



Athabasca University General Faculties Council

Approved minutes for Meeting 59 of the Athabasca University General Faculties Council held on October 15, 2020, via Microsoft Teams.

Present: Neil Fassina (Chair), Murray Anderson, Jane Arcscott, Judd Asoyuf, Laura Barakeris, Luisa Barton, Rhiannon Bury, Marc Cels, Nichole Collins, Natasha Donahue, Monique Durette, Margaret Edwards, Elaine Fabbro, Glen Farrelly, Shawn Fraser, Stella George, Anita Girvan, James Greenwood-Lee, Lorelei Hanson, Bob Heller, Richard Huntrods, Deborah Hurst, Tilly Jensen, Margaret Kierylo, Vive Kumar, Annette Lane, Glynnis Lieb, Elizabeth Loree, Douglas MacLeod, Richard MacLeod, Manijeh Mannani, Alain May, Deborah Meyers, Sue Mitchell, Ken Munyikwa, Terra Murray, Aga Palalas, Andrew Perrin, Meaghan Peuramaki-Brown, Matthew Prineas, Teresa Rose, Saktinil Roy, Jennifer Schaeffer, Anne-Marie Scott, Jessica Butts Scott, Adrienne Weare, Barret Weber, Kristine Williamson, Shauna Zenteno

Regrets: Raju Aryal, Terry Beckman, Michael Dabrowski, Chris McTavish

Governance Staff: Carol Lund (University Secretary), Eileen Hendy (Governance Coordinator), Laura Knoblock (Recording Secretary)

Welcome New Members

The Chair welcomed new members:

- Andrew Perrin, Associate Vice President, Research
- Manijeh Mannani, Interim Dean, Faculty Humanities and Social Sciences
- Shauna Zenteno, Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology
- Ken Munyikwa, full time academic faculty member, Faculty of Science and Technology

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 1.1 Motion 59-01** That the General Faculties Council approves the agenda and thereby approves the consent agenda, including the minutes of Meeting 58 held August 26, 2020, as presented.

Murray / Kumar

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 AU/IBM/Watson/Queens (CAC) Demo

The President and the Provost and Vice President Academic welcomed partners from IBM Watson & Queens University.



The Provost and Vice President Academic, and the Dean, Faculty of Business, provided an overview of the “Education Assistant Coach” initiative, an augmentation of the learning environment. The proof of concept phase has been completed and the next step is a pilot with four undergraduate courses from the Faculty of Business.

Members from IBM Watson & Queens provided a presentation and demo.

Members were asked to forward any questions they may have to the Dean, Faculty of Business. The questions and comments posted in “chat” will be provided to the Dean.

3.2 Faculty of Business Faculty Council Report

The Dean, Faculty of Business, presented this report.

A brief discussion was held on the virtual co-op program created and launched by the Faculty of Business. It was noted a demo of the virtual co-op would be provided at a future GFC meeting.

3.3 Faculty of Graduate Studies Faculty Council Report

The Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, presented this report.

3.4 Faculty of Health Disciplines Faculty Council Report

The Dean, Faculty of Health Disciplines presented this report.

3.5 Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty Council Report

The Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences presented this report.

3.6 Faculty of Science and Technology Faculty Council Report

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

4. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 Strategic Issues Roundtable

Discussions was held on:

- considerations needed to be given for the submission of new program proposals
- intervention strategies for non-start completion rates

It was noted, a discussion on course re-numbering was held at APPSC on October 8, 2020 and further discussions will be held at future meetings of APPSC.

4.2 Imagine Learning Framework Update

The Provost and Vice President Academic and the Deputy Provost, Academic Operations provided an overview of the proposed ILE Governance Structure and the high-level timeline for implementation and migration of the learning environment. The governance structure includes a Steering Committee responsible for strategic decision making; a Working Committee responsible for operational decision making; and an Academic User Group – Academic champions group. These committees will be populated within the next 4 – 6 weeks.

4.3 GFC Ad Hoc Committee on Re-Imagining Assessment in Support of the Learning Framework Update

The Provost and Vice President Academic and Deputy Provost, Academic Operations provided an update on the activities undertaken and to be undertaken by the Ad Hoc Committee, noting three



open sessions: the first session will be a presentation and discussion led by Dr. Jesse Stommel, followed by 2 sessions for AU team members to provide input on draft guiding principles and practices to direct the design, development and delivery of assessment practices.

A communique will be issued to the AU Community members providing details for the open sessions shortly.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

None

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at-11:46 AM.