

**Minutes of the AFC Meeting
September 5, 2023
Held In-Person in CHO 104**

PRESENT: A. Abdou; R. Baker; C. Boulton; D. Combet; K. DeForest; R. Dwivedula; K. Edmunds; M. Ebeid; A. Hanemaayer; P. Harms; D. Héту; E. Holland; W. Kelly; S. Koosel; R. Kramer; N. LaFleur; D. Lakevold; M. Malainey; V. Maud; A. McCulloch; K. McKenzie; L. McLachlan; J. Naylor; D. Ramsey; S. Robinson; W. Robles; L. Robson; B. Rose; K. Saunders; D. Smid; D. Taylor; M. Torabi; M. Tsoy; K. Wong; L. Wood; L. Jardine; Y. Perez; C. Kazakoff-Lane (Library); S. Gadbois (Science); B. Spence (Chair); S. Mott (recorder)

ABSENT: D. Klonowski; L. Mayer; I. Puppe; C. Schneider; B. Strang; E. Varley; H. Venema; D. Winter; F. Zehtab-Jadid; H. Zhuang

REGRETS: J. Allan; K. Bessant; S. Grills; R. Hinther; A. Marshall; S. Medd; K. Noll; S. Petrella; D. Racine; L. Xu

ON LEAVE: W. Cook; R. Gasse; L. MacKay; E. Mihelakis

Call to Order

Dr. Spence welcomed Arts Faculty members to the meeting and gave the Land Acknowledgement.

1.0 Approval of Agenda

MOTION (Smid/Combet): THAT the Agenda be approved.

CARRIED.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes

MOTION (Smid/Holland): THAT the minutes of the AFC meeting on April 11, 2023 and the Special AFC meeting on April 18, 2023 be approved.

CARRIED.

3.0 Chair's Report

3.1 New Faculty Introductions

Dr. Spence opened his Report by welcoming all returning and new members of the Arts faculty. He also introduced new members Mr. Mikhail Tsoy (Business Administration), Dr. Mohamed Ebeid (Economics), Dr. Stacey Koosel (IWGIDVA Visual Arts), Dr. Natalie LaFleur (Francophone Studies and Languages), Dr. Wayne Kelly (RDI Director), Ms. Heather Gillander (Business Administration Advisor) and Laurence LeMoine (Arts Office Assistant). New faculty were given the opportunity to introduce themselves. Dr. Spence also welcomed all new and returning sessional instructors.

Dr. Spence brought forward information from Andrea McDaniel pertaining to important end-of-term and final exam announcements. Rather than going into extensive detail, this information will be forwarded to all faculty thus respecting the time constraints of today's meeting.

Lastly, International students who require Proof of Enrollment letters should be directed to Finance & Registration rather than faculty members.

4.0 New Business

4.1 Committee Vacancies and Elections – Cameron Boulton

MOTION (Boulton): THAT the nominated members of the AFC Committees be approved as listed and elected as nominated.

CARRIED.

MOTION (Boulton): THAT the nominated members of the University Committees be approved as listed and elected as nominated.

CARRIED.

MOTION (Boulton): THAT the nominated members of the Senate Committees be approved as listed and elected as nominated.

CARRIED.

4.2 Calendar Revisions

MOTION (Kramer/Smid): THAT the proposed calendar changes for Canadian Studies be approved.

CARRIED.

MOTION (McCulloch/Saunders): THAT the proposed calendar changes for Political Science be approved.

CARRIED.

MOTION (Smid/Jardine): THAT the proposed calendar changes for English, Drama and Creative Writing be approved.

CARRIED.

MOTION (Smid/Robson): THAT the proposed course Empowered Writing be approved for English, Drama and Creative Writing.

CARRIED.

MOTION (Smid/Jardine): THAT the proposed course Children's Literature be approved for English, Drama and Creative Writing.

CARRIED.

4.3 Library De-Acquisition Policy – Patti Harms

Dr. Harms spoke on the Library de-acquisition policy where the library has recently asked for approval on removing historical abstracts and, once hearing non-approval, announced the removal had “already been done”. There remains confusion as to why the department was asked for approval after the abstracts had already been removed and as to why the library decided to keep only the Canadian, US and European sources in the first place—especially for historical abstracts! Dr. Harms is asking for AFC support on this issue.

Library representative, Carmen Kazakoff-Lane apologized on behalf of the library and will take this issue forward at their next meeting. Ms. Kazakoff-Lane also spoke at length on this concern, mentioning basic cut-backs, evaluation of search engines, and financing as the main reasons abstracts and journals have been and continue to be removed. Dr. Spence will also take this issue to Dean's Council.

Discussion continued over past issues with similar outcomes, all while being addressed at inopportune times for faculty to address the short-lists (summer research time/travel etc). A suggestion was made for

a change in Library process due to these issues (and many others). Again, Ms. Kazakoff-Lane will take these concerns forward and newly elected Library representative, Dr. Rick Baker, invited faculty to email him of any future issues or specific concerns.

MOTION (Harms/Hanemaayer): THAT, on behalf of the History Department, historical abstracts be maintained in the library due to its importance for teaching and research. We also request that a transparent and collaborative process be created so that faculty are more informed as to how and why decisions for deletions are made.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

6.0 Other Business/Announcements

Dr. Cameron Boulton mentioned a free public panel discussion in Winnipeg on September 15 entitled “Story Telling & Epistemic Reparations”

Dr. Patti Harms mentioned the Global Climate Strike event on Friday September 15.

Dr. Lindsay McLachlan mentioned the first ever Business Administration conference on November 24th. This event hosts both local and non-local panels and research presentations and is focused on Business students, but all BU students are welcome.

Dr. Kelly Saunders announced a Gender & Women’s Studies speaker series beginning on September 21st. The first presentation will involve the proposed Brandon School Board book ban earlier this summer. All are welcome to attend. Allies welcome!

Dr. Lisa Wood alerted all to an upcoming email regarding the first FASS presentation (by Lili Jardine) on September 22nd.

Dr. Wilder Robles would like to congratulate Lili Jardine on defending her PhD. Congrats Lili! He also mentioned that RD will be hosting a welcome event for RD students, by invitation only.

Dr. Keith Edmunds has started a Business Student Speaker Series: the first presentation is by Rhoni Mohanraj, Co-Founder of the Trident Event Group, winner of the Brandon Chamber of Commerce 2023 Young Entrepreneur Award—and past graduate of the BU Business Admin program! More details to follow on upcoming speakers.

Sally will circulate a calendar of these exciting events in order to help organize faculty schedules.

7.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:37pm.