

Minutes of the AFC meeting of April 13, 2021  
Held by Zoom

PRESENT: S. Asselin; R. Baker; D. Combet; K. deForest; R. Dwivedula; R. Elliott; J. Forsythe; R. Gasse; S. Grills; A. Hanemaayer; P. Harms; D. Hétu; R. Hinthier; L. MacKay; A. Marshall; M. Massi; A. McCulloch (on leave); K. McKenzie; L. McLachlan; E. Mihelakis; S. Medd; J. Naylor; K. Noll; S. Petrella; D. Ramsey; L. Robson; B. Rose; K. Saunders; B. Strang; D. Taylor; E. Varley; D. Winter (on leave); L. Wood; L. Xu; F. Zehtab-Jadid; D. Eberts (Science); C. Kazakoff-Lane (Library); T. Gill (Student Services); L. Murray; S. Mott (recorder); R. Kramer (Chair).

ABSENT: A. Abdou; D. Klonowski; D. Lakevold; H. Liu; M. Malazdrewicz; C. Mattes; L. Mayer; H. Murphy; K. Spice; H. Venema; K. Wong.

REGRETS: J. Allan; K. Bessant; C. Boulton; J. Dolecki; V. Maud.

ON LEAVE: E. Holland; M. Malainey; C. Mason; D. Racine; W. Robles; L. Robson; C. Schneider; D. Smid; H. Zhuang.

Meeting is being recorded for purposes of minutes and recording will be deleted once minutes are approved.

### 1.0 Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION: (Gasse/Naylor) – THAT the Agenda be approved with the addition of Item 4.5 Sexualized Violence Counsellor.**

**CARRIED.**

### 2.0 Approval of the Minutes

**MOTION: (Gasse/Naylor) – THAT the minutes of the February 2, 2021 AFC be approved.**

**CARRIED.**

### 3.0 Chair's Report

**Dean of Arts:** President is to clarify what is happening in Arts. Dean's search was coming to a close and there was a question about the process. Now that process is under review. Dr. Lisa Robson has resigned and Dr. Reinhold Kramer will carry out the role of Acting Dean throughout the summer, or until a decision on the review is reached (whichever comes first) or when someone more experienced can take over. Dr. Kramer will not continue as Acting Dean after September 1<sup>st</sup>. It is expected that the VPA office will announce some news by then. At this point, due to privacy issues, all that can be said regarding this issue is that the search is under review.

**Hiring:** There are currently three faculty searches underway. Interviews are scheduled for two Tenure-track positions in Native Languages, and Politics and Governance in the Native Studies Department, and interviews have concluded for a one-year term position in History.

**Library Deselection:** Deadline has been extended to May 21<sup>st</sup>. If you need certain books for courses or if you want any from deselection, please let the library know by the new due date. Concerns were raised by Dr. Patricia Harms regarding sources more than 20 years old being deselected; Dr. Harms disagrees

with this short time period, especially in the department of History. Dr. Harms feels withholding 10 books is not enough and could be problematic to her department and others, especially since ILL is on hold during COVID. Clearly there are sources that can go, but the 20 year cut-off is problematic. Dr. Kramer suggested that if anyone finds more than 10 sources, record it and then we can address it as a faculty. Dr. James Naylor suggested that AFC request that deselection is put on pause until ILL is up and running properly so that we do not lose any important information since it will be next to impossible to get anything back once it is gone. Doug Ramsey believes we should all go through individually so that we are ready to go in an organized way, especially if they are ready to get rid of complete data sites.

**MOTION: (Naylor/Winter) – THAT AFC request a pause on library deselection until Inter-Library Loan is up.**

**CARRIED.**

Dr. Kramer will pass along the Motion.

**Tenure and COVID-19:** There is a new COVID MOU in the CA (F and G) regarding a 1-year extension for tenure applications. Please inform the Dean by September 1 if you want to delay your tenure application. You MUST explain why COVID-19 disrupted your research in order to be considered. You may also defer your sabbaticals. May 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for sabbaticals beginning in July and September 15 for sabbaticals beginning in January.

**Course Outlines:** Pass/No Pass will lapse in course outlines as it was only meant for Fall/Winter terms. Please remove it from your course outline, if applicable.

