

## Arts and Science Faculty Council

### Minutes of Council

**Meeting #:** 34  
**Date:** February 5, 2019  
**Time:** 4:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Room 5-142 (CN Theatre)  
**Initial Motion #:** 342

**Present: (updated March 14)**

Schalomon, M (Chair)	Cowling, E Davis, J	Jyoti, R Korpesho, E	Pollock, C Powell, R	Gatto, D Honey, L
Snefjella, B (Secretary)	De Graaf, J Digdon, N	Krys, S Lee, R	Prince, P Robinson, J	Minaker, J Park, O
Alam, R	El-Hajj, M	Llano, G	Ross, M	Reekie, S
Anton, Cr	Epp, M	Long, J	Skeffington, J	Stieglitz, T
Barran, S	Farvolden, P	Lorimer, S	Skye, A	Wiznura, R
Bernstein, N	Ferede, E	Lorkovic, E	Smereka, T	
Bica, I	Franczak, B	Macdonell, C	Solomonovich, M	<b>Ex-Officios and</b>
Blatz, C	Friesen, K	Mark, M	Soroski, J	<b>Delegates</b>
Boers, N	Gelmini, L	McFadyen, D	Summers, K	Hobden, S
Brouwer, D	Grant, D	McKenzie, H	Swanston, T	McGugan, D
Buro, K	Grewal, S	Mensah, C	Tcaciuc, A	McLaughlin, D
Byrne, C	Gulayets, M	Mewhort, R	Thompson, W	
Carroll, M	Hackett, E	Mills, S	Thurairajah, K	<b>Public Member</b>
Christensen-	Hayman, S	Milne, E	Toth, J	
Dalsgaard, K	Herbert, C	Nelund, A	Witherell, R	
Cobzas, D	Hills, M	O'Connor, J		
Copland, S	Hilts, R	Overend, A	<b>Other - Voting</b>	
Corrigall, K	Indratmo	Patterson, A	Beke, N	
Coulson, J	Irwin, B	Peace, K	Cartledge, S	

**Regrets**

Bailey, C	Davis, M	Hollis-Berry, E	Locky, D
Becalska, A	Flaherty, L	Howell, A	Martin, D
Beltaos-Kerr, E	Giacomin, M	Judge, K	McKeown, N
Boag, F	Gonzalez-Lucena, F	Jung, S	Meleshko, R
Bott, T	Haines, J	Kim-Bernard, K	Moscicki, M
Das, M	Hamilton, T	Lakowski, R	Panjvani, C
Davies, K	Harcombe, K	Legge, E	Penney, A

Perschon, M  
Ramsey, C  
Ruiz Serrano, C  
Schmaltz, R  
Seredycz, M

Shaw, R  
Shulist, S  
Sidhu, R  
Sinclair, K  
Skelhorne, A

Soroski, J  
Stepnisky, J  
Strayer, K  
Vongpaisal, T  
Walton, E

Youzwyshyn, G  
Zadorozhna, N

**Move into Session:** The meeting was called to order by Melike Schalomon at 4:00 pm

**Item I Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion #342** Move that the Agenda be approved as amended to add item for discussion on timing for Dean search.

Motion: **carried by consensus**

**Item II Approval of Minutes of Faculty Council #33, December 11, 2018**

**Motion #343** Move to approve the Minutes of Faculty Council #32.

Motion: **carried by consensus**

**Item III Items Arising from the Minutes**

- None

**Item IV Dean's Report**

- Dean's assessment in Annual Reports in line with previous years. Common feedback is to encourage students to complete course evaluations, and to reflect more on student comments than on numerical scores.
- Exam Services will take over process for reviewing requests for deferred final exams (though not midterms) for Arts and Science. Decision based on finding that of 200 deferral requests, only 18 were denied. Provides consistency and will save time of faculty and Chairs
  - Exam Services has indicated they have the resources to do this. If they underdeliver, we will follow-up to address it.
  - Exam Services will need to know if you need the rescheduled Exam to fall in a specific date range.
- In midst of faculty hiring (11 positions this year) – please attend search events where possible and provide feedback on candidates.
- Faculty and staff are encouraged to take Unconscious Bias training to improve awareness and skills related to equity and diversity.
- Craig Monk has been appointed Provost, formally. Craig has provided Arts and Science great leadership. He reimagined and strengthened the role of academics in leading the faculty, worked for the equitable representation of disciplines, and expanded the faculty complement.

- Current plan that Melike will serve as Dean until June 30, 2019 with further discussion needed with Provost about leadership for 2019/2020 as we determine timing for a search for a new Dean.
- Please be aware of fake emails from accounts which appear to be from Dean, Chairs, etc. (usually use external email address like gmail) requesting staff and faculty to buy gift cards, etc.

