

## Arts and Science Faculty Council

### Minutes of Council

**Meeting #:** 43  
**Date:** April 27, 2021  
**Time:** 3:00 p.m.  
**Location:** WebEx  
**Motion #s:** 411-416

**Present:**

Schalomon, M (Chair)	Carroll, M	Haines, J	McKeown, N	Su, W
Overend, A (Vice- Chair)	Cartledge, S	Hamilton, T	Meleshko, R	Summers, K
Bruins-Smith, T (Secretary)	Castleton, A	Hannan, S	Mensah, C	Swanston, T
Taylor, K (Secretary)	Christensen- Dalsgaard, K	Harcombe, K	Mills, S	Symbaluk, D
Alam, R	Colonescu, C	Hayman, S	Moscicki, M	Tcaciuc, A
Alati, D	Copland, S	Hills, M	Murphy, G	Thompson, W
Amundson, L	Corlett, H	Hollingshead, D	Nelund, A	Thurairajah, K
Anton, Ca	Corrigall, K	Howell, A	O'Connor, J	Toth, J
Anton, Cr	Coulson, J	Hu, R	Pang, C	Wagner, A
Avalos, E	Cowling, E	Hutchinson, C	Panjvani, C	Watson, D
Badalova, L	Das, M	Indratmo	Patterson, A	Witherell, R
Baker, J	Davies, K	Intungane, D	Peace, K	Woywitka, R
Barran, S	Davis, J	Irangu, J	Penney, A	Zadorozhna, N
Beauclair, A	Davis, M	Irwin, B	Powell, R	Zalghout, A
Bereska, T	El-Hajj, M	Islam, S	Prichard, L	Zutter, C
Bernstein, N	Elmorsy, M	Ivanescu, C	Prince, P	
Bica, I	Epp, M	Jarick, M	Ramsey, C	<b>Other - Voting</b>
Biittner, K	Falconer, R	Jyoti, R	Rezania, V	Bao, Tan
Blatz, C	Farvolden, P	Kenney, J	Rice, J	Barbar, R
Boag, F	Ferede, E	Kim-Bernard, K	Rollings-	Beke, N
Boers, N	Flaherty, L	Krys, L	Magnusson, S	Foster, A
Bott, T	Forth, A	Lawry-Batty, K	Romney, J	Lipes, R
Boulianne, S	Fong, J	Lee, R	Saberi, M	Minaker, J
Bowles, V	Franczak, B	Legge, E	Schmaltz, R	Park, O
Boyd, B	Friesen, K	Llano, J	Seredycz, M	Stewart, A
Bratt, S	Giacomin, M	Locky, D	Shaw, R	Unera, R
Byrne, C	Gibbs, M	Long, J	Sibley, L	Wiznura, R
	Gonzalez-Lucena, F	Lorimer, S	Skelhorne, A	
	Gulayets, M	Macdonell, C	Skye, A	
	Hackett, E	McFadyen, D	Soroski, J	
		McKenzie, H	Striemer, C	

**Ex Officiis and Delegates**

Ginther, R

McLaughlin, D  
Kachmar, T  
Malin, MPollard, C  
Suntjens, T**Public Members**Gatto, D  
Kemp, GKuziemy, C  
Miller, K  
Munro, T**Regrets**Buro, K  
Fallis, CGelmini, L  
Judge, KLakowski, R  
Martin, DMewhort, R  
Sinclair, K

Trimbee, A

**Move into Session:** The meeting was called to order by Melike Schalomon at 1:30 pm.**Item I Adoption of Agenda****Motion #411**

Biittner/Ramsey

Move to approve the agenda as presented.

**Consensus****Item II Approval of Minutes of Faculty Council #42, March 1, 2021****Motion #412**

Overend/Franczak

Move to approve the Minutes as presented.

**Consensus****Item III Items Arising from the Minutes**

- None

**Presentations:****Item IV Universal Competency Framework Encl 2 – Gillian Kemp**

- Six participants are sought from the Faculty to take part in 3 2-hour focus groups to develop a Universal Competency Framework for the institution.
- The purpose of the framework is to translate the knowledge, skills, and abilities students learn at MacEwan University into language understood by employers. The Framework does not affect how faculty teach but instead helps employers understand and students express the skills and abilities they have gained while attending post-secondary.
- Four focus groups consisting of faculty members, Learning and Writing Centre representatives, SAMU student reps, and employers will be held with each iteration developing MacEwan's Universal Competency Framework. The process will be complete in two-years.
- A concern that the Career sheets previously developed by the Faculty already presents this information was raised; however, the Universal Competency Framework will confirm all high-level competencies are included in language employers understand. The framework will not promise students are proficient in these skills and abilities but instead it will label them for easy use and understanding in the business world.
- Faculty members interested in participating were asked to forward their names to the Faculty's Associate Dean, Operations.

**Item V****Research and Scholarly Activity Encl 3 – Craig Kuziemy and Kathy Miller, GFC  
Standing Committee on Research and Scholarly Activity co-chairs**

- Building on work that was done by at the Research Advisory Taskforce (2019-2020) the Research and Scholarly Activity Committee works on a plan to address the seven themes addressed by the task force.
- Committee looks at the various types of research and scholarly activity being conducted throughout the university to consider how to clarify what constitutes research.
- The committee facilitates the understanding of research being conducted at MacEwan University, both internally and externally. The university at large wants to triple scholarly activity by 2030. This does not mean that all areas must do more. A portion of this may be achieved by helping the community understand the research and scholarly activity currently being conducted and promoting research in areas which are not currently involved.
- MacEwan University must promote awareness of research and scholarly activity that is already being done. One way is to identify which provincial and federal government priorities are met by existing research and scholarly study. More people external to MacEwan need to know the impact of the scholarly work within the university on policy, culture, social, scholarship, practice, services, and products. The university needs to better frame its areas of research excellence, internal grants, awards, etc.
- Faculty were asked to email the presenters with questions about research.

