

**Minutes of the AFC Meeting  
October 10, 2023  
Held In-Person in CHO 104**

**PRESENT:** A. Abdou; R. Baker; C. Boulton; K. DeForest; R. Dwivedula; M. Ebeid; K. Edmunds; A. Hanemaayer; P. Harms; D. Héту; R. Hinthier; E. Holland; W. Kelly; R. Kramer; D. Lakevold; M. Malainey; V. Maud; L. McLachlan; S. Medd; J. Naylor; S. Petrella; W. Robles; L. Robson; B. Rose; K. Saunders; D. Smid; D. Taylor; M. Torabi; L. Wood; L. Jardine; C. Dupuis (Co-op); S. Gadbois (Science); B. Spence (Chair); S. Mott (recorder)

**ABSENT:** D. Combet; S. Grills; S. Koosel; D. Klonowski; L. Mayer; A. McCulloch; K. McKenzie; I. Puppe; D. Ramsey; B. Strang; M. Tsoy; E. Varley; H. Venema; D. Winter; K. Wong; L. Xu; F. Zehtab-Jadid; H. Zhuang

**REGRETS:** J. Allan; K. Bessant; N. LaFleur; A. Marshall; K. Noll; D. Racine; S. Robinson; C. Schneider; M. DiMuro (Education)

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

**Call to Order**

Dr. Spence welcomed Arts Faculty members to the meeting.

**1.0 Approval of Sessional Instructors voting at AFC.**

**MOTION (Naylor/Hanemaayer): THAT Sessional instructors be allowed to vote at AFC.  
CARRIED.**

**2.0 Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION (Petrella/Smid): THAT the Agenda be approved.  
CARRIED.**

**3.0 Approval of the Minutes**

**MOTION (Smid/Rose): THAT the minutes of the AFC meeting on September 5, 2023 be approved.  
CARRIED.**

**4.0 Chair's Report**

In order to facilitate the submission of the Faculty Staffing Plan and Budget requests by October 31<sup>st</sup>, Dr. Spence reminded all Arts Faculty that department chairs will need to submit workload and staffing requests to the Dean of Arts Office by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

The names and applicants for Tenure and Promotions have been circulated to relevant departments. A reminder also that these departments will need to meet with the applicants by October 15 in order to facilitate timely submission of their recommendation.

The President's Advisory Council has initiated a Brandon University Emergency Management Plan that will address an all-hazard emergency risk plan for campus. More details on this initiative will follow at a later date.

## **5.0 New Business**

### **5.1 Committee Vacancies and Elections – Cameron Boulton**

**MOTION (Boulton): THAT the nominated members of the Indigenous Education Committee (Ian Puppe, Natalie LaFleur) and the AFC Tenure Committee (Serena Petrella) be elected.**

**CARRIED.**

The Arts representative on the BUREC committee remains vacant. If you are interested in this position, please contact Cameron Boulton.

### **5.2 Calendar Revisions**

Susan Medd requested that the new course proposal for the Religion department be considered at the November AFC meeting, where additional material will be submitted.

**MOTION (Maud/Rose): THAT the proposed calendar changes for Native Studies be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED.**

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

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION (Hétu/Hanemaayer): THAT the proposed course revisions for Francophone Studies and Languages be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION (Hétu/Smid): THAT the proposed new course for Francophone Studies and Languages be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION (Hétu/Smid): THAT the submitted memo regarding changes for Francophone Studies and Languages be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION (deForest/Wood): THAT the proposed 2 + 2 program in IWGIDVA Visual Arts be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION (deForest/Wood): THAT the proposed course revision for IWGIDVA Visual Arts be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION (McLachlan/Smid): THAT the proposed course revisions for Business Administration be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION (Dwivedula/Taylor): THAT the specialization in Talent Management be added to calendar for a 4-year BBA and minors program.**

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION (McLachlan/Taylor): THAT the proposed new course in Business Administration be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED.**

**5.3 Proposal for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Minor – P. Harms**

**MOTION (Harms/Smid): THAT the proposal to add a Latin American and Caribbean Studies Minor be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED.**

A request was made by D. Smid to move item 7.0 to 5.4 in order to address important issue before the end of the allotted meeting time. The chairperson granted this request on behalf of AFC. Please see section 7.0 for details.

