

General Faculties Council *ad hoc* committee on Academic Governance including Delegated Authority

Purpose:

To draft revised Terms of Reference of GFC and all GFC standing committees, updating delegated authorities for recommendation to GFC by April 30, 2017 in accordance with the motion approved by GFC on January 25, 2016, that it “review the delegation of its authorities to all of its current committees and [...] vote on whether to renew or revise these delegated authorities”.

Suggested Composition:

A minimum of one member of the Academic Governance Working Group  
Up to four (4) faculty members with various GFC standing committee experiences, such as current or recent GFC membership or having served on a major standing committee  
One member of the university community with broad governance expertise  
Two (2) students – one graduate and one undergraduate – with broad university governance experience  
Up to two (2) non-faculty staff members

Resource members: Meg Brolley, Marion Haggarty France, Amissa Jablonski, others as required (Academic Governance Working Group, Provost’s Office, Registrar’s Office, etc)

Chair to be elected from the *ad hoc* committee

The *ad hoc* committee may add to its membership as it deems necessary.

Meetings:

The *ad hoc* committee will meet once or twice a month from October to April. A tentative meeting schedule will be drafted.

As with other GFC committees, the *ad hoc* committees meetings will be open to observers. Guests will be invited to attend as required. Other consultation activities will be determined by the *ad hoc* committee.

Terms of Reference:

1. To examine the terms of reference of all GFC standing committees paying particular attention to:
  - Mandate (structured appropriately? Duplication? Gaps? Current practice)
  - Delegated authority
  - Committee composition (appropriate size and membership)
  - Current context
2. To identify the key elements in each GFC Standing Committee’s role as it relates to the responsibilities and efficacy of the overall academic governance of GFC.
3. To initiate discussion on any other matters the *ad hoc* committee considers relevant to its purpose and to provide recommendations on other matters related to academic governance that arise during the review.

4. To be informed by the GFC discussions in 2015-16 (March 21 [materials](#) and [minutes](#); May 2 [materials](#) and [minutes](#)), including documents such as '[A Reflection on the State of Academic Governance at the University of Alberta](#)' and other literature and best practices in the field.
5. To provide recommendations on revisions to the terms of reference including delegated authority for GFC and GFC standing committees.
6. Identify further steps (ie administrative delegations, faculty councils, UAPPOL).
7. Provide regular status reports to GFC.

Timeline:

Final report and recommendations to be submitted to GFC for approval no later than April 30, 2017