

Minutes of the Arts Faculty Council meeting
Held on February 12, 2013 in room 104 CH

PRESENT: A. Abdou; D. Combet; C. Cutschall; A. Datta; J. Dolecki; R. Gasse; E. Graham; S. Gouthro; R. Kramer; L. MacKay; R. Major; M. Malainey; M. Malazdrewicz; A. Marshall; A. McCulloch; M. Mott; J. Naylor; B. Nicholson; K. Noll; S. Petrella; S. Pswarayi; D. Racine; D. Ramsey; S. Robinson; L. Robson; B. Rose; J. Sawchuk; M. Serfaty; D. Taylor; L. Whitt; D. Winter; K. Wong; L. Xu; F. Zehtab-Jadid; G. Slack (BUSU); C. Taylor (BUSU); D. Olsen (Geography); B. Strang (Chair); L. Murray (recorder).

REGRETS: J. Dolecki; S. Medd; M. Serfaty

1.0 Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: (Naylor/Petrella) – THAT the Agenda be approved with the addition of item 4.7 Metis Studies.

CARRIED.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes

MOTION: (Malazdrewicz/Robson) – THAT the Minutes of the meeting of January 31, 2012 be approved.

CARRIED.

Chair's Report

Dr. Jeff Muelbauer will start in Native Studies this summer. History has completed interviews and made an offer. Sociology/Gender and Women's Studies candidates have both been interviewed and perhaps a decision this Friday; Visual Arts is half way through their interviews; Anthropology coming up end of Feb and early March.

SSHRC, NSERC and CHR will be harmonized in how students apply and are adjudicated. There are some areas of concern for the Dean. We currently have a quota here at BU. Students apply to us, Senate Grad Studies Committee reviews and ensures they meet our criteria, and we forward to SSHRC. Students in the future will be adjudicated by the university to which they apply. The Dean is concerned those students from BU will not be adjudicated on the same basis as students from the big 5 or the big 15 and that our students will be disadvantaged. While this new process allows Universities to have recruitment control, concern is that small universities' students may be disadvantaged.

MOTION: (Kramer/MacKay) - THAT AFC strongly objects to the change in process.

CARRIED.

5.1 Invitation to Attend Town hall Meetings – M. Malainey

The Ad Hoc Committee revising the strategic research plan wants input from faculty. Town Hall meetings will be held in March. Growing research at BU will be a strong part of the new Research Plan. Dr. Malainey noted the types of questions the committee will be asking. (These questions were sent to faculty members after the meeting.) Some members expressed their frustration with Tri-Council funding. The Dean noted that Tri-council funding is a benefit to BU as a whole. BU has been very good about funding research with indirect costs. That's where success at SSHRC becomes important to not just the successful applicant, but the whole university. We are also getting hammered at NSERC because the HQP (Highly Qualified Personnel) privileges programs that have MA & PhD students).

5.2 Scheduling of AFC Meeting

MOTION: (Malainey/Naylor) -- THAT Arts Faculty Council meetings normally be held during and restricted to the Tuesday free period (12:40 - 1:30 pm) and, if necessary, that the meeting be continued to address any outstanding business on the next available Tuesday free period.

CARRIED.

MOTION: (Malainey/Naylor) -- THAT Arts Faculty Council meeting be held on the second Tuesday of each month from September to April and if this is not possible, that the meeting be held on the first Tuesday of the month.

MOTION FAILS TO RECEIVE 2/3 VOTE NECESSARY TO CHANGE THE BY-LAWS.

MOTION: (Malainey/Naylor) -- THAT the Chairs report be restricted to a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes and that a written copy of the report be distributed to the members of the Arts Faculty Council at the meeting.

CARRIED.

4.1 Course Calendar Changes

MOTION: (Gouthro/Petrella) -- THAT 32:2XX Counterposing Sculpture and Performance Art be accepted as a new Experimental Course.

This course will take advantage of having an excellent instructor. Hoping students from SK and Winnipeg may be interested in taking the course during the Spring/Summer session.

CARRIED.

MOTION: (Gasse/Kramer) -- THAT a maximum of 6 credit hours of Ensemble (chosen from 65:117/118/217/218) may be included in the 30 hours comprising the Music Major.

CARRIED.

MOTION: (Gouthro/Petrella) -- THAT 67:109 Elements of Style in Music be deleted as this course has not been offered in recent memory.

CARRIED.

4.2 Course Evaluation System

This year's batches are problematic. Jan Mahoney and IT have done their best but the equipment is no longer working. We need to consider new hardware, new software, etc.

On line is useful but some rules and guidelines. M. Peuramaki-Brown noted that the U of Calgary have gone back to paper evaluations. There was much discussion about options and problems. The Dean's Office will investigate alternative and costs.

4.3 2nd Degree Requirements – referred to Faculties from CAP

The Dean gave two sample problems. A student from Cameroon comes here and finds out that their degree means very little in Canada. All she hears is us saying 'no you can't' or 'your first degree means nothing.'

An ACC student has done 2 years and comes here to do another 60 credit hours to obtain the 4-year BBA. If a student from Harvard shows up with an Economics degree including substantial business courses, they will be required to do another 75 credit hours here. This document is an attempt to modernize and harmonize with other universities. In comparing to other universities our current requirements are very high.

MOTION: (Gasse/Levy) – THAT the changes to the second degree requirements be accepted.

CARRIED.

4.4 Review of Grades – referred back to Faculties from Senate

Concerns were raised about the makeup of the subcommittee -- five academics and 4 non-academics. If anyone is missing perhaps grades will be decided by NON academics. It was also felt that the Faculties should elect their own reps.

The Dean clarified that the Dean of the Faculty concerned would not sit on the Committee. However, Deans do tend to have the most experience with regard to grades. The Chair and Dean would be expected to have extensive collegial discussions to reach an agreement first. Only in the case where no agreement can be reached would this then go to the committee. The committee would have access to the instructor, Chair and Dean.

Kramer would like to see a Dean as they have the experience and often other knowledge.

MOTION: (Naylor/MacKay) THAT the composition be changed to 5 Assistant, Associate or Full Professors (1 from each faculty), no V-P, one Dean, and a couple of students. Committee to be Chaired by Registrar/Dean of Students.

CARRIED.

4.5 Naming of the AFC Lounge after Prof. Error Black.

Prof. Dolecki sent his regrets. There is a Senate Policy on naming areas.

4.6 CRC Recommendations

Faculties are invited to submit applications to the Senate Research Committee to recommend to the President. As a Faculty Council we struggled to figure out our own policy. Departmental submissions went to Review and Planning and they agreed all are worthy. Our submissions were in the areas of History for Social Activism; English: Aboriginal Literature; G&WS; Anthropology; Rural Research. Do we want to do any more? In the absence of any further direction, the Dean will put all forward.

4.7 Métis Studies Program Proposal

MOTION: (Saunders/MacKay) – THAT the Métis Studies Proposal be approved.

R. Kramer suggested that the wording in Section 1 and 3 change slightly to avoid repetitive answers.

CARRIED.

6.0 Other business

Alumni News is always looking for stories on what you or your colleagues are doing and what your students are doing.

Senior Colloquium is coming up. Please encourage your students to present at it.

Meeting adjourned at 1:52.