**5.4 AFC held by ZOOM – K. Saunders**

Question was asked why, as BU is so focused on EDI initiatives and inclusiveness, the AFC meetings are not being held in a hybrid format, especially when other meetings across campus are being held as such; the concern regarding the cold and flu season was also mentioned in the ensuing discussion. Dr. Spence explained that the President and VP office expect faculty and students to be back on campus as usual; students do not have the option for hybrid learning therefore it is unfair that faculty would have this option. Dr. Spence also stated that all reasonable options could be considered.

**MOTION (Saunders/Hanemaayer): THAT the in-person/zoom (hybrid) option for AFC meetings be reinstated.**

**CARRIED.**

**5.5 Senate Approved Motion on Departmental/Faculty Policies – B. Spence**

Senate recently approved a motion that requires faculties to review all “unofficial” department and faculty-specific policies, ie those that have not been approved by CAP and Senate; these unofficial policies will now need to move through the formal approval process. There have been inconsistencies identified when interrogating students during academic appeals and formalizing these policies will provide evidence for CAP/Senate decisions. Discussion began with the need for clarification/examples and process. The Dean will follow up with chairpersons once more information is obtained.

**6.0 Business Arising from the Minutes**

**6.1 Library Motion from last AFC – B. Spence**

Dr. Spence addressed the previously passed Library motion (September AFC) to the Dean’s Council. The feedback from the Council was that the Library had communicated the level of subscription they would be engaged in and that the decision on what to keep etc rests with the Library, despite what rationale they are given from the department (in this specific case, History). A question was raised as to whether the Library can de-acquisition at their leisure but the Dean’s Council found the Library to be transparent in what they were doing, and therefore decided it did not act out of turn. Discussion continued at length regarding budget issues and the limits this de-acquisition creates for teaching (particularly regarding areas outside of North America for the History department). Dr. Spence will take the motion to Senate at the request of AFC and will report back next meeting.

## **7.0 Other Business/Announcements**

Deanna Smid reported that the department of English, Drama and Creative Writing received an email from the VP Office that the Evans Theatre was being "removed" from the Faculty of Arts and given to IPC to support an expansion request. The email was presented as a notice of happening, rather than something that was being considered. Suggestions for where Drama classes would be held instead were obviously less ideal than a theatre with a stage. The email was very surprising, unexpected and uncollegial, in the opinion of the department. The EDCW department asks for Faculty support in this matter. Dr. Spence also spoke to this issue, saying that he was also taken by surprise by this announcement to the department. He spoke to the VP, who said the email was supposed to be consultative, but it did not seem that way. Dr. Spence spoke to the Evans Theatre being a memorial to JRC Evans and that he hopes to find an alternative solution. IPC is definitely deserving of a new space, but there should be better options made available for this initiative, perhaps by asking for financing to build a new space somewhere else. Discussion continued in support of saving the Evans Theatre as it serves the community at large and is viewed as where the public comes to interact with BU. Dr. Spence also indicated he was working with a community organization to garner funds to make the space more inviting, so he also would like to see the Evans Theatre stay with the Faculty of Arts.

Lisa Wood reminded the Arts Faculty about FASS this Friday: Curtis Robinson will be presenting, followed by discussion and happy hour at Baileys. The plans for the upcoming FASS in November is a celebration of Arts faculty publications: please let Lisa Wood or Dominique Héту know if you wish to share your recent publications with your colleagues.

Kelly Saunders mentioned the next GWS speaker series is coming up on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm in the library gathering space.

Cora Dupuis reminded AFC that the BU Co-op program is recruiting students to join: she would like more Arts students! If you have and 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year students especially that would be interested in the co-op, please direct them to Cora.

## **7.0 Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned.