

**Minutes of the AFC Meeting
April 12, 2022
Held by Zoom**

PRESENT: A. Abdou; W. Cook; K. deForest; J. Dolecki; R. Dwivedula; R. Elliott; R. Gasse; S. Grills; A. Hanemaayer; E. Holland; R. Kramer; D. Lakevold; A. Marshall; M. Malainey; V. Maud; K. McKenzie; L. McLachlan; S. Medd; J. Naylor; K. Noll; S. Petrella; I. Puppe; D. Ramsey; W. Robles; L. Robson; J. Russell; K. Saunders; D. Taylor; M. Torabi; L. Wood; H. Zhuang; L. Jardine; Trent Gill (Student Services); Mila Milosevic (BUSU); B. Spence (Chair); L. Murray (Host); S. Mott (Recorder)

ABSENT: D. Combet; M. Hamon; D. Hétu; L. MacKay; C. Mason; L. Mayer; A. McCulloch; E. Mihelakis; B. Rose; C. Schneider; B. Strang; E. Varley; H. Venema; K. Wong; L. Xu; F. Zehtab-Jadid

REGRETS: R. Baker; C. Boulton; D. Winter

ON LEAVE: J. Allan; K. Bessant; P. Harms; R. Hinther; D. Klonowski; H. Liu; D. Racine; D. Smid

GUESTS: A. McDaniel, Registrar

Call to Order

Dr. Spence gave the land acknowledgement and welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

1.0 Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: (Naylor/Holland) – THAT the Agenda be approved.

CARRIED.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes

MOTION: (Gasse/Petrella) -- THAT the Minutes of the AFC meeting held on March 8, 2022 be approved.

CARRIED.

3.0 Chairs Report

Dr. Spence confirmed that the modifications for Arts Faculty programs have been officially approved by the Manitoba government. The approved changes include the credential changes from the major of French to French and Francophone Studies, the major of Aboriginal Art to Indigenous Art, and changes to the Masters of Rural Development to Masters of Arts in Rural Development. These changes are now official.

Congratulations to Dr. Deanna Smid for securing funds for the Bees for Brandon project. This initiative enhances the campus's biodiversity as well as improves the ecosystem services that are provided to the Brandon community through the establishment of beehives at Brandon University.

The Arts Faculty is soliciting nomination for valedictorian from members of Arts faculty, graduates and departmental Chairs. The submissions are due on April 15th. The AFC executive will meet and inform the Registrar's Office of their decision by April 22nd.

The Registrar and Dean of Students met to discuss diminishing registration numbers. One idea presented to increase enrollment numbers was for BU to host an open house in May. Dr. Spence was

asked to bring this to faculty to see if there is any interest, if there will be enough faculty around to run the open house (later in May), and if there are any concerns regarding hosting a campus-wide, in-person open house. Alternatively should it be faculty specific events and not campus wide? There is also the option of postponing the open house in order to coordinate with Homecoming in the fall, although that will be too late to boost numbers for this academic year. Discussion supported the Open House as long as COVID safety protocols were followed. An informal vote determined that the majority of Arts faculty are interested in holding an in-person open house. Dr. Spence will take these results back to Dean's Council to discuss further and will update faculty at a later date.

4.0 New Business

4.1 Residence Requirement – A. McDaniel

Andrea McDaniel was on-hand for any further questions or discussion from her presentation last meeting.

MOTION: (Kramer/Holland) -- THAT the proposed changes to the Residence Requirements be passed by AFC.

CARRIED.

Discussion: A. McDaniel wanted to clarify some minor requirements for Economics and Business Admin. Economics added that they would like to retain their residency minor requirement as they would like to see the students in these courses, rather than them take a couple courses and move on. There were no comments from Business Administration. Discussion continued. A. McDaniel assured faculty that any further proposed changes (to any department) would be dealt with using the established processes.

4.2 AFC Committee Vacancies

A list of committee nominees was included in the AFC package. The Dean will treat these as omnibus motions for each committee category.

MOTION: (Kramer/Robles) -- THAT the nominated members of the Arts Faculty Council committees be approved as listed.

CARRIED.

MOTION: (Kramer/Holland) -- THAT the nominated members of the University committees be approved as listed.

CARRIED.

MOTION: (Robson/Kramer) -- THAT the nominated members of the Senate committees be approved as listed.

CARRIED.

L. Robson will be in class during CAP meeting times in term two and wondered if the alternate could take over committee duties for the second half of the year. Unfortunately, the designated alternate is no longer able to fulfill alternate duties but R. Gasse volunteered to sit on committee for the second half of the year.

MOTION (Kramer/Malainey) – THAT Jim Naylor be approved to fill the vacant position on AFC Review and Planning Committee.

CARRIED.

4.3 Rural Development Course Revisions – W. Robles

Dr. Robles discussed proposed department course changes at length.

MOTION: (Robles/Gasse) -- THAT the Rural Development program delete courses 88:561 and 88:566 and THAT the title changes for Rural Development courses 88:552, 88:591, 88:560 be approved.

CARRIED.

Suggestion made to update the academic integrity statement to the most up-to-date approved language. A discussion took place on whether these courses have a specific registration requirement that only MRD students can register to prevent students from trying to use course credit for courses with similar content in other departments (Economics). The MRD courses are not cross-listed with any other department so this should not be an issue.

4.4 Arts Faculty Open House – B. Spence

Discussed in Chair's Report already.

5.0 Business Arising from Minutes

5.1 Sessional Volunteer to Faculty Committees

This item is continued from last AFC meeting as original motion was deferred due to an indication of a need to check the AFC by-laws. Discussion continued about how unfortunate it is that full-time faculty are not volunteering for the positions and that sessional instructors are willing to do the work that they are not. Another point was made that if sessionals are active members there should be no problem with them taking on the role. This led to more discussion about a concern where full-time faculty are compensated for committee work while sessional instructors are not. Dr. Spence assured all that this specific sessional instructor is volunteering (was not recruited) but understands these factors and concerns.

Worries were presented that using a non-full-time faculty in this situation may set precedence in future instances where a non-full-time faculty member can be appointed or where someone who isn't a member of said collective serves a role in faculty governance. A suggestion was made to amend the by-laws to prevent these instances from occurring, as long as the new by-laws do not affect those of Senate. Dr. Spence agrees the AFC by-laws need to be updated but also wonders what the alternative may be when such an important committee position cannot be filled by full-time faculty members. S. Medd commented that she started at BU as a sessional instructor and that she was allowed to participate on committees (some she even chaired): she found this participation to be a beneficial experience as she learned about policies, networking etc. Discussion continued and was concluded with decision that this issue will be tabled to another meeting as it does not seem resolvable today.

6.0 Other Business/Announcements

W. Robles: A seminar will be held this fall to discuss research partnerships with Latin American universities. This is open to all faculty and BU has MOUs with these universities that make the process seamless for anyone interested.

E. Holland: MA student at U of M is a top 25 finalist in the SSHRC storytellers competition.

5.0 Adjournment

(Robles/Kramer) – Meeting adjourned at 1:31pm.