

## Arts and Science Faculty Council

### Minutes of Council

**Meeting #:** 63  
**Date:** June 12, 2025  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Microsoft Teams  
**Motion #s:** FC.20250612.1 - 9

**Present:**

Schalomon, M (Chair)	Elliott, C	Llano, J	Strungaru, N
Schultz, W (Vice- Chair)	Elmorsy, M	Locky, D	Summers, K
Bruins-Smith, T (Secretary)	Elsaadany, M	Malloy, N	Swanston, T
Cott, A (Secretary)	Farvolden, P	McKenzie, H	Whiting, A
Abbas, N	Fedoruk, J	McKeown, N	Witherell, R
Amundson, L	Ferede, E	Mensah, C	Wiznura, R
Anderson, N	Firoozjaei, M	Mewhort, R	Yakovenko, S
Augustyn, C	Flaherty, L	Miller, J	Zadorozhna, N
Bailey, C	Fong, J	Mills, S	Zaidi, Z
Beltaos-Kerr, E	Fox, C	Murphy, G	
Bernstein, N	Furlong, C	Ndulue, C	<b>Other - Voting</b>
Bica, I	Gelmini, L	Overend, A	Beke, N
Blatz, C	Giacomin, M	Pang, C	Berezowsky, S
Bott, T	Gibbs, M	Panjvani, C	Chalifour, M
Bourrie, B	Gonzalez-Lucena, F	Papin, M	Coulthard, R
Bowles, V	Hamilton, T	Patterson, A	Friesen, K
Boyd, B	Harcombe, K	Pope, A	Gilmour, L
Buryak, S	Hassall, C	Prince, P	Hesemeier, S
Cartledge, S	Hayman, S	Ramsey, C	Macdonell, C
Christensen-	Hills, M	Rezanejad, H	Milner, K
Dalsgaard, K	Holland, K	Ross, M	Minaker, J
Cobzas, D	Hunter, H	Ruiz Serrano, C	Mugo, S
Copland, S	Indratmo	Semenyna, S	Skeffington, J
Cowling, E	Intungane, D	Shaw, R	
Davies, K	Islam, S	Shin, J	<b>Ex Officiis and Delegates</b>
Dawson, L	Ivanescu, C	Skelthorne, A	Buckle, T
El-Hajj, M	Jarick, M	Skye, A	Chapardar, H
	Krasotkina, A	Speake, S	Reisdorfer, E
	Lemieux, S	Stepnisky, J	
	Li, Y	Striemer, C	

## Public Members

Mole, M (FHSC/FON)

## Regrets

Adesopo, M	Fritz, T	Jung, S	Robertson, S
Alati, D	Forth, A	Kim-Bernard, K	Rollings-
Anton, Ca	Guerbas, A	Legge, E	Magnusson, S
Anton, Cr	Guest, R	Locky, D	Saleh, H
Bereska, T	Gulayets, M	Long, J	Schmaltz, R
Bratt, S	Grewal, S	Martin, D	Seredycz, M
Brisbois, M	Haines, J	Martin, L	Sibley, L
Carroll, M	Hannan, S	McFayden, D	Su, W
Colbourne, S	Hira-Friesen, P	McLean, V	Symbaluk, D
Corrigall, K	Hollingshead, D	Moscicki, M	Tessier, A
Digweed, S	Honey, L	Nelund, A	Towle-Straub, K
Einarsson, R	Hu, R	Offrey, L	Uzor, C
Epp, M	Irangu, J	Peace, K	Wagner, A
Falconer, R	Irwin, R	Penney, A	Zutter, C
Franczak, B	Judge, K	Qorbani, S	

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

### I. Adoption of Agenda and Consent Items

**Motion #FC.20250612.1** To approve the agenda and consent items.

- Faculty Council Minutes of April 16, 2025.
- Executive Committee Minutes from March 31, 2025
- Program and Curricular Information Items

