

Arts and Science Faculty Council

Minutes of Council

Meeting #: 42
Date: March 1, 2021
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: WebEx
Motion #s: 402-410

Present:

Schalomon, M (Chair)	Byrne, C	Giacomin, M	Krys, L	Magnusson, S
Overend, A (Vice- Chair)	Carroll, M	Gibbs, M	Lakowski, R	Raine, S
Bruins-Smith, T (Secretary)	Cartledge, S	Gonzalez-Lucena, F	Lee, R	Romney, J
Taylor, K (Secretary)	Castleton, A	Grewal, S	Legge, E	Schmaltz, R
Alam, R	Christensen-	Gulayets, M	Llano, J	Seredycz, M
Alati, D	Dalsgaard, K	Hackett, E	Locky, D	Shaw, R
Amundson, L	Cobzas, D	Haines, J	Long, J	Sibley, L
Anderson, N	Copland, S	Hamilton, T	Lorimer, S	Skeffington, J
Anton, Ca	Corlett, H	Hannan, S	Macdonell, C	Skelhorne, A
Anton, Cr	Corrigall, K	Harcombe, K	McKenzie, H	Skye, A
Avalos, E	Coulson, J	Hayman, S	McKeown, N	Smith, M
Badalova, L	Cowling, E	Hills, M	Meleshko, R	Solomonovich, M
Baker, J	Das, M	Hilts, R	Mensah, C	Soroski, J
Barran, S	Davies, K	Hollingshead, D	Mewhort, R	Striemer, C
Beauclair, A	Davis, J	Howell, A	Mills, S	Summers, K
Bereska, T	Davis, M	Hu, R	Moscicki, M	Su, W
Bernstein, N	Digdon, N	Hutchinson, C	Nelund, A	Swanston, T
Bica, I	Einarsson, R	Indratmo	O'Connor, J	Symbaluk, D
Biittner, K	El-Hajj, M	Intungane, D	Pang, C	Tcaciuc, A
Blatz, C	Elliott, C	Irangu, J	Panjvani, C	Thompson, W
Boag, F	Elmorsy, M	Irwin, B	Patterson, A	Thurairajah, K
Boers, N	Epp, M	Islam, S	Peace, K	Toth, J
Boulianne, S	Falconer, R	Ivanescu, C	Penