

GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL
Approved Minutes

Meeting #613
Thursday, February 10, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

By Zoom platform

E. McCauley, Chair

2. Inclusive Practice Moment

Dianne Gereluk, Dean of the Werklund School of Education (WSE), presented a Territorial Acknowledgment and then highlighted inclusive practices in her unit, including:

Members of the WSE demonstrated good leadership by respectfully attending the Medicine Wheel in Nose Hill Park on September 30, 2021

The WSE's Indigenous Task Force produced a report in 2016 with ten recommendations, and progress is being made towards these, including: listening to and working with the Indigenous community; increasing the WSE Indigenous student population; developing a mandatory Indigenous Education course for all undergraduate WSE students; and engaging in Indigenous language revitalization

The WSE has set three priorities: to establish national-level leadership in Indigenous pedagogy; to build WSE faculty capacity in decolonization and Indigenizing ways; and to gather WSE Indigenous resources and publications to form a digital hub

Canada for research excellence in this area, and chose the University in part because they were impressed by the University's culture of transdisciplinary work.

The provincial budget will be announced on February 24, 2022. Representatives of the University

specifically that there should be no institutional masking, distancing or proof of vaccination requirements as of March 1, 2022

- o In response to questions, it was reported that:

99% of the University's population is vaccinated, and a proof of vaccination program is therefore not needed anymore. The University has a team that continues to monitor data and informed decisions will be made regarding masking and distancing, with health and safety as primary concerns.

The University is committed to returning to in-person learning after the Reading Week

Representatives of the University are actively communicating with the provincial government regarding the value of universities and the importance of deconsolidation and institutional autonomy. It is anticipated, should deconsolidation occur, that there will be changes to the structure of the Board of Governors and how the University reports to the government.

There is awareness that there may be challenges in executing the Winter final exams, and limited options are being considered. Communications from the Provost's and Registrar's offices will be sent.

There is also awareness that some instructors may become ill in the coming weeks, and options for class continuity are being considered

The original communication regarding continued masking in the Winter term related to instructional days, but it is intended for the masking requirement to continue through the final examinations period

The remote working environment is ending, and employees will begin to return to working on campus. A timeline and g

appearance of legal/dead names, such as on a classlist, can be devastating to students. The member requested a formal publicly posted apology for the University putting LGBTQ2S+ students at risk and a commitment as to when all systems will use students' preferred names.

- o Members of the University's leadership, including the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), the President, the Registrar, and the Vice-Provost (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion), expressed regret that this issue continues and agreement that this is an important matter that needs correcting. It was reported that efforts are being made to align the University's systems but that this is a complicated matter and a date for completion cannot be given, and that any public apology cannot be rushed because such a statement must be thoughtfully considered.

7. Approval of the January 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. The Chair presented this item.

Moved/Seconded
That the Minutes of the General Faculties Council meeting held on January 13, 2022 be approved.
Carried

8. Establishment of the 2022-2023 GFC Elected Membership Distribution

9. Standing Reports

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda as 'In Package Only' for information:

- a) Report on the January 26, 2022 GFC Executive Committee Meeting
- b) Report on the January 10 and 31, 2022 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Meetings
- c) Report on the January 18, 2022 Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting

10. Other Business

There was no other business.

11. Adjournment

The February 10, 2022 General Faculties Council meeting was adjourned by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

Lise Houle
Interim University Secretary