Wiznura/Skye

**Adopted**

### II. Reports:

#### a. Dean's Report

- Bargaining update: We're hopeful of coming to a new agreement soon.
- Update regarding the course hour review: In Fall 2022, we started a review of course hours across comparable institutions. Discrepancies were mainly noted in the languages and first-year chemistry courses.
- Discussions continued about which changes would make sense within the two Departments affected, resulting in the following:
  - For French and Spanish (100 and 200 level), the hours were adjusted to align with comparator institutions from 75 IH to 45 IH. As part of this change, the Dean's Office committed to reducing class sizes from 36 to 24 students, to allow for more time to provide individualized feedback for students. Languages that introduce a different alphabet were excluded, due to the extra time required to learn the new alphabet, where a reduction would cause pedagogical issues.
  - Reducing the lecture time for CHEM 101 and 102 was discussed, and it was determined that this reduction would be problematic pedagogically

due to many high school students entering the program with grades below 75% in CHEM 30 and MATH 30-1. The extra time is required to ensure student success. To address the misalignment and the space pressures, Chemistry developed wet/dry labs, where students will only be in the lab for half the time, allowing for extra lab sections to be scheduled and because there are no costs for chemicals to run the dry labs. Chemistry faculty were supportive of this change as students still learn the required hands-on skills.

- Overall, this was a collaborative effort between the affected departments and the Dean's Office to address challenges while keeping in mind student needs and course integrity. No further changes are anticipated regarding this review.
- Recognition was shared for the amazing work our members do.
- Congratulations to those who were successful in applying for promotion and the three award recipients.
- We now have 30 full professors, making up 13% of faculty. In 2025-26, we will have 230 full-time faculty members.
- Special thanks to Will Schultz, 2024-25 Executive Committee Co-Chair and Council Vice-Chair.

#### **b. Reports from Standing Committee Co-Chairs**

- Reports were presented in the meeting materials.
- No questions

### **III. Items for Action:**

#### **a. Curricular Items**

- Members were informed that, should anyone wish to discuss a specific MCS or Program change separately, they could ask for that item to be removed from the omnibus prior to it having been moved.

#### **• MCS - Anthropology, Economics, and Political Science**

Omnibus

**Motion #FC.20250612.2** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve ECON 291, POLS 351, and POLS 378.

**Motion #FC.20250612.3** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve changes to ANTH 250, ANTH 251, ANTH 399, ANTH 495, ECON 340, and ECON 422

Mensah/Skeffington

**Adopted**

- No discussion

#### **• MCS - Biological Sciences**

Omnibus

**Motion #FC.20250612.4** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve BIOL 341, BIOL 342, and BIOL 345

**Motion #FC.20250612.5** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve changes to BIOL 245, BIOL 315, and BIOL 445

Gelmini/Llano

**Adopted**

- No discussion

- **MCS - Computer Science**

**Motion #FC.20250612.6** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve changes to CMPT 330.

El-Hajj/Elmorsy

**Adopted**

- No discussion

- **MCS - English**

Omnibus

**Motion #FC.20250612.7** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve ENGL 488

**Motion #FC.20250612.8** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve WRIT 250

**Motion #FC.20250612.9** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve changes to CRWR 404 and ENGL 498

Farvolden/Copland

**Adopted**

- WRIT 250 is brought forward on behalf of the Library, as they do not have a structure in place yet for approving curriculum. Once that is established, the course will move to the Library.

- **MCS - Humanities**

Omnibus

**Motion #FC.20250612.10** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve CLAS 250, CLAS 255, HIST 316, HIST 344

**Motion #FC.20250612.11** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve changes to CLAS 170, CLAS 171, CLAS 353, FREN 351, HIST 212, HIST 216, HIST 309, HIST 311, HIST 315, PHIL 401, PHIL 402, PHIL 403, PHIL 404, and PHIL 405

Cowling/Panjvani

**Adopted**

- No discussion

- **MCS - Physical Sciences**

**Motion #FC.20250612.12** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve changes to CHEM 211, CHEM 311, CHEM 333, CHEM 391, CHEM 464, and CHEM 472.

Elmorsy/Bott

**Adopted**

- No discussion

- **MSC - Psychology**

**Motion #FC.20250612.13** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve changes to PSYC 339, PSYC 351.

Strierner/Blatz

**Adopted**

- No discussion

- **Programs of Study Changes**

**Motion #FC.20250612.14** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve changes to the following programs of study:

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| • Bachelor of Arts            | • Classics Minor  |
| • Bachelor of Science         | • Economics Minor   |
| • Anthropology Major          | • English Major   |
| • Anthropology Honours        | • English Honours   |
| • Biological Sciences Major   | • Statistics Minor  |
| • Biological Sciences Honours | • Accounting Minor for Arts and Science                   |
| • Chemistry Major             | • Arts and Cultural Management Minor for Arts and Science |
| • Chemistry Minor             |   |

Krys/Dawson

**Adopted**

- No discussion

**b. Revised Terms of Reference - Mathematics and Statistics Department Council**

**Motion #FC.20250612.15** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Mathematics and Statistics Department Council.

