

Minutes of the Arts Faculty Council Meeting
held on October 13, 2015, in room 104 CH

PRESENT: J. Allan; B. Ashton; D. Brown; D. Combet; J. Dolecki; R. Gasse; H. Gillander; S. Grills; S. Gouthro; R. Hinthier; R. Kramer; D. Lakevold; L. MacKay; M. Malazdrewicz; J. Naylor; C. Navid; M. Pollex; D. Racine; D. Ramsey; L. Robson; B. Rose; M. Serfaty; D. Smid; L. Xu; B. Ntelinglou (Educ); L. Murray (recorder); D. Tryphonopoulos (Chair).

REGRETS: P. Harms; M. Malainey.

GUEST: A. McDaniel (Assoc. Registrar)

5.7 Prerequisites

MOTION: (Dolecki/Zehtab-Jadid) – THAT the AFC recommends to Senate that calendar statement 4.1.12 be amended by adding to the end of the first paragraph the following: “Under no circumstances will the prerequisites be waived for practicum, field experience and field studies courses. Students shall not be permitted to register for such courses until they have successfully met the stipulated course prerequisites.”

Dr. Tryphonopoulos read out the current calendar statement and Prof. Dolecki restated his rationale for the motion. Dr. Brown noted the practice in Health Studies, why it exists, and their concern as to why their professional judgement to make such decisions would be questioned. Dr. Serfaty was concerned with issue of principle that we trust our instructors and our departments with making these decisions. There was further discussion.

Motion was called.

MOTION FAILS.

5.8 Second Degree Planning – Prof. Dolecki

Prof. Dolecki described a dispute between Economics, Student Services and the Admissions Office who requested a second degree planning document for an off-shore student. The Student had a 1.9 gpa on scale of 1-5 and had an honours degree in Economics. They should not have been admitted to the Economics program at BU due to grade requirement. Prof Dolecki felt that the Second Degree option should not be open to students seeking a degree in the same field.

MOTION: (Dolecki/Serfaty) – THAT AFC recommends to Senate that section 6.33 of the calendar be amended so that degree admission must differ from that of the first degree.

Ms McDaniel reviewed admissions procedures as BU and noted what could be changed as well as practice at other universities. Prof. Gillander noted she is against the motion. A number of students have business degrees from other countries that are not recognized here. The second degree planner is used carefully and in consideration of the degree and courses they already hold. Passing such a motion would be bad for Business Administration students. There was further discussion about upgrading an older degree.

Motion called.

MOTION FAILS.

6.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

6.1 Program Mapping and 6.2 Academic Plan

The Dean reminded members that we have been asked by senior administration to complete program mapping and asked how they wished to proceed. Dr. Gasse offered to distribute what English has developed to anyone who might find it helpful. She also noted that rigidly designed degrees have a much easier time with this exercise. The Dean would like these to be up on the web once completed. It was agreed by consensus that Department Chairs and Program Coordinators would complete the course mapping.

6.3 Syllabi Collection – Dolecki

Professor Dolecki wanted to comment that the AFC Motion passed in the Spring regarding the turning over of course syllabi to the Dean's Office cannot be compulsory. The Dean noted that apart from that issue, it is best that we have them on hand. We all should be aware of what others are teaching, what is available in other departments and noted how useful it is to share this information. Our own instructors have requested this. Ms McDaniel added that when the University asks instructors to assess transfer courses the Chairs are provided details of the other institution's course. If our own students cannot obtain these outlines, they have difficulty getting their BU credits transferred elsewhere. Prof. Dolecki again noted that AFC cannot enforce anything that breaches the C.A. The Dean said that he interprets the C.A. differently. There was discussion about the usefulness of having these outlines available. Dr. Ramsey will consult the C.A. regarding c.o. collection.

7.2 Arts Speakers Series

Jonathan: Two talks have occurred –Ben Davis and Adrian Stimson. The Series is moving off campus and into the public. The next event is Dr. Kelly Saunders "Anatomy of an Election" on October 22nd at the Brandon Public Library. In November Dr. Mary Malainey will speak on campus. Ted Chamberlain from the University of Toronto will be here in February. The Dean will try to help to bring in one major, external, speaker each year and we will publicise to the general public more.

7.3 Senior Students Colloquium

Dr. Naylor stated that the Colloquium didn't happen last year and would like to work with others to ensure this public presentation of senior research continues. He would like to put together a committee to support the event. If interested please contact Jim Naylor. The Dean indicated his interest and Dr. Grills reinforced how this has been such great value for the students and BU.

MOTION: (Grills/MacKay) – THAT the Senior Students Colloquium Committee be added to the list of standing committees in the Faculty of Arts.

CARRIED.

The Dean noted that Monday's *Toronto Star* included a story about a policeman who is on trial for killing a child while on the job. Dr. Christopher Schneider of our Sociology Department is quoted in that article.

Dr. MacKay stated that she feels that meeting 3 weeks out of 4 is unacceptable. AFC cannot have presentations by other groups and that we need to vet items carefully to make sure they truly need to come before AFC.

8.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:44 p.m.