

Minutes of the meeting of the Arts Faculty Council  
Held September 3, 2019 in room 104 CH

PRESENT: B. Ashton; S. Asselin; R. Baker; C. Boulton; D. Combet; K. DeForest; R. Dwivedula; J. Forsythe; R. Gasse; S. Gills; A. Hanemaayer; R. Kramer; L. MacKay; M. Malazdrewicz; C. Mattes; A. McCulloch; K. McKenzie; E. Mihelakis; S. Medd; J. Naylor; K. Noll; D. Ramsey; B. Rose; K. Saunders; D. Smid; B. Strang; D. Wilson; D. Winter; K. Wong; L. Wood; L. Xu; M. Bower; Uzoma Duru (BUSU); L. Robson (Chair); L. Murray (recorder).

REGRETS: A. Abdou; J. Allan P. Harms; M. Malainey; A. Marshall;

1.0 Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION: (Smid/Gasse) -- THAT the Agenda be approved as circulated with the addition of 4.12 Research Fellowships. Request to move up Academic Integrity to item 4.3.**

**CARRIED.**

2.0 Approval of the Minutes

**MOTION: (Naylor/Kramer) – THAT the Minutes of the April 16<sup>th</sup> AFC be approved.**

**CARRIED.**

3.0 Chair's Report

Introductions to new faculty – Velvet Maud has been hired in Native Studies in a Tenure Track position; Kevin McKenzie in Visual and Aboriginal Art in a Tenure Track position; Dave Wilson in English and Creative Writing as a sabbatical replacement; Steve Asselin in English and Creative Writing as Dr. Robson's replacement; and Mostafa Torabi in a one-year term position in Strategic Management, in Business Administration.

Dr. Jonathan Allan has been renewed in his position as CRC for another 5 years. We have three searches in progress: Native Studies, one year term; Sociology, 8 month term; and Philosophy, 2.5 year term. Dr. Ramsey questioned why an 8 month rather than one-year. This term was recently negotiated with BUFA as a teaching replacement.

October 1 is our next AFC and President Docherty will be in attendance. Dr. Robson met with him in June at which time they spoke briefly about Arts' major concerns and issues. As was mentioned at GFC, as of the August 15<sup>th</sup> enrolment report, there has been an increase of 3% in head count and 2.1 increase in credit hours over all. Incoming students were less this year. Arts up 1.7% and credit hours up 1.8%. Overall enrolments are down. Andrea McDaniel posited that although admissions were offered to more students than in any previous year, the vast majority were international. The international student tuition increase may have negatively affected their decision to attend.

Annual Reports – the Dean’s Office didn’t send out a request for Annual Reports this year, but we are happy to receive them.

BURC Presentations and Homecoming request. If you are finished or in the process of BURC funded research, please consider presenting at homecoming, October 19<sup>th</sup>. A brief, three minute presentation in layperson terms and a poster are requested.

Dave Taylor needs ice cream scoopers from 10:00 – 3:00 in the mingling area this Friday.

Dr. Robson has sent out a request to Assistant Professors and Lecturers to consider sitting on Senate. There is still one position open. The Acting Dean also encouraged all departments to get a jump on calendar changes now rather than later in the fall.

September 30 – October 4 is Brandon Indigenous Education week. Would be wonderful to submit something from our Faculty. Communications may do something with Visual and Aboriginal Art. Contact Katie Gross and Chris Lagimodiere in IPC and our office if interested.

Cora Dupuis is the new Coop Education Coordinator. She will be contacting all Chairs soon.

We have a new Speakers’ Series: BU at the Public Library Speakers Series. Drs. Rick Baker and Deanna Smid are the organizers.

The Error Black Chair Lecture in Labour Issues (CCPA) is September 24<sup>th</sup>, 12:40 – 2:00 p.m. in the BU Library Gathering space. Drs. Hinthier and Naylor and Mr. Tom Mitchell will speak on the Centennial of the Winnipeg General Strike – The Role of Brandon.

The Dean’s Office has been able to provide discretionary funds to faculty in the past. This has not been well publicized. We want to make the granting of these funds more transparent, organized, etc. We are looking at having a couple of submission dates each year. We want this to be fair and equitable and are hoping we can fund all, or a portion of all, requests. There will be some priorities set for new faculty, those who haven’t applied previously, etc. More details will follow.

**MOTION: (Strang/McCulloch) – THAT the members agree to allow sessionals a vote at AFC.**

**CARRIED.**

4.7 Academic Integrity Draft Policy – Andrea McDaniel

A committee was struck to evaluate the current policy and offer clarity, a more streamlined process for faculty, staff and students, etc., resulting in the new proposed policy. There was discussion around how best to contact students; the limits of the sanctions to serve all situations; the length of the policy making it an unlikely read for students; how a prior offence should have no bearing on how a current act is handled, etc. Comments were also made against

expunging a student's record. Ms McDaniel noted that egregious offences would be unlikely to be expunged. Members stated that 'Mosaic plagiarism' in first year should be a teachable moment where the student's name goes on registry and it's made clear to not do it again. This new process is lengthy and when you have more than one student in this situation the demands on the instructor are heavy.

Mr. Uzoma (Uzi) Duru, BUSU Art Director, doesn't believe students know what plagiarism is. He noted that it doesn't exist in Nigeria, where he is from; copying and pasting is fine. He feels that it needs to be clearly communicated to students and is happy to assist where he can. There were concerns about providing evidence of plagiarism to the student prior to meeting. At times, the conversation with the student and speaking about the paper BRINGS OUT the confirmation of plagiarism. Sometimes instructors don't always have the evidence prior to that conversation. It was suggested that the International Students Office should be actively educating international students about expectations here. Several faculty noted that their previous institutions required a workshop on plagiarism, some as part of orientation. Scott Grills pointed out that post-grad surveys say that 60-85% of the graduating students have committed an offence during their studies. We need a policy that is usable and fair, and students must be able to defend their case if wrongly accused. Andrea McDaniel Invited written comments to her by next week.

#### 4.3 Discussion about Service

Given that Arts is having problems filling vacancies on committees, the Dean felt a talk about the importance of service was needed. AFC Executive (only partially populated at the moment) thought that members need to be reminded that service is a job requirement. Part of a tenure-track position is service, along with teaching and research; all three are required for Tenure or Promotion. Service is expected to the University AND to the community. If members want to work as a self-governing body, there must be more participation. Some members felt that the same handful of people have been doing the bulk of the work and that they will burn out. Equitable workloads, including service, are important.

Dr. Winter, Chair of Nominations, expressed that the recent motion limiting service on a committee to two years has made filling vacancies more difficult. Movement on committees can be useful, but so is experience. The Dean suggested culling committees that no longer meet as a first step. Dr. Naylor encouraged members to participate on committees across the campus. Learning how the university works can be quite interesting, useful and is part of our self-governance.

Dr. Robson stated that our office will circulate the list of vacant positions again. We also need an Arts representative on the Strategic Plan Advisory Committee.

The meeting recessed at 1:57 p.m. and will continue next week, same time, same place.