

General Faculties Council (GFC) meeting overview: Sept 22, 2011

Report prepared by Pat Kostouros, MRFA, Academic Liaison Officer

Second meeting of the GFC for the 2011/2012 academic year

GFC Business

Minutes for Aug 31, 2011 accepted

Reports from Senior Administration

- President:
 - David Docherty reported on meetings with government officials, generally going well
 - Can likely expect the status quo with ministry until after the election
 - Reported on meeting with MacEwan and collaborating and creating a collective voice around some issues
 - David discussing future land and transportation issues with Canada lands
- Provost and Vice-President, Academic:
 - The Academic Plan consultation complete and expect to submit a new version to GFC November or December
 - Enrolment plan and ministry expectations: bottom line on enrolment numbers related to total numbers not internal program numbers
 - Medicine Hat agreement was approved by the Board of Governors
 - New talks with Red Deer College, likely to use Medicine Hat agreement as a template
- Vice- President Student Affairs:
 - APA reference guide developed to assist both students and faculty
 - Question about other reference guide types in the works (MLA, Chicago) - none
 - Mental Health Strategy being rolled out in October -taking a community consultation approach
 - Student Service plan expected to GFC November or December
- Associate Vice-President, Enrolment:
 - Exceeded target enrolments (102%) but expect a drop in numbers
 - Target was approximately 6500
 - New student orientation a success
- Associate Vice-President, Research
 - Temporarily moved to Westmount
 - Noted expansion uses in U wing
 - Associate Vice-President, Research and the Chair of HREB will visit Faculty Councils to discuss the process for course-based ethics applications
 - New Compliance Officer in the Research Office

- Modifications to internal grants and expanding offerings

Decision Items

- Recommendations of Detailed Faculty Tenure and Promotion Criteria
 - Mark Schroeder recognized to speak to documents as previous chair of APTC
 - Separation of the motion, into two motions, one for each document, was recommended
 - Some comments about equitability versus equality
 - Questions raised about student input into the documents for scholarship
 - Discussion about discipline and sub-discipline expectations and inability to homogenize due to disciplinary diversity
 - Need to consider quality versus quantity in scholarship
 - APTC in the best position to know if all criteria are similar
 - Noted that the institutional criteria was not meant to act as a checklist but that the criteria be interpretable and any reference to numbers acts to illustrate not quantify
 - Recommendation to accept documents passed

Reports

- Executive Committee
 - Watch for change in venue in meeting agendas
- BSC – nothing to report
- APPC – nothing to report
- APTC
 - One more Detailed Faculty Tenure and Promotion Criteria document to review and recommend
 - Expected duties this year: to reassess criteria, develop a feedback mechanism, track deficiencies to the existing criteria and process, work with discipline specific areas to develop specific criteria

- LASC – nothing to report
- LOSC
 - Upcoming community consultation
- RSAC
 - New member list in the package
- Student Awards – nothing to report
- BOG – nothing to report
- Faculty Council
 - Motion to accept reports accepted
- Cont Ed – nothing to report

New Business

- None

Questions from the Floor

- Is some committee attending to the need for more than a name when electing GFC members
 - Being undertaken by By-Laws and Striking Committee
 - Potentially look at GFC Committee elections happening in the Faculty Councils versus GFC as a whole
- How will the process of continued review of criteria unfold
 - Not yet determined since it will just be undertaken this year
 - Consideration to not review too often since tenure is based on the criteria when hired
 - 5 year cycle anticipated