

Meeting #: 62
Date: April 16, 2025
Time: 10:03 a.m.
Location: Microsoft Teams
Motion #s: FC.20250416.1 - 9

Present:

Schalomon, M
(Chair)
Schultz, W (Vice-
Chair)
Bruins-Smith, T
(Secretary)
Cott, A (Secretary)
Abbas, N
Alam, R
Amundson, L
Anton, Cr
Augustyn, C
Bailey, C
Beauclair, A
Bereska, T
Bernstein, N
Biittner, K
Bott, T
Bourrie, B
Brisbois, M
Carroll, M
Cartledge, S
Christensen-
Dalsgaard, K
Copland, S
Cowling, E
Davies, K
Elliott, C
Elmorsy, M
Elsaadany, M

Epp, M
Falconer, R
Farvolden, P
Fedoruk, J
Forth, A
Fox, C
Franczak, B
Furlong, C
Gelmini, L
Giacomin, M
Gibbs, M
Gonzalez-Lucena, F
Grewal, S
Guerbas, A
Gulayets, M
Hackett, E
Hamilton, T
Hannan, S
Harcombe, K
Hassall, C
Hayman, S
Hills, M
Hira-Friesen, P
Holland, K
Hollingshead, D
Honey, L
Hu, R
Indratmo
Intungane, D
Irangu, J

Islam, S
Ivanescu, C
Jarick, M
Johnson, B

Judge, K
Jyoti, R
Kim, C
Krasotkina, A
Krys, S
Lara-Arboleda, I
Lawry-Batty, K
Lee, R
Legge, E
Lemieux, S
Li, Y
Llano, J
Long, J
Lorimer, S
Martin, L
McFadyen, D
McKenzie, H
Mensah, C
Miller, J
Mills, S
Moscicki, M
Murphy, G
Ndulue, C
Nelund, A
Offrey, L
Overend, A

Pang, C
Panjvani, C
Patterson, A
Peace, K
Peters, J
Pope, A
Prince, P
Puplampu, K
Qorbani, S
Raine, S
Ramsey, C
Rezanejad, H
Ross, M
Ruiz Serrano, C
Saleh, H
Schultz, W
Semenyna, S
Shaw, R
Sibley, L
Skelhorne, A
Skye, A
Speake, S
Stepnisky, J
Striemer, C
Strungaru, N
Su, W
Summers, K
Swanston, T
Symbaluk, D
Tcaciuc, A

Thiessen, D
Thurairajah, K
Toth, J
Towle-Straub, K
van der Marel, C
Watson, D
Whiting, A
Witherell, R
Wiznura, R
Wolansky, M

Woywitka, R
Wright, J
Yakovenko, S
Zaidi, Z
Zutter, C

Other - Voting

Beke, N
Berezowsky, S
Chalifour, M

Colbourne, S
Coulthard, R
Friesen, K
Gilmour, L
Jung, R
Lipes, R
McLean, V
Milner, K
Minaker, J
Mugo, S
Skeffington, J

Ex Officiis and Delegates

Cardinal, T
de Toledo, R
Green, J
Monk, C
O'Shea, J
Reisdorfer, E

Public Members

Buckle, T (OUR), Johnson, S (OUR), Macauley, M

Regrets

Anderson, N
Anton, Ca
Beltaos-Kerr, E
Bica, I
Corrigall, K
Dawson, L
Digweed, S
Dyer, C
El-Hajj, M
Ferguson, J

Flaherty, L
Firoozjaei, M
Fong, J
Haines, J
Hesemeier, S
Howell, A
Hunter, H
Irwin, R
Jung, S
Kim-Bernard, K

Lakowski, R
Legge, E
Liu, J
Locky, D
McKeown, N
McLaughlin, D
Mewhort, R
Miller, J
Panjvani, C
Papin, M

Penney, A
Rezania, V
Rogers, S
Schmaltz, R
Seredycz, M
Wagner, A
Zutter, C

Move into Session: The meeting was called to order by Melike Schalomon at 10:02 a.m.

I. Adoption of Agenda and Consent Items

Motion #FC.20250416.1 To approve the agenda and consent items.

- Faculty Council Minutes of February 24, 2025.
- Executive Committee Minutes from February 3, 2025
- Sociology Department Council Terms of Reference
- Program and Curricular Information Items

Skye/Gelmini

Adopted

- No comments

II. Reports:

a. Dean's Report

- Executive Committee debriefed after the February virtual meeting and found that in-person meetings are favourable due to increased participant engagement. The June meeting will be held in person.

- Starting in the Fall term, deferred exams will be centralized out of the Dean's Office, and Exam Services will only proctor exams for ADR. The process is still being created, but there will be clear written instructions before the start of the Fall term.
- In the past years, there has been an unprecedented amount of hiring. The priority was more permanent faculty, and after a significant increase, there is now a better balance between sessional and tenured faculty. Going forward, hiring will be prioritized in areas of growth.
- Space continues to be a challenge, and for the first time, some tenure-track and tenured faculty will be moving to offices across the street, to MacEwan Square East. The location is north of Building 5 and west of the MacEwan LRT.
- More space for science labs is also needed. Two new labs, one for Biology and one for Chemistry, are being built in Building 6 on the main floor for Fall 2027.
- After the Business building is in full use, many Arts and Science Departments will be moving to occupy the vacated spaces in Building 5. Humanities and English will be the only two Departments not affected by the moves.
- Considering the proposed future growth, we will have to consider making administrative changes. By July 1, we will have more than 220 faculty members. For the first time this coming year, we will have two slates of external members on the Tenure and Promotion Committee to make the workload more manageable. While some streamlining of procedures is possible, we are considering changes that might be needed to manage the increased administrative load. These might ultimately have to involve splitting departments or the Faculty.
- The Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Behaviour Analysis was approved by the ministry, and admissions are open. This one-year program for students who have already completed a Bachelor's degree will draw interest from our graduates as well as from Concordia and the UofA.
- Questions:
 - To manage the administrative load that comes with the growth, we are starting to consider options early, including, as suggested, Co-Dean and Co-Chairs.
 - It is understood that there is more pressure on faculty due to higher numbers of accommodations and deferred exams. With the changes to how deferred exams are proctored, it will be smoother to keep this internal, which will require proctoring support from faculty. Tracking deferrals is part of the discussions that are currently happening. It should be easy to track them internally, but the challenges will be in tracking between the Faculties.
 - There will be clear guidelines for how to adjudicate deferred exam requests.

