

Arts and Science Faculty Council

Minutes of Council

Meeting #: 46
Date: February 28, 2022
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: WebEx
Motion #s: 444-445

Present:

Schalomon, M (Chair)	Corlett, H Coulson, J	Howell, A Hu, R	Overend, A Pang, C	Tcaciuc, A Thompson, W
Toth, J (Vice-Chair)	Davies, K	Hutchinson, C	Panjvani, C	Wagner, A
Bruins-Smith, T (Secretary)	Davis, J Davis, M	Indratmo Intungane, D	Patterson, A Peace, K	Watson, D Witherell, R
Taylor, K (Secretary)	El-Hajj, M	Irwin, B	Penney, A	Woywitka, R
Alam, R	Elliott, C	Islam, S	Powell, R	Zadorozhna, N
Alati, D	Elmorsy, M	Jarick, M	Prichard, L	Zalghout, A
Anderson, N	Epp, M	Jung, S	Prince, P	
Anton, Ca	Falconer, R	Jyoti, R	Raine, S	Other - Voting
Anton, Cr	Farvolden, P	Kenney, J	Ramsey, C	Foster, A
Avalos, E	Ferede, E	Kim-Bernard, K	Rezania, V	Leggo-Henderson, K
Badalova, L	Flaherty, L	Lee, R	Rollings-	Lipes, R
Bailey, C	Fong, J	Legge, E	Magnusson, S	Minaker, J
Beauclair, A	Forth, A	Locky, D	Romney, J	Milner, K
Beltaos-Kerr, E	Franczak, B	Long, J	Ross, M	Saab, N
Bereska, T	Friesen, K	Lorimer, S	Ruiz Serrano, C	Stewart, A
Bernstein, N	Fritz, T	Lorkovic, E	Saberi, M	Wiznura, R
Bica, I	Giacomin, M	Macdonell, C	Schmaltz, R	
Bott, T	Gibbs, M	Martin, D	Sibley, L	Ex Officiis and
Boulianne, S	Gonzalez-Lucena, F	McFadyen, D	Macauley, M	Delegates
Bowles, V	Gulayets, M	McKenzie, H	Skelthorne, A	Chartrand, J
Boyd, B	Hackett, E	McKeown, N	Skye, A	Malin, M
Buro, K	Haines, J	Meleshko, R	Smith, J	McKenzie, D
Carroll, M	Hannan, S	Mewhort, R	Soroski, J	McLaughlin, D
Christensen-	Harcombe, K	Miller, J	Stepnisky, J	
Dalsgaard, K	Hayman, S	Mills, S	Striemer, C	Public Members
Cobzas, D	Hills, M	Milne, E	Su, W	Champoux, G
Colonescu, C	Hilts, R	Moscicki, M	Summers, K	Jeffrey, L
Copland, S	Hollingshead, D	O'Connor, J	Swanston, T	Li Sheung Ying, M
Corrigall, K	Honey, L	Offrey, L	Symbaluk, D	Ristau, K

Simon, M

Regrets

Bratt, S

Cowling, E

Das, M

Gelmini, L

Irangu, J

Krys, L

Perschon, M

Suntjens, T

Trimbee, A

Thuraiajah, K

Move into Session: The meeting was called to order by Melike Schalomon at 3:01 pm.

Item I Adoption of Agenda

Motion #444
Irwin/Wiznura

Move to approve the agenda as presented.

Consensus

Item II Approval of Minutes of Faculty Council #45, September 20, 2021

Motion #445
Bica/Skye

Move to approve the Minutes as amended.

Consensus

- Fixed errors under attendance

Item III Items Arising from the Minutes

- None

Item IV Presentations:

a) Dean's Report

- A moment of silence was held for Faculty council members to reflect on the colleagues and friends impacted by Russia's attack on Ukraine.
- The mandatory mask and vaccination/rapid testing requirements will remain in effect on campus. A decision has not been made about how long these requirements will remain in place. An email will be sent to both students and faculty/staff when administration decides to remove the masking and vaccination protocols. The Dean urged faculty members to continue to wear masks, practice good hand hygiene and to stay home when not feeling well.
- Plans for next year's academic schedule are proceeding with the expectation that the pandemic will become an endemic by then. The Faculty continues to work toward its long-term goal of offering 10% of its courses online, 30% in hybrid modality, and 60% face-to-face.
- Most online sections will be in 100 and 200 level courses since these courses can be offered in more than one modality each term. Since there is usually only one section each scheduled for 300 and 400 level courses, these will not be scheduled online as it is important to offer students the option of face-to-face learning.
- A hybrid course definition was requested during the meeting. Currently the university is using a model that allows MacEwan to maximize its space allocation to determine a hybrid course. A precise

definition has not been created although course modality is a question currently under consideration by the General Faculties Council's committee on Teaching and Learning. Classes will be scheduled with predetermined in-person times, which will be available in the MyStudent system, and the online portion will be asynchronous.