**Item VI****Dean's Report**

- Estimated speaking times have been added to the Faculty council agenda, more detail is being shared in the meeting emails, and an overview of Robert's Rules will be included in each Council package following a conversation about Council meeting improvements at the Executive Committee.
- A long and exhausting term ended with fewer student academic violations than in the Fall Term.
- Twenty-six percent of Fall term courses will be fully online and 74% will have some face-to-face component included. Course outlines need to indicate when students are expected to be on campus.
- A Moodle sandbox environment will be set up on July 5<sup>th</sup> for anyone who wants hands-on experience in Moodle. None of the courses built in the sandbox can be transferred to the live environment. A small pilot will be run this fall with most of the university courses moving to Moodle in 2022 and 2023.
- Bachelor of Science enrollments in Fall 2021 are already exceeding target by 10%. Bachelor of Arts enrolments are lagging which aligns with the degree's historically slower fill. Weakest admission numbers

are in Engineering which has significantly fewer applications and significantly fewer students eligible for enrollment.

- With no 2021/22 budget cuts, the Arts and Science budget is stable. The Dean did not foresee job losses or increases in class sizes in the next year. MacEwan's Investment Management Agreement from the Ministry includes one performance-based metric centered on workplace integrated learning.
- Significant budget surplus this year, primarily due to saving on lab supplies, printing, and travel costs. We were able to give students more access to courses. Surplus budget has been set aside to purchase \$200,000 in small lab equipment (glassware, pipettes, scales, etc.) for the research and teaching labs under construction in Building 5.
- Two new tenure-track hires will be starting in Biology and Psychology this July. The Faculty is currently involved in searching for a term faculty member to teach Cree.
- Congratulations to Associate Dean, Academic Joanne Minaker and Psychology Chair Aimee Skye on their reappointments.
- The Fall 2020 NSERC Discovery Grant results were announced two weeks ago. Congratulations to Janice Kenney and Hillary Corlett, both of Physical Sciences, for being successful in their applications.
- Six Arts and Science students were awarded USRA funding for the upcoming summer. There were 27 students who applied for USRI funding internally. Of these 17 students in 7 departments were funded and 3 of the remaining 10 got a USRA grant. Almost 75% of the applicants from Arts and Science for USRA or USRI funding were funded.
- Congratulations to Dr. Sandy Jung who received a SSHRC Insight Grant.

## Item VII Items for Action

### a) Curricular Items Encl 4

<b>Motion #413</b>	That Arts and Science Council approve and recommend to Academic Planning & Quality Assurance Committee, the Applied Statistics Honours program.	
Wiznura/Tcaciuc		Motion: <b>Carried</b>
<b>Omnibus</b>		
<b>Motion #414</b>	That Arts and Science Council approve changes to CMPT 310.	
<b>Motion #415</b>	That Arts and Science Council approve changes to STAT 266, STAT 312, STAT 324, STAT 372, STAT 412, and STAT 495.	
Wiznura/Tcaciuc		Motion: <b>Carried</b>
<b>Motion #416</b>	That Arts and Science Council approve STAT 499.	
Wiznura/Tcaciuc		Motion: <b>Carried</b>

## **Item VIII**      **Items for Consultation**

- a) *Draft Program Learning Outcomes Encl 5 (Melissa Hills)*
- Faculty members were encouraged to send their questions and feedback regarding the Draft Program Learning Outcomes to [FASgovernance@macewan.ca](mailto:FASgovernance@macewan.ca) by May 11<sup>th</sup>. The feedback will be reviewed, and revisions made as needed before the draft Learning Outcomes are brought back to Faculty Council for approval at the June meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee on Teaching and Learning will complete its mandate by developing a comprehensive report on Teaching and Learning to be presented to Faculty Council in September.

## **Item IX**      **Items for Information**

- a) *Election Results Encl 6*
- The Election Results were circulated with the agenda package. Thanks to everyone who ran for a seat. There was significantly higher participation in the election than has been seen in recent years. The Faculty has one additional GFC seat which will be filled by appointment this year alongside the seats left vacant.
- b) *GFC Update*
- The President's strategic directions that were approved by the Board were discussed. They are comprised of five points: addressing COVID in the short and long-term; engaging actively in the Alberta 2030 initiative by the government; setting a course for the future through strategic visioning; participating in internal and external community engagement; and advancing equity, diversity, inclusion, and reconciliation.
  - A site visit of CAQC was conducted in March. The institutional learning outcomes were reapproved, and the Honorary Doctorate Policy was approved. In January, the Student Conduct Policy was approved which will replace the Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy. A posthumous credential was approved for a deceased student in FAS.
- c) *Executive Committee Minutes for October 2020 and January, February, and March 2021* were circulated.
- d) *TRFDC Creating Connections update (Joanne Minaker)*
- The Creating Connections third presentation will be by Bill Thompson – *Write, Revise, and Resubmit: Student Feedback and Student Success* on May 19<sup>th</sup>

## **Item X**      **Other Business**

- *None*

## **Item XI**      **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 3:06 p.m.