III. Items for Action:

a. Curricular Items – MCS

- Anthropology, Economics, and Political Science

Motion #FC.20250416.2 That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve INDG 260, INDG 320, INDG 330, INDG 350, INDG 355, INDG 398, INDG 460, INDG 485, INDG 497, and INDG 498.

Gelmini/Johnson

Adopted

- No comments

- Computer Science

Motion #FC.20250416.3 That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve changes to CMPT 496 and CMPT 499.

Indratmo /Elmorsy

Adopted

- No comments

- Mathematics and Statistics

Motion #FC.20250416.4 That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve STAT 497.

Tcaciuc/Anton Cr

Adopted

- No comments

- Sociology

Motion #FC.20250416.5 That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve changes to SOCI 100.

Thuraiajah/Overend

Adopted

- No comments

- **Programs of Study Changes**

Motion #FC.20250416.6 That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve changes to the Applied Statistics Major, Applied Statistics Honours, Computer Science Major, Gender Studies Minor, and Sociology Honours.

Mugo/Tcaciuc

Adopted

- No comments

b. Curricular Items – New Programs

- Indigegogy Minor

Motion #FC.20250416.7 That Arts and Science Council approve and recommend the Indigegogy Minor proposal to Academic Planning and Quality Assurance.

Mensah/Alam

Adopted

- A request was made to consider adding GEND 319 in the future.

- Urban Wellness Minor

Motion #FC.20250416.8 That Arts and Science Council approve and recommend the Urban Wellness Minor proposal to Academic Planning and Quality Assurance.

Alam/Legge

Adopted

- A request was made to consider adding SOCI 290 in the future.

- Financial Economics Streams

Motion #FC.20250416.9 That Arts and Science Council approve and recommend the Financial Economics Streams for the Economics Major and Honours to Academic Planning and Quality Assurance.

Mensah/Alam

Adopted

- No comments.

IV. Items for Information:

a. Final Update: BSc Action Plan

- Item C3: Increasing weekend and evening offerings. There have been labs moved to Saturdays due to the space crunch. Enrolment uptake for weekends is low. Classes can only be added at times when students are willing to enrol in them, and we can find instructors to teach the classes. Similar concerns have come up for intersession courses. In demand are Spring classes that are fully online. Sunday classes and May-August sections are low-enrolled, and if they are scheduled, they are often cancelled. The Action Plan outlines what is working.
- The Action Plan addressed specific items that were approved by Faculty Council. Some items will be addressed on an ongoing basis.
- The BA Self-Study Committee is currently in the process of collecting data.
- There were recommendations that were outside of Faculty control, such as workload, teaching load, recognition for student supervision, etc. These can be addressed in collective bargaining.
- Some items, such as hiring, are subject to the budget.
- Other questions:
 - Demand for sessional-extendeds and TS9 faculty is ongoing. This year, 15 sessional-extended appointments were made.
 - The sabbatical budget is based on current sabbaticals, but the approach is subject to bargaining.

V. Items for Discussion

a. Academic Schedule – Consultation

- Julie Green, Registrar and VP Strategic Enrolment Management and Scott Johnson discussed various options as presented in the meeting materials.
- The committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum and the Calendar (ASCC) makes a recommendation to GFC each year about the academic schedule. Feedback is sought on how to best mitigate the loss of teaching days in the fall term due to Reading Break and Sept 30th.
- Going forward, all three terms will be scheduled at the same time.
- ASCC has taken direction from GFC about the options to seek feedback on. One option is a shortened grading period, the other a term start as early as September 2nd.
- Some other institutions have grade release dates in January. This was attempted at MacEwan but caused chaos for students who needed the prerequisites to start the winter classes.
- Council discussed at length. Main takeaways:
 - To consider starting the winter term later to accommodate the January grades due deadline.

- Labs will be affected due to already having fewer contact hours. Some institutions run the schedule for a Monday on one Wednesday of the term to accommodate.
- A shorter exam period leads to more deferred exams and more conflicts.
- There is an increased trend of students missing the first week of classes. There is a concern that if we start before Labour Day, students would end up missing even more time.
- Many factors affect the scheduling of final exams in the gym.
- If there is an earlier start in the fall, would there be a consideration to move Reading Week earlier?
- Due to conflicts, the final exam schedule cannot be created until after the add drop deadline.
- Data on how many conflicts there are and how many individuals are affected would be helpful in the future.
- Additional documentation was circulated after the meeting with a request for further feedback to be sent directly to Julie and/or Scott.

VI. Other Business

- a. Faculty Council election reminder

VII. Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.