

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Governance & Nominations Committee (GNC)**

**AGENDA**

**Date: April 21, 2026**

**Time: 2:30 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.**

[Zoom Videoconference Link](#) (registration required)

[GNC Meeting Schedule and Materials 2025-2026](#)

No.		Topic	Lead	Suggested Start Time
<b>PUBLIC SESSION</b>				
1.		<b>Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement</b>	Chair	2:30 p.m.
2.		<b>Agenda (M)</b>		
3.		<b>Chair's Remarks</b>		
4.		<b>Governance</b>		
	4.1	Academic Council Meeting Format* (M)	N. Crow	2:40 p.m.
5.		<b>Consent Agenda* (M)</b>	Chair	2:50 p.m.
	5.1	Public Minutes of the January 20, 2026 Meeting* (M)		
6.		<b>Adjournment (M)</b>	Chair	2:55 p.m.
<b>NON-PUBLIC SESSION</b> (material not publicly available)				
7.		<b>Call to Order</b>	Chair	3:00 p.m.
8.		<b>Nominations</b>		
	8.1	2026 Nominations, Election Results and Process Update* (M)	N. Crow	3:05 p.m.
9.		<b>Consent Agenda: (M)</b>	Chair	3:15 p.m.
	9.1	Non-Public Minutes of the January 20, 2026 Meeting* (M)		
10.		<b>Termination</b>	Chair	3:20 p.m.

Sandra Grouette, Assistant University Secretary

## AC COMMITTEE REPORT

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**SESSION:**

Public   
Non-Public

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Decision   
Discussion/Direction   
Information

**TO:** Governance & Nominations Committee (GNC)

**DATE:** April 21, 2026

**FROM:** Nicola Crow, University Secretary

**SUBJECT:** Academic Council Meeting Format

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

- As GNC is responsible for advising Academic Council (AC) on its governance structure and processes, AC's meeting format falls within GNC's purview to review.
- The Steering Committee (SC) is recommending GNC review the current AC meeting format to transition to more in-person meetings.

**KEY CONSIDERATIONS:**

- Further to SC's recommendation, GNC's approval is sought to recommend to AC a change in its meeting format to more in-person meetings as of the 2026-2027 academic year.
- 2023 was the last time AC's meeting format was reviewed following the shift in format arising from the pandemic.

**Motion for Consideration:**

*That the Governance & Nominations Committee hereby recommends for approval by Academic Council a change in Academic Council's meeting format to in-person meetings from September to June, beginning in the 2026/2027 Academic Year, with possible virtual meetings only in January and February with regard to weather conditions.*

**BACKGROUND/CONTEXT:**

- At the June 20, 2023 GNC Meeting, the Committee reviewed AC's meeting format options for the 2023/2024 academic year with a recommendation that at a minimum AC meet in-person for the first and last meetings of the academic year; and meet virtually for the balance of the year's meetings.
- At the June 27, 2023 AC meeting, Members agreed to meet in person three times; and meet virtually for the balance of the year's meetings.

- At the March 10, 2026, Steering Committee (SC) Meeting, SC recommended GNC review the Academic Council meeting format and consider changing to in-person meetings from September to June, beginning in the 2026/2027 Academic Year, with possible virtual meetings in January and February with regard to weather conditions.
- SC noted that the transition to more in-person meetings supports stronger governance and interaction, acknowledging that virtual participation is convenient. A suggestion was also made to consider rotating meeting locations.

**NEXT STEPS:**

- April 28, 2026: GNC's recommendation on Academic Council's meeting format will be presented to Academic Council for approval.

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL  
GOVERNANCE & NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (GNC)**

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**Minutes of the Public Session of the January 20, 2026 Meeting  
via Videoconference  
2:30 p.m. - 2:36 p.m.**

**Governance & Nominations Committee Agenda & Materials 2025-2026**

**Present:**

Steven Murphy, Chair  
Wendy Barber  
Rupinder Brar  
Toba Bryant

Nicola Crow  
Jessica Hogue  
Lori Livingston  
Carolyn McGregor

Mehdi Hossein-Nejad  
Scott Nokleby  
Shannon Vettor

**Regrets:**

Venuga Kariharan

**Staff:**

Kirstie Ayotte (Secretary), Krista Hester

**1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement**

The Chair called the Public Session of the Governance & Nominations Committee (GNC) Meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and Jessica Hogue provided their personal Land Acknowledgement.

**2. Agenda**

*Upon a motion duly made by L. Livingston and seconded by T. Bryant, the GNC Agenda was approved as presented, including approving and receiving the Consent Agenda and its contents.*

**3. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair underscored the significance of maintaining mental health and well-being during this time of year and reminded attendees that the University provides a range of supports and resources for individuals who may require assistance. The Chair further reported on the strong attendance at the third annual Carriage Cup held on January 15, 2026 and extended congratulations to the men's team on their victory.

**4. Nominations \* (M)**

**4.1 2026 Election Key Date and Open Positions\* (M)**

N. Crow presented the 2026 Election Key Dates and Open Positions and highlighted that there may be some changes to the open positions dependent on student eligibility to renew or be re-elected. She also noted the streamlined election process continues to allow more opportunities for potential candidates to participate.

*Upon a motion duly made by M. Hossein-Nejad and seconded by J. Hogue, the Governance & Nominations Committee hereby approves the proposed dates and process for the 2026 Academic Council elections, as presented.*

**5. Consent Agenda\* (M)**

The Chair confirmed that contents of the Consent Agenda were approved and received under Agenda Item #2.

**5.1 Public Minutes of the October 21, 2025 Meeting\* (M)**

**6. Adjournment (M)**

There being no other business, and upon a motion duly made by S. Nokleby, the Public Session of the GNC Meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Nicola Crow, University Secretary

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