



**GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL MEETING #517**  
**Approved Minutes**

**Monday, March 6, 2017**  
**3:00 p.m. in W646**

- Present:** M. Mahon (Chair), C. Adams, R. Adkin, H. Babb, D. Balderson, YJ Bao, B. Black, J. Bocksnick, B. Boudreau, L. Brown, S. Bubel, J. Byrne, P. Cardozo, C. Ciona, M. Collins, J. Dobbie, B. Ellis, M. Gale, P. Ghazalian, J. Graham, N. Grigg, A. Hakin, J. Harrowing, C. Horbachewski, C. Hosgood, C. Howey, D. Jarvie, E. Jing, E. Jurkowski, S. Kennedy, C. Loewen, J. MacKenzie, C. Malacrida, R. Marynowski, C. Nicol, J. Nugent, E. Okine, W. Osborn, A. Predoi-Cross, J. Prestie, J. Sanders, J. Sheriff, A. Siaroff, T. Spagnolo, A. Taylor, S. Thomas, J. Vokey, N. Walker, C. Williams, J. Wishloff, R. Wood
- Regrets:** A. Amelinckx, C. Cooper, P. Esau, M. Hawkins, A. Khan, S. Malla, A. Martin, J. McGinley, D. McNeill, M. Nugent, D. O'Donnell, S. Parmar, F. Salins, A. Shaw, D. Slomp, C. Steinke, M. Stingl
- Other:** J. Gallais, L. Corbiere, V. Grisack, S. Alam, N. Eva, K. Fuglerud, D. Kazakoff, B. MacKay, M. Matkin, J. Mills, H. Mirau, J. Newberry, S. Wismath

*Oki, ni kso koo wa wa: Welcome to all our relatives and friends.*

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: gfc.2017.03.01

Jurkowski/Adkin

*That the Agenda for GFC Meeting #517 held Monday, March 6, 2017 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: gfc.2017.03.02

J. Nugent/Adams

*That the Minutes for GFC Meeting #516 held Monday, February 6, 2017 be approved.*

Motion: Carried

### 3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. Mahon reported:

- M. Mahon just returned from a trip to India in which he met with a number of Universities, including Lakehead University. He also attended the grand opening of a high school that will have an Alberta curriculum.
- Native Awareness Week is this week and we will be unveiling a new ceremonial pipe for the 50th Anniversary. The pipe was made by a member of the Piikani Nation community and will be displayed when not in use – one suggestion is with the mace in the Library.
- Congratulations to the Pronghorn athletic teams on their recent successes. Superior effort by Horns Men's Basketball who lost to University of Alberta in game 3 after a nail biter in game 2, with the Horns winning 112-111 in overtime.
- Throne Speech happened while M. Mahon was in India. A few of the themes were the importance of education, economic development and stability in funding with no surprises. N. Walker also met with university presidents and the Deputy Minister and heard a similar message. The budget comes in a couple of weeks.
- CARI Presidents Mission to Ottawa took place on February 13<sup>th</sup>. They stressed the importance of recognizing Alberta as a good place to invest. Good set of meetings with all of the ministers. They are in the process of reviewing funding models, tuition and the labour piece with the provincial government. ABC review – agencies boards and commissions – looking at reviewing mandates, compensation, governance practices for universities and colleges.
- Congratulations to Dr. Deborah Saucier, who was appointed as the new President of MacEwan University. She was at the University of Lethbridge from 2006-2011 as Chair of the Dept of Neuroscience and a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair.
- Play Day was a great success on Feb 20<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all those faculty/staff who volunteered that day.
- Congratulations to Dr. Shelly Wismath (Math & Computer Science) who is present today on receiving a 3M National Teaching Fellowship.
- Congratulations to Dr. Carla Carnaghan (Management) who has been recognized as a YWCA Women of Distinction in the area of education and mentorship
- We are a sponsor of the Greatness in Leadership event tomorrow. M. Mahon is speaking. A number of students and staff are participating in the day's events.
- White Ribbon campaign on International Women's Day, Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>
- Calgary Alumni and Friends Concert March 16, featuring alumnus John Wort Hannam and the Highway 3 Trio
- Research Week 2017 - Spotlight on Research runs March 13-18
- International Dinner - Turning Obstacles into Opportunities on March 21 will feature Alums Julie and Lowell Taylor (appeared on the Amazing Race Canada)

### 4. QUESTION PERIOD

- J. Byrne – referenced groups claiming connections to the university. How do people get appointed to these groups such as SACPA, Old Man Watershed Council, etc. as he doesn't know if there are directly linked people on these organizations? M. Mahon stated that none of the organizations represents the

University of Lethbridge directly. They have their own mandates, etc. strong connections with groups like SACPA but we do not have influence in their directions, presentations, membership, etc. Some groups like the Chamber ask for a permanent member representative from us.

