrin, Matthew Prineas, Sarah Reid, Ann Reynolds, Kristin Rodier, Anne-Marie Scott, Myra Tait, Ching Tan, Lorraine Thirsk, Vina Tirven-Gadum, Lisa Watson, Kristine Williamson, Shauna Zenteno

**Regrets:** Davina Bhandar, Mark Crawford, Anita Girven, Vive Kumar, Ken Munyikwa, Dur-E-Najaf Syed

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

### Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and delivered the AU land acknowledgement.

## 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 1.1 Motion 75-01** That the General Faculties Council approves the agenda and thereby approves the consent agenda, including the minutes of Meeting 74 held September 1, 2022, as presented.

### Clark/Kellogg

Amendments:

- Remove CA1 minutes of Meeting 74 held September 1, 2022

The motion (restated) 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** 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 will be 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 Chair presented this item.

### **3.2 Faculty of Business Quarterly Report**

The Dean, Faculty of Business presented this item, noting the MBA program renewal continues, and courses have started at Red Crow Community College for the Indigenous Business curriculum and a formal opening to be held later in October.

### **3.3 Faculty of Graduate Studies Quarterly Report**

The Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies presented this item, noting 50 submissions have been received for the Graduate Student Research Conference next week, received \$50,000 pilot funding from Alberta Innovates for graduate student scholarship and Meenal Shrivastava is the new Associate Dean.

### **3.4 Faculty of Health Disciplines Quarterly Report**

The Dean, Faculty of Health Disciplines presented this item, noting the faculty received government funding for the Health Economics Micro credential working with PowerED and the Alberta Institute of Health Economics and launched a new course, MHST/NURS 631.

### **3.5 Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Quarterly Report**

The Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences presented this item, noting a Writer in Residence event is being planned for November 24, 2022 at the St. Albert Public Library.

### **3.6 Faculty of Science and Technology Quarterly Report**

The Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology presented this item, noting in person labs were resumed this summer, an event called *Enhancing Rural and Regional Real Estate through Community Learning* was held in Athabasca, a student conference (Telepresence Robot Empowered Smart Lab) was hosted, and on October 11, 2022 an event will be held featuring Ada Lovelace Day: Supporting Equity in Architecture Through the Regenerative Design Process.

## **4. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **4.1 Postdoctoral Policy and Procedures (Draft)**

The Associate Vice-President, Research presented this item, noting this item is provided to GFC for information. Discussed the right to create an association (collective bargaining unit), need to provide accommodations for learners, bringing international postdoctoral learners to Alberta, communicating the policy and procedure within Athabasca University, and ensuring integration of equity, diversity and inclusion.

*Agenda item 5 was presented prior to agenda item 4.2*

*Break 10:19-10:30 a.m.*

### **4.2 Strategic Issues Roundtable**

#### **4.2.1 Motion approved in GFC In Camera on September 1, 2022**

The Chair presented this item noting the motion approved by GFC on September 1, 2022, was provided to the Board of Governors on September 23, 2022 and the October 5, 2022 Order in Council approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, Government of Alberta rescinding the appointments of four board members, reappointment of one board member and appointments of seven new board members.

The Chief Governance Officer and General Counsel provided the names of the new board members appointed, the rescinded board member appointments, and the board member who was reappointed, noting the Order in Council is available on the Alberta Kings Printer website.

**4.2.2 Motion 75-04 That the General Faculties Council moves In Camera**

Update following Board of Governors Meeting Closed Session on September 23, 2022 regarding the 2022-2025 Investment Management Agreement.

**Clark/May** **Carried**

**4.3.2 Motion 75-05 That the General Faculties Council exits In Camera**

**Reynolds/May** **Carried**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

**5.1 CA1 Minutes of General Faculties Council Meeting 74, held September 1, 2022**

Member Kellogg requested the following amendments to agenda item 3.1, for the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion discussion:

- Note that a member requested clarity on specific equity actions and steps being undertaken
- Note that ongoing EDI work is occurring at the University behind the scenes as well that is not always reflected in the Report of the Chair

**5.1.1 Motion 75-02 That the minutes for General Faculties Council Meeting 74, held September 1, 2022 be amended as follows:**

**Under agenda item 3.1, for the discussion on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion note the following:**

- **A member requested clarity on specific equity actions and steps being undertaken**
- **Ongoing EDI work is occurring at the University behind the scenes as well that is not always reflected in the Report of the Chair**

**Kellogg/Auger** **Carried**

**5.1.1 Motion 75-03 That General Faculties Council approves the minutes for General Faculties Council Meeting 74, held September 1, 2022, as amended.**

**Fabbro/Fletcher** **Carried**

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

**6.1** The meeting was adjourned at 12:09 p.m.