## Item V

### Guest Presentation – Paul Sopcak, Academic Integrity Office

- New Student Academic Integrity Policy anticipated July 1, 2019.
- Will include:
  - Values-based approach and remove language like “dishonesty” in favour of focusing on lack of knowledge or negligence.
  - New hearing structure - faculty should have less requests to attend repeated misconduct hearings; Dean involved at second level of appeal; final levels of appeal to Tribunal of Board of Governors (per PSLA); students can no longer appeal the penalty, only the misconduct allegation; restorative option added including support to hold restorative conferences with students to address wrongdoing; “severe misconduct” definition added to cover fraud, organized cheating.
- Policy refers to individuals, not groups, and so need to be clear about expectations and responsibilities when assigning group projects.
- In terms of procedures, Office of Academic Integrity now cc’d as a first step and student receives and incident report. See updated Academic Integrity website for this type of info, plus useful templates. Consider linking it to your Blackboard and in course outlines  
<https://www.macewan.ca/wcm/StudentAffairs/AcademicIntegrity/index.htm>
- Paul is available to come and speak at Department Councils

## Item VI

### Items for Action

#### *a) Chemistry Major Proposal*

#### **Motion # 344:**

That the Faculty of Arts and Science Council approve and recommend to Academic Governance Council or its designated subsidiary body the Chemistry Major.

Hackett/Ross

Motion: **carried**

- A number of members commented very favorably on the proposal, which includes revisions to reflect feedback from external reviewers, and modifications to course rotation, and flexibility depending on student goals to obtain a professional designation.

- Some concerns noted with respect to enrollment management given limited lab space and other considerations and constraints which impact beyond Chemistry.
- Fall 2020 start date may be ambitious, given relies on government approval. As courses already offered, student can begin now even if not official until 2021.

*b) Proposed Ad Hoc Committee on Teaching and Learning*

**Motion # 345:**

Skye/Macdonell

That the Faculty of Arts and Science Council approve the proposed terms of reference for the ad hoc Committee on Teaching and Learning

Motion: **carried**

- Primary goal of Committee to 1) develop program level Learning Outcomes for BA and BSc, and 2 produce a report on teaching. Start by preparing a workplan for Council's consideration.
- Hope to develop better shared understanding at the faculty level
- Q: why not existing body like Teaching and Learning Services, or Teaching, Research, and Faculty Development Committee?
- A: TRFDC and Curriculum Committee already have full plate of business to address and projects would take significant work. Work on Learning Outcomes at Institution and Department level currently – opportunity to bridge.
- Q: Believe new LOs will impact course level curriculum because their purpose is to be a measurable outcome.
- A: Not the intent to micro-manage what Departments set as curriculum. But yes, curricular programs offered should relate to desired outcomes.
- LOs often reflect what's already happening but isn't written down, and they should be measurable. In no way should they limit individual academic freedom, though they can help us make choices.
- Q: Who will be on the Committee? it needs broad representation.
- A: Typical Arts and Science Committee composition, with two from each of the three broad disciplinary divisions. Will be important to talk to each department and ensure reflection of and ownership by disciplines.
- Q: More efficient to start at department level?
- A: (Melike) This type of project works better with top-down initiative.
- Q: Where would they be housed? Not only an internal document.
- A: At other institutions, usually posted to website, but it would be Council's decision.
- Q: Committee framed to report to Faculty Council, maybe ensure it goes to Department Councils first.
- A: Yes, good task for inclusion in workplan
- Q: This is a big project, is a cap of two years too short? Institutional Learning Outcomes took five years, as it involves lots of consulting.
- A: Mandate could be extended, if needed.
- Note, original BSc Program included outcomes, so basis exists.
- Can send symbolic message about how we value teaching.

- Quality Council likes Learning Outcomes, has taken issue during program reviews where LOs are not present.

*c) Options for Score Voting in case of tie*

**Motion # 346:**

That the Faculty of Arts and Science Council approves that in case of a tie-vote between two or more candidates, that the candidate with the least variance amongst their votes be deemed elected.

Honey/Buro

Motion: **carried (6 abstentions)**

- General discussion about possibility of a tie occurring between candidates who also have same variance score, as well as whether this approaches favours mediocrity, where picking candidates with most high scores picks more divisive but stronger candidates.

**Item VII**

**Items for Discussion**

*a) Timing for New Dean Search (added to agenda)*

- Two options: accelerated search, aiming to hire for January 1, 2020; or longer search period, aiming to hire for July 1, 2020.
- Members had mixed feedback. Shorter search may bring certainty and clarity more quickly, but mid-cycle presents challenges, and could impact quality of candidates. Other considerations include ability to involve and engage faculty in search depending on timing, and general length of time required for a search firm to undertake a national search.
- Executive Committee to Faculty Council will consider further and make a recommendation to the Provost. Please email further feedback to Executive at [FASgovernance@macewan.ca](mailto:FASgovernance@macewan.ca)

**Item VIII**

**Items for Information**

*a) Academic Women and Gender Equity Network*

- There is a relaunch event planned for March. AWGEN is sharing promotional materials, so please look out for the invitation and participate.

*b) Academic Governance Council update*

- More information will be forthcoming about PSLA changes and AC conversion to GFC. At this point, not much information has come to faculty-level.
- Note, Carla Lam has been hired by the Provost as Manager of Faculty Development, and will be available to support and coach many Collective Agreement processes like Tenure, Promotion, and Sabbatical application.

c) *Executive Minutes January 11, 2019*

- No items raised.

**Item IX**

**Other Business**

- None raised

**Item X**

**Adjournment**

**Motion #347**  
Skeffington/Buro

Move that the Faculty Council adjourn.

Motion: **carried**