- Not every course is suitable for teaching in different modalities. The Dean encouraged good communication between Chairs and faculty members teaching the courses, and good participation in department curriculum to inform the Faculty on how to offer the best quality of education for students.
- The Associate Dean, Operations search is progressing. The Dean hopes to announce a successful candidate for the Associate Dean, Operations position by next week.
- Tenure-track position hiring is underway for the eight teaching positions. Sociology completed one hire and the Dean is negotiating with an applicant for a Computer Science position.
- Faculty members should watch for a March committee nominee call. Nominees will be asked to submit a brief statement of interest for each position. The Terms of Reference for some of the standing committees and Faculty Council are also being revised.
- Faculty members were asked to save the date for the three planned Creating Connections webinars this spring
 - March 16 – Kim Harcombe and Kathy Davis of Biological Sciences Department present effective mentorship develops more than discipline specific technical skills
 - March 23 – Irfan Chaudry leads a conversation on EDI considerations
 - March 31 – Kris Peace and Eric Legge from Psychology Department present fantastic memories and were to find them – techniques for enhancing student retention
- In April, the Faculty presents the Visions of Brilliance, as part of the 50th anniversary ideas festival to be hosted in-person on Saturday, April 30th. The event will illuminate exceptional teaching and learning that is occurring within the Faculty. Faculty members are encouraged to attend as this will be part of a larger university-wide event. More details about these events will be shared via emails from the Associate Dean, Academic.

**b) OSVPER (Office of Sexual Violence Prevention, Education and Response Resources)
– Meagan Simon, Sexual Violence Response Coordinator**

- The PowerPoint presentation is available for information.
- A faculty member asked for the scope of the sexual violence problem at MacEwan. OSVPER conducted a Campus Client Survey in 2019. The survey [results](#) were published in 2020. Sexual violence is a social problem that is present in multiple environments, including post-secondary institutions. Statistics Canada data indicates young adults are at particular risk of sexual violence, so the post-secondary

demographic reflects that. Statistically speaking 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men experience sexual violence at some point in their life. The numbers at MacEwan are comparable to those statistics.

- The Dean applauded the number of sexual violence responders present in the faculty. The act of having posters up by office doors signals to students that the prevention of sexual violence is something faculty members care about.

Item V **Items for Discussion**

a) Curricular Items – Updated Degree Proposal (Rob)

- A white paper to support offering a double-major combining an Arts with a Science major within the Faculty of Arts and Science was presented to Faculty Council for information.
- The Faculty requested to offer combined Science/Arts double majors in both the BA and BSc programs in 2016-2017, however it was not supported by Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC) and the Ministry. The University has learned the Ministry is now open to such double majors which would make students with technical and theoretical skills more employable. The Provost will soon present the white paper to the Board of Governors and CAQC.
- A question was raised about whether the Science/Arts double-majors would equalize tuition paid by BA and BSc students. Currently BSc students pay an overall higher fee because of overall higher costs involved in taking science labs. The double major will not change tuition fees. Even with a BA major, BSc students will continue to have more science courses at the core of their degree.
- Faculty members were hopeful that approval of a Science/Arts double-major would open the door to offering double majors across two Faculties or Schools. Should the BA/BSc double major be approved by CAQC, additional investigation would be needed before the university could look at further cross-Faculty degree opportunities.

Item VI **Items for Information**

a) Executive Committee Minutes #44-47

- Provided.

Item VII **Other Business**

- Associate Dean – A question was raised about how the title Associate Dean is being used by different areas of the university. The Dean identified an Associate Dean as an academic seconded into an administrative position in Academic Affairs. MacEwan University has an Associate Deans in the Library, Office of Research Services, and Student Services. There are benefits to having an academic in these positions rather than a permanent out-of-scope employee. In time,

more people from different Faculties and Schools will have the opportunity to rotate through these Associate Dean positions.

Item VIII Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.