## 5. ITEMS FOR ACTION

### 5.1. Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report

#### **Recommendations from Report 1**

Faculty of Management

MOTION: gfc.2017.03.03

Boudreau/Ellis

*That General Faculties Council approve the new major in Agricultural Enterprise Management, as outlined in the GFC Curriculum Coordinating Committee Report 1, pending Ministerial Approval.*

Motion: Carried

L. Brown introduced Dean B. Boudreau to speak to the motion. B. Boudreau said this was a wonderful opportunity for the Faculty of Management. Years ago, they had an agriculture management program but it disappeared until Cor Van Raay gave a donation to start the Agribusiness program up. It provides an opportunity for students to become involved in agri-food business. S. Alam and M. Matkin are here to answer questions. For the last two years, there has been good cooperation with the college and the Faculty of Arts & Science as well as other supporters in the agri-food sector to develop this program. He is hoping that as this program moves through the process of ministerial approval that we will be able to offer a major in it. It was asked if new courses were developed or if we are using existing courses. M. Matkin gave a brief overview of how the courses were arranged. A discussion occurred on timelines for approval, and it was stated that we hope to have it passed within the year but that it can take longer. Dean Boudreau reported that the government gave some matching grants with the Cor Van Raay funds so they are invested in the success of the program. Topics that were also discussed included management versus scientific training, collaboration with other faculties as well as Lethbridge College, and being able to offer a combined degree program in the future. Dr. Mahon offered congratulations to the Faculty of Management on the new program.

### 5.2. Liberal Education – Sustainable Governance Structure Proposal

MOTION: gfc.2017.03.04

Hakin/J. Nugent

*That GFC recommends to the Board of Governors for approval the establishment of a School of Liberal Education within the powers of GFC as outlined in Section 26(1)l of the Alberta Post-Secondary Learning Act, and in*

*accordance with the Proposal for a Liberal Education Sustainable Governance Structure*

Motion: Carried (1 Abstention)

A. Hakin stated that this proposal came from the Liberal Education Revitalization team after a lot of work. In our 50<sup>th</sup> year, the energy seems directed in creating a School of Liberal Education, which sets us apart from the other 26<sup>th</sup> institutions in the province. It was brought forward for information to General Faculties Council in February. A. Hakin introduced S. Wismath who stated that this proposal is a recommitment to our original roots. We appreciate the discussion and feedback from our presentation last month. Its' four-pillar model is the essence of teaching, learning and research at our university. Council members discussed budgetary concerns as well as space planning for the new school. A. Hakin suggested that there would be flexibilities within the budget if we have zero or above increase in the budget. It can figure into the finances at a cost that is bearable to the university. Space requirements will take longer to figure out as the Destination Project is being constructed and the domino effect that will occur when it is finished as departments move around. M. Mahon stated that the Board of Governors will receive the recommendation to approve from GFC and will then work on the budget portion separately. Budgetary concerns were discussed. S. Wismath stated that LERT has not looked at the budget. They have looked at what they can do with new positions but also what can be done with what is currently funded. They are asking for the no frills version but need the recognition of a wider scope in the future. The proposal is an organizing theme for delivering Liberal Education. We are already do this but this proposal allows all of the university departments to feel that they are a part of liberal education. A couple other topics came up in discussion – Graduate studies in liberal education, course lists and the structure of the advisory committee to include the Dean as chair.

## **6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

### **6.1. Destination Project**

A. Hakin updated the committee on the latest developments on the project. Level 6 has been fully poured and 50% of level seven has been done. They should be starting on Level 8 in mid-March. They will be starting on the steel work in the next while. Tie in projects will be done in the next few months as well and that will affect other parts of the university as the connections occur. We haven't lost too many days to weather and the wind has not been bad so the cranes have been operational. They continue to make good progress.

### **6.2. Understanding the Fall Break on Student Mental Health & Wellness**

C. Howey and S. Kennedy reported to the Council on the inaugural Fall Break. They wanted to see what the impact was on students. The Registrars Office worked closely with Brock University on the survey tool and got advice from them on the type of questions to ask. 2408 out of over 8000 students responded. The survey was only completed by students. C. Howey would like to see staff also complete the survey in the future. Discussion occurred on identifying the needs of graduate students as well as having 13 weeks of instruction instead of 12.

**6.3. Banner Revitalization**

(A. Hakin assumed the position of Chair for the remainder of the meeting as the President had a prior commitment.)

S. Kennedy and C. Nicol gave an update on the Banner Revitalization project. They are looking at a go live date for June for implementation of new system probably around the seventh. During the implementation, the system will not be available. It will be offline for about six days with anything attached to Banner being affected. The Registrar has begun a training calendar with overview sessions open to anyone who wants to attend. Invitations to the specific training sessions will be going out in the near future.

**6.4. Academic Staff Count**

J. Gallais reported that the academic staff counts for 2017-2018 will not be changing.

Membership will remain identical to the counts for the 2016-2017 academic year. No questions were asked

**6.5. GFC Executive Committee Report – February 27, 2017**

Received as information. No questions raised.

**6.6. GFC Executive Committee Approved Minutes – January 30, 2017**

Received as information. No questions raised.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

James Graham brought ribbons for the White Ribbon campaign, which came out of response to The École Polytechnique Montreal massacre. The ribbon campaign is supported by ULFA and the President's Office.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: gfc.2017.03.05

J. Nugent/Byrne

*That the GFC meeting #517 be adjourned.*

Motion: Carried