

MINUTES of PGA Faculty Board
Friday, November 21, 2025, 1:00 p.m.
Senate Room (PK 608)

The following were present:

Faculty: Vandna Bhatia (ODFPGA), Zeina Bou-Zeid (LAWS), Sean Burges (BGIInS), James Casteel (EURUS), Pam Grassau (SSW), Josh Greenberg (ODFPGA), Lara Karaian (ICCJ), Vince Kazmierski (LAWS), Jonathan Malloy (PSCI), David Mendeloff (ODFPGA), Jeff Monaghan (ICCJ), Brenda O’Neill (ODFPGA), Karen Sewell (SSW), Allan Thompson (SJC-Journalism), Sarah Todd (Kroeger), Yanling Wang (ODFPGA), Paul Wilson (ODFPGA)

Students: Nathan Harlan (EURUS - CASG), Mohammed Islam (LAWS), Leia Johnson (SSW), Abby Lalonde (Kroeger – BGIInS), Hannah MacLellan (SSW), Sydney Weaver (SJC-Communication)

Observers: Stella Duncan (Political Science)

Recorder: Laurie Jaeger (ODFPGA)

1. Welcome and Call to Order

David Mendeloff, Interim Faculty Board Secretary, welcomed faculty members and acknowledged that we were meeting on the traditional, unceded, and unsundered territory of the Algonquin, Anishinaabeg people, and expressed gratitude to them as the traditional stewards of the land.

David asked everyone in attendance to sign-in.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated.

3. Adoption of Minutes of the October 3, 2025 Meeting

The minutes were approved as circulated.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. Question Period

There were no questions submitted in advance of the meeting.

6. Report from Dean Brenda O'Neill

Dean Brenda O'Neill presented her report. She spoke about the financial situation at the University and in the Faculty as a result of decreased enrolment and decreased revenue; the SEM (Strategic Enrolment Management) Committee in which the President has tasked senior leadership to address the enrolment decline; the establishment of an FPGA SEMC with the purpose of exploring innovative approaches to program development, differentiation, and revenue generation; and that we are waiting to hear about the Faculty restructuring plan that was submitted mid-September. The Dean also highlighted research strengths in the Faculty, as reported in the FPGA Annual Report.

In response to questions and comments, the Dean reported that the University's Efficiency and Accountability Fund (EAF) response document is to be submitted in early December; the Course and Program Costing Models have not been finalized yet; and that the Institutional Impartiality Policy will be discussed at a General University Faculty Board meeting scheduled on November 27.

7. Reports from Faculty Board Committees

7.1 Executive Committee

David Mendeloff summarized the report that was circulated with the agenda. There were no questions.

7.2 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Vandna Bhatia summarized the report that was circulated with the agenda. There were two motions to consider.

MOTION 1: (Bhatia/Kazmierski)

MOTION: THAT FPGA Faculty Board recommends that Senate approve the removal of the language requirement from the Bachelor of Journalism and Humanities [BJHUM-30HU] for the 2027-28 Undergraduate Calendar. **CARRIED.**

MOTION 2: (Bhatia/Harlan)

MOTION: THAT FPGA Faculty Board recommends that Senate approve the Minor Modifications as presented in the attached list for the 2026-27 Undergraduate Calendar. **CARRIED.**

7.3 Graduate Curriculum Committee:

Vandna Bhatia summarized the report that was circulated with the agenda. There were two motions to consider.

MOTION 1: (Bhatia/Sewell)

MOTION: THAT FPGA Faculty Board recommends that Senate approve the proposed Major Modifications in the attached list for the 2026-27 Graduate Calendar. **CARRIED**

MOTION 2: (Bhatia/Todd)

MOTION: THAT FPGA Faculty Board recommends that Senate approve the proposed Minor Modifications as presented in the attached list for the 2026-27 Graduate Calendar. **CARRIED**

8. Reports from Associate Deans

8.1 Research and Graduate:

Josh Greenberg summarized the report that was circulated with the agenda. There were no questions.

8.2 Students and Enrolment

Paul Wilson summarized the report that was circulated with the agenda. A brief discussion followed regarding the efficacy of recruitment efforts.

8.3 Academic

Vandna Bhatia summarized the report that was circulated with the agenda. There were no questions.

8.4 Equity and Inclusion

Yanling Wang summarized the report that was circulated with the agenda. There were no questions.

8.5 Faculty Affairs

David Mendeloff summarized the report that was circulated with the agenda. In response to a question, an update was provided on moving the MA Collaborative Specialization in LACS to the College of Global Studies in FPGA.

9. Other Reports for Information

9.1 CASG/Undergraduate Students

Student representative Nathan Harlan provided a brief report. He mentioned the students' response to the Institutional Impartiality Policy and an upcoming referendum regarding student fees.

9.2 GSA/Graduate Students:

There was no report at this meeting.

9.3 Senate Report

David Mendeloff provided a brief report on the recent Senate meeting. There were no questions.

10. Other Business

Lara Karaian, ICCJ, spoke to an OCUFA petition, and asked faculty members to consider signing it.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.