**Valedictorian:** Each faculty will be nominating their own valedictorian. Nominations are due today, April 13. Please feel free to encourage nominations from your students and send to [Arts@brandonu.ca](mailto:Arts@brandonu.ca). Arts will look over student nominations and Executive Agenda will decide.

**Announcements:** There have been three successful SSHRCs in Arts. Congratulations to Patti Harms, Ariane Hanemaayer and Hejun Zhuang for receiving SSHRC grants. Also congratulations to Patti Harms as her book *Ladina Social Activism in Guatemala City, 1871-1954* won the 2021 Judy Ewell Book Prize from the Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies.

#### **4.0 New Business**

**4.1 2021-22 Teaching:** PAC/Administration would like to have in-person classes this fall with the idea that vaccines should be complete or at least a high percentage of population will be vaccinated. This is based on the presumption that vaccines work on new variants and that the health regulations from provincial government align (due on May 1<sup>st</sup>). International students need to quarantine and are entitled to vaccinations the same as Canadian citizens.

Ariane Hanemaayer questioned where we will be once Reinhold Kramer is finished as Acting-Dean in September. No news, but Dr. Kramer indicated he will be done in the Acting Dean position at that time. He too is as eager for an announcement from the VPA Office on what will happen next. Dr. Hanemaayer requested time for instructors to pivot to online learning. Others shared their support for a one- or two-week pause in instruction in order to prepare a different method of teaching. Some members were concerned that this would shorten the term. Members discussed at length their concerns about returning to the on campus instruction and in particular asked for science-based evidence that it was safe to do so. Emma Varley asked the Chair what would be the best way to communicate faculty concerns over in-person classes this fall. Dr. Kramer suggested to send material to him to bring forward in a balanced way; although he personally supports in-person classes this fall. If Chairs are united against a return, he will make it clear at Senate.

Doug Ramsey suggested asking for a GFC meeting to hear and communicate concerns and ideas.

Carmen Kazakoff-Lane (Library) suggested to approach things as “hope for the best but prepare for the worst.” Faculty should have videos etc available and to have courses ready for on-line in case you have to flip over. Dr. Hanemaayer withdrew her original motion and suggested instead that we, as a collective, have Arts Senate representatives bring results of Dean/Chairs meeting to Senate.

**MOTION (Hanemaayer/Mihelakis) – THAT Arts have a Chairs meeting and the results of COVID-19 meetings will be brought to Senate.**

**CARRIED.**

#### **4.2 Arts Faculty Selection Committee Procedures**

**MOTION (Naylor/Petrella) – THAT the Review and Planning Committee revise the AFC Selection Committee Procedures to fall in line with the current CA.**

**CARRIED.**

#### **4.3 Elections**

All Arts Committee vacancies filled as nominated with addition of Lynn MacKay re-joining FASS. All University Committee vacancies were elected as nominated with the addition of Lisa Wood to the Review Committee on the Status of Women. All Senate Committees were elected as nominated with addition of Doug Ramsey to the Budget Advisory Committee, Alison McCulloch for Senate Graduate Studies Committee. Undergraduate Student Appeals Committee (USAC) will be filled at a later date.

#### **4.4 Cancellation of Inclusion Westman’s Post-Secondary Education Program at BU – Serena Petrella**

Inclusion Westman supports and benefits vulnerable students who have little voice. Because of these benefits, the program should continue. Dr. Petrella supports the continuation of the Inclusion program and hopes the Faculty of Arts will recommend the continuation as well. She proposes that we send a motion to Senate that this program continue as it transforms students’ lives.

**MOTION (Petrella/MacKay) – THAT the Faculty of Arts recommend to Senate that it not cancel Inclusion Westman’s Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Program at Brandon University.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **4.5 Sexualized Violence –Serena Petrella**

Carla Navid’s position, which was initiated from the sexual violence activity a few years ago on campus, has been eliminated with little announcement. Sexualized violence on campus funding has been reduced from 100% to 25%--all done on the down-low with no announcement. Women’s Studies has penned a letter to the VPA and President Office, requesting the re-instatement of this position and are collecting signatures. Please email her if you would like to see/sign the letter.

#### **5.0 Business Arising from the Minutes - none**

#### **6.0 Other Business/Announcements – none**

#### **7.0 Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:56pm.