Beltaos-Kerr/Elmorsy

**Adopted**

- No discussion

**c. Revised Terms of Reference – English**

**Motion #FC.20250612.16** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve the revised Terms of Reference for the English Department Council.

Copland/Farvolden

**Adopted**

- No discussion

**d. Revised Terms of Reference – Biological Sciences**

**Motion #FC.20250612.17** That Arts and Science Faculty Council approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Biological Sciences Department Council.

Harcombe/Friesen

**Adopted**

- Comment: It is appreciated to see the encouragement of sessional instructor involvement in Department Councils.

**IV. Items for Discussion:**

**a. Deferred Exam Process**

- Enclosed in the meeting materials was the information from Student Affairs.
- Starting in September, the Exam Centre will only process deferrals for ADR students. The policy has been updated and is posted on the policy website. The

Course Outlines templates have been updated and can be obtained from the Department Admins.

- The policy addresses final exams and cumulative assessments done in class during the last week of classes. Assessment refers to an individual, timed assessment done in class.
- Midterms are excluded from the policy, and how this will work is up to the Departments. However, acceptable rules from the policy must be followed.
- In Arts and Science, there were a total of 578 deferred exams in Fall 2024.
- Going forward, deferral decisions are made by faculty members (if uncertain, consult with your Chair) and are appealable to the Associate Dean.
- There are forms for the final assessments, but not for the midterms.
- Everyone will be provided with a list of the acceptable and not acceptable reasons for deferral.
- NOTE: You do not have to defend your decision to the student. If they disagree with your decision, there is an appeal process.
- There are scheduled sittings throughout the term, every Monday from 3-5pm and Thursday from 11am-12:30pm. When granting a deferral, you can offer a choice of upcoming dates to the student.
- There is no obligation to schedule individual sittings with students, and faculty are discouraged from doing so. However, you have the autonomy to do so, or to have them sit with a different section.
- Computer Science students will be building a booking system for use by the entire Faculty of Arts and Science.
- Once you make the decision, a copy of the exam is to be provided to the Department Admin.
- In case of final deferred assessments beyond the grades due deadline, submit their grade as DEF. There will be at least one sitting offered in January.
- Student requests will be tracked.
- We encourage communication with students to spread awareness that deferring may not be in their best interest.
- Per term, 20 people are needed to invigilate. Volunteers will be asked to sign up at the Department level. Invigilation will be considered service to the Faculty.
- Transfer of weight: No course can intentionally have an assessment worth more than 50% of the grade, but exams may have a grade weight above 50% after grade weight from another assessment has been shifted to them. Shifting weight is possible under the following conditions:
  - Departments must be consistent (not uniform) in their approach
  - If transferring weight from a midterm to a final, it is required that the final includes questions on the material from the midterm.
- Internal forms will be ready by the start of the Fall term, and university forms before the final exam period begins.
- An in-depth discussion followed, and questions are not included in the minutes.
- Connect with Jillian Skeffington with further questions.

**b. Admission process – Admissions directly into majors**

- My Student Planner App is the main tool high schoolers use to explore their post-secondary options. Because our degrees are undeclared on entry, they do

not appear on the app when students search for a discipline. This may cause students to think that MacEwan does not offer the discipline.

- To mitigate this and to stay competitive in the marketplace, we have to move towards admission into majors. The target date for this change is for Fall 2027 admissions.
- Students will still be able to enter the programs undeclared. And they will be able to select their first and second choices.
- There will be one set of admission criteria, but disciplines will be able to be more specific with entry requirements.
- The competitive criteria may be different from discipline to discipline. This will make enrolment management easier.
- In Fall 2025, students applying for admission will be asked what disciplines students would declare in their first year. This data will be used to inform the next steps.
- Regular communication will be implemented to ensure students know that they can change their programs.
- Seats will be reserved for those enrolling into the discipline, though some classes may not be available until their first Winter term.
- Departments will be consulted along the way. Next fall we will have more information about this. We cannot track how often students change their major, but we will have data about when they declare.

**V. Items for Information**

**a. Election results and 25-26 membership**

- Presented in the meeting materials.

**b. Reports from Decanal Representatives on other Faculty/School Councils**

- Presented in the meeting materials.

**c. Draft Faculty Council meeting dates**

- Presented in the meeting materials.

**VI. Other Business**

**a. N/A**

**VII. Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 a.m.