

**Minutes of the AFC Meeting
May 27, 2025
Held In-Person in CHO 104**

PRESENT: R. Baker; K. DeForest; R. Dwivedula; K. Edmunds; H. Gillander; S. Grills; P. Harms; D. Hétu; R. Hinther; L. MacKay; V. Maud; K. McKenzie; S. Medd; A. Mulhern; J. Naylor; S. Petrella; D. Ramsey; L. Robson; B. Rose; D. Smid; D. Taylor; M. Tsoy; L. Wood; F. Akinbode (BUSU); C. Dupuis (Co-op); G. Kennedy (Chair); S. Mott (recorder)

ABSENT: M. Ebeid; R. Gasse; W. Kelly; D. Klonowski; D. Lakevold; L. Mayer; L. McLachlan; D. Racine; K. Saunders; C. Schneider; H. Venema; L. Xu; F. Zehtab-Jadid

REGRETS: J. Allan; K. Bessant; C. Boulton; D. Combet; A. Hanemaayer; E. Holland; S. Koosel; L. Laidlaw; M. Malainey; A. Marshall; A. McCulloch; E. Mihelakis; I. Puppe; S. Robinson; W. Robles; M. Torabi; E. Varley; D. Winter; K. Wong; H. Zhuang

ON LEAVE: A. Abdou; R. Kramer; B. Strang

GUESTS: None

Call to Order

Dr. Kennedy called the meeting to order and gave the land acknowledgement.

1.0 Approval of Agenda

MOTION (Petrella/Naylor) – THAT the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

2.0 Approval of Minutes

MOTION (Rose/Hétu) – THAT the minutes for the AFC meeting on April 8, 2025 and the Special AFC meeting held on April 22, 2025 be approved.

CARRIED

3.0 Chair's Report

- Please send suggestions for VPR meeting to Greg before Friday.
- There will be a survey for the Faculty Retreat sent out later this week.
- A Town Hall will be held soon and Greg encourages everyone to attend. He has heard the presentation and is encouraged with the level of transparency and clarity.

4.0 New Business

4.1 Ranking of Departmental Staffing Requests

Dean of Arts has until late June to submit his ranking to the VP Provost. Questions and discussion about classification of replacement positions—including sabbatical and retirement. BU is required to fill four sabbatical positions each year and Greg will advocate for all replacements.

Dr. Kennedy discussed the out-of-cycle replacement positions still pending: the replacement for Scott Grills' retirement will be underway soon. Discussion continued around process/parameters of line replacements and dissatisfaction of timelines and possibilities of losing positions. Dr. Kennedy will consider these discussions and work on a detailed rationale to provide to the Provost. As per the CA, the Provost will communicate their decision on approved positions and an accompanying rationale in September.

4.2 Faculty of Arts Annual Report

The Chair noted that with the new faculty evaluations required by the CA, this internal document appears to be redundant.

MOTION (Hétu/Hinther) – THAT AFC votes to eliminate the Annual Report request for the Faculty of Arts.

CARRIED.

4.2 Liberal Education Requirement

Dr. Kennedy opened the floor to discussion on the proposed new Liberal Education Requirement policy. Some faculty liked the flexibility for students but felt that the departments should be more specific in what is grouped where: GWS, Native Studies and Justice Studies in particular. Dr. Kennedy will follow up with these departments and will report all feedback from that discussion (and this meeting) to the committee. Once the new policy is updated, it will be re-distributed to AFC for faculty to approve by September.

4.3 General Discussion

Discussion subjects ranged from the Academic Plan, university identity, BU marketing strategies and lack of fundraising. Many ideas were presented and Dr. Kennedy suggested AFC invite the Communications and/or the Alumni departments to a future meeting where we could discuss these ideas and get a better understanding of institutional supports and objectives, as well as what we can take on ourselves as a Faculty of Arts or as individual departments.

5.0 Adjournment

MOTION to Adjourn: 4:00pm

CARRIED.