The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:10pm and announced that quorum has not been achieved for Faculty Council (FC) or Faculty Council Committee. Therefore, Motions scheduled for approval at this meeting (FC30.1 Approval of the December 4, 2017 Agenda and FC30.2 Approval of the Minutes of the October 5, 2017 FC29 meeting) cannot be approved and will be carried forward for approval at the next FC meeting.

The Chair then made the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement.

FC30.3 Report from the Dean (Richard Sigurdson)

The Dean included the following in his remarks:

- The launch of the university’s Indigenous Strategy – look at it online and encourage your colleagues to get involved. Two parallel lines to the strategy: linear, what we are used to in western universities, parallels community narrative. A way to express what we are willing to take on like the truth and reconciliation commission. We are recruiting a cohort of indigenous scholars – an indigenous director and two political science CRC positions.
- Town Hall with the provost and the vice-provost research – related to development of new strategic research plan and academic plan.
- Energizing eyes high plan – two things new and different. Renewed focus on the student experience and a new interest in the campus culture. Identifying the opportunities to develop a top notch student experience. Campus culture – what does it mean to be part of this campus community.
- Another $40m donation for the Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking. $10m towards infrastructure at the Mackinnie block, $30m available for programming, activities. How does it fit into the Faculty of Arts – new and problem-solving ways to engage in social innovation. This could be lack of housing, daycare, need creative approaches innovative ways to tackle these problems. Work hard to find opportunities for us. The Hunters want this to be a campus wide initiative.
- Budget – in the news last week, tuition frozen for post-secondary in Alberta again. We have budget restraints and some unknown elements, we know the budget for next year but we are unsure about years going forward.
- Our faculty is implementing our strategic plan. We just launched our internationalization strategy. We now have our Associate Dean, Internationalization, Gavin Cameron. Congratulations to him and the vice dean for all their hard work.
- The vice dean is also involved in our faculty review which happens every five years. We last went through this process in my first year here. The external reviewers will be here in March 2018. There will be opportunities for the reviewers to meet with students, staff and faculty. Arts units that have been through the process know the value.
- Hiring across the faculty is still on going but it will slow down next year for budgetary reasons but also we have started to change the demographics. At one time we had very few assistant professors but we have hired 120 recently and now have a good scope of assistant professors and professors. But we now have very few faculty coming up for retirement.
• Budget – all faculties university-wide have had to absorb a two percent cut. This is very difficult as we spend almost all of our money on salary and benefits, currently 98 percent. One decision we made was to dramatically reduce our sessional budget and we feel we can’t do anymore in this area. So we have the same budget going into next year as we had this year. Also we can’t cut GATs any further, it is important to our faculty to attract graduate students and to be able to support them.

• We have had a lot of success with awards for students and faculty, so as a community we are very strong and in a good place to move forward with the investments we have made in human resources.

**FC30.4 Reports from Standing Committees**

Documentation, as available, for this item was circulated with the Agenda and the Chairs of the Standing Committees presented their reports.

30.4.1 Florentine Strzelczyk, Chair, Equity and Diversity Committee
- The Vice Dean was not in attendance but as the Committee has not met yet this year, there was nothing report at this time.

30.4.2 Brian Moorman, Chair, Research and Scholarship Committee
- Committee is discussing infrastructure portfolio to support facilities for faculty and research.
- Questions or comments?
  - The Chair commented that the federal government has focused on equity and diversity for CRC and limited the terms so that as some chairs come to an end the balance can be addressed (male/female inequality). All of our tier twos are in the Faculty of Arts are women.

The Chair asked that the Penny Pexman, Chair of the Curriculum and Academic Review (Graduate) Committee (GARC) and Virginia Tumasz, Chair of the Curriculum and Academic Review Committee (CARC) give a verbal report on their committees’ activities as they were not included on the Agenda.

Penny Pexman, Chair of the Curriculum and Academic Review (Graduate) Committee (GARC)
- The committee meets on February 16, 2018, and there will be a report at the next FC meeting.
- There are faculty development workshops on research ethics and partnership research - contact Kinga Olszewska for details.

Virginia Tumasz, Chair of the Curriculum and Academic Review Committee (CARC)
- The Chair explained that the information that is coming to this FC meeting for information only (FC30.6 below) has been approved by the Executive Committee (EC) of the FC and that EC can do this as the changes are minor. The Chair then outlined the changes briefly.
- Academic schedule change – the drop/add period has been reduced to one week from 2 weeks. Students are concerned that they may lose their tuition so course outlines need to be available.
- Reading week in Fall has been lengthened from 2 days to one week, the week of Remembrance Day. So Block week will be last week of August, August 27-31, 2018 - this is big change for some people.
- Questions or comments?
  - Does this change in the calendar for the Fall make the Fall term shorter than the Winter term? It depends where holidays fall but there won’t be a big difference and even now it isn’t the same number of days, the Winter term is usually longer by a few more days because of the December holiday in Fall term.
  - Will classes start the day after Labour Day, do we lose a week, i.e. block week? This year classes start September 6th so there will still be a few days after Block week. The calendar is scheduled all the way to 2022 and will be published soon.
30.4.3 Dawn Johnston, Associate Dean, Teaching and Learning and Student Engagement – Teaching and Learning Committee
- The Chair gave an overview of her report.
- Questions or comments? None.

30.4.5 Gavin Cameron, Associate Dean, Internationalization and Global Initiatives – Internationalization Committee
- The Chair gave an overview of the internationalization strategy.
- Questions or comments?
  - Are you concerned about Brexit? The implications of Brexit in terms of partnerships are unclear, study abroad and research partnerships seem safe. The question is the research funding, it is dependent on EU funding and it hasn’t been addressed yet so still to be determined. Gavin then outlined three possible scenarios for the future, however, he stated that if funding has already been approved it won’t be affected for the term of the research.

30.4.4 Aritha Van Herk, Professor – Creativity and Performance Committee
- The Chair outlined the remit of the committee and her report. She thanked the committee members for their work.
- Questions or comments? None.

FC30.5 Reports on Unit Reviews

30.5.1 Psychology Unit Review – Chris Sears, Department Head
- The Department Head gave an overview of the unit review. He noted that the issue of facilities is a big one, the department has moved up the university’s list and it should be next for a new building if the province continues to provide funding. He also mentioned that the new PSYC clinic has opened with the $3.5m donation
- Questions or Comments? None.

30.5.2 Economics Unit Review – Robert Oxoby, Department Head
- The Department Head gave a report of the results of the unit review.
- Questions or Comments: The process for the department’s strategic plan came out of the unit review. It was mentioned in the review and in the response about a third of the plan was written. Each unit needs to develop a strategic plan.

FC30.6 For Information Only: CARC Calendar Changes F18-W19

FC30.6.1 - Briefing Note: CARC F18-W19 Information
FC30.6.2-30.6.4b - Background documents

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Virginia Tumasz (Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs & Student Affairs) noted that this item was discussed earlier in the meeting and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

FC30.7 Other Business

There was no other business.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:27pm.