

**Minutes of the AFC Meeting  
November 2, 2021  
Held by Zoom**

**PRESENT:** J. Allen; B. Ashton; S. Asselin; K. Bessant; D. Combet; W. Cook; K. deForest; R. Dwivedula; R. Elliott; R. Gasse; S. Grills; M. Hamon; D. Héту; R. Hinther; E. Holland; R. Kramer; D. Lakevold; L. MacKay; M. Malainey; A. Marshall; V. Maud; L. Mayer; A. McCulloch; K. McKenzie; L. McLachlan; S. Medd; E. Mihelakis; K. Noll; S. Petrella; D. Ramsey; W. Robles; B. Rose; J. Russell; K. Saunders; B. Strang; M. Torabi; D. Winter; K. Wong; L. Wood; L. Jardine; O. Abayomi; C. Kazakoff-Lane (Library); M. Milosevic (BUSU); B. Spence (Chair); L. Murray; S. Mott (recorder)

**ABSENT:** A. Abdou; R. Baker; C. Mason; I. Puppe; C. Schneider; D. Taylor; E. Varley; H. Venema; L. Xu; F. Zehtab-Jadid; H. Zhuang; J. Lindsay (Science)

**REGRETS:** J. Dolecki; T. Gill (Student Services)

**ON LEAVE:** C. Boulton; J. Forsythe; A. Hanemaayer; P. Harms; D. Klonowski; H. Liu; M. Malazdrewicz; J. Naylor; D. Racine; L. Robson; D. Smid

**Call to Order**

Dr. Spence welcomed members to the meeting and delivered the land acknowledgement. A reminder that GFC will be held right after AFC meeting so meeting will need to end in time to accommodate.

**1.0 Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION: (Gasse/Combet) – THAT the Agenda be approved with the additions of proposed Languages department name change (Mihelakis) and decanal search letter to Arts faculty from VP Dr. Campbell (Spence).**

**CARRIED.**

**2.0 Approval of the Minutes**

**MOTION: (Robles/Combet) THAT the Minutes of the AFC meetings held on September 7 and October 5, 2021 be approved.**

**CARRIED.**

**3.0 Chairs Report**

The vaccine mandate has been rolled out and started yesterday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Up until roll out, HR has provided updates to members of the Dean's Council regarding those faculty members who have yet to upload their vaccination information to the portal. Please note that the information shared has nothing to do with vaccination status of these employees: it is strictly whether or not the information has been uploaded. There are 17 people from Arts on this list as of last Friday. This current list includes sessionals and faculty who might be working remotely, so the issue of access to the campus might not be relevant to them. To date, one faculty member has been placed on leave due to non-compliance and we are currently in the process of finding instructors to take over the course load. Question posed by Steve Asselin: if faculty are not on campus, do they need to upload to portal? Dr. Spence responded that it is not necessary to upload to the portal if you do not need access to campus but it is recommended, especially going into the next term.

RDI Director search continues and the position description has been approved by BUFA and HR. The ad will be posted shortly. Discussion has been started with DRD regarding interim arrangements.

Senate is considering incorporating a minimum 3 credit hours of Indigenous content in all programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Updates will be provided along this process but programs might want to review areas where such content already exists and where it might be required in order to be proactive.

Information regarding nominations for the Senate Award for Excellence in Teaching and Research has been circulated. A reminder that nominations are to be submitted electronically to the Dean's Office by January 17, 2022 and that nominees must consent to the nomination.

Congratulations to Dr. Velvet Maud from the department of Native Studies who was awarded her PhD. Congratulations to Kevin McKenzie on being awarded the Masters of Fine Arts.

Congratulations to Dr. Jonathan Allan from department of English, Drama and Creative Writing on being placed among the top 2% of scholars in his field globally.

Congratulations to Dr. Kelly Saunders from Political Science on being appointed to the 2022 Federal Elections Boundaries Commission. This is a prestigious appointment that facilitates inclusive representation across Canada and maintains the integrity of our electoral system.

#### **4.0 New Business**

##### **4.1 New Courses/Course Changes**

**MOTION: (Kramer/Robles) – THAT the English, Creative Writing and Drama Department cancel two courses (Digital Journalism and Oral Communications) and add Latin American Literature course, the latter of which will be cross-listed with Languages.**

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION: (Winter/MacKay) - THAT the course change to 54.400 The Colonial Experience: British India 1757 – 1947 be approved as a new course in the History program with revised wording.**

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION: (Gasse/Mihelakis) – THAT five courses be deleted from the Native Studies program, as they are no longer taught nor are there plans to teach them again in the foreseeable future.**

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION: (Mihelakis/Gasse) – THAT Political Behaviour and China in World Politics courses be deleted from Political Science program; THAT Topics course 499 be revised/clarified in calendar; and THAT 78.300 Provincial Politics be introduced with minor corrections on submission form.**

Dr. Mayer wondered what years would be covered in the new course and if Metis politics would be included as well. Dr. Saunders replied that it would be more of a modern era politics course and would not go farther back in history than the 1960's Duff Roblin era.

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION: (Mihelakis/Gasse) – THAT course changes for the 2022-23 academic year (including nine new courses) that were accumulated from the curriculum review be approved with minor revisions to submission paperwork.**

L. Jardine inquired whether Spanish will go back into calendar. Mihelakis confirmed that the Languages department has proposed to reintroduce intro level Spanish courses next year.

R. Gasse wondered why the French course descriptions in calendar are not in French. Mihelakis replied that the content of these courses needs to be accessible to both students who are not yet fluent in French and to student advisors/staff members who do not understand French.

M. Malainey questioned the intellectual property of the new courses where D. Hétu is the owner of the course but Mihelakis is noted as instructor. After further discussion, Mihelakis will revise outlines to reflect accurate ownership/instructorship.

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION: (Mihelakis/Mayer) – THAT the Department of Classical and Modern Languages change its name to the Department of Francophone Studies and Languages.**

E. Mihelakis spoke at length on the reasons the department requests this name change.

W. Robles asked whether the name change may be limiting Languages to French, especially in terms of the possible expansion of Spanish courses, when there are many other immigrants in Brandon and the surrounding community. E. Mihelakis does not believe that this is the case but that the Languages department can grow upwards once it is on firmer and equal footing similar to that of the English and Indigenous Studies programs. The department does have a multi-tiered strategy in play that could include the expansion of Spanish studies in the future. This upwards growth may include another name change at a later date. R. Gasse added that department name changes can occur more than once and used the English department as an example.

**CARRIED.**

#### **4.2 BU Sexualized Violence Policy**

**MOTION: (Robles/Rose) - THAT the BU Sexualized Violence Policy motion be deferred to next AFC meeting.**

**CARRIED.**

#### **5.0 Business Arising from the Minutes**

**MOTION: (Robles/Rose) – THAT the Business Arising from the Minutes: 5.1 Arts Faculty Selection Procedures and 5.2 Inclusive Post-Secondary Education both be deferred to next AFC meeting in December 2021.**

Discussion ensued regarding best date to continue these agenda items. The next regular AFC meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup> was decided as best option.

**CARRIED.**

#### **6.0 Other Business/Announcements**

Congratulations to Lisa Wood on her commissioned portrait of outgoing University of Winnipeg president.

Discussion of Dr. Campbell's letter to the Faculty of Arts will be deferred to later date.

#### **7.0 Adjournment**

**MOTION: (Gasse/Mihelakis) THAT the meeting adjourn at 1:49pm and reconvene at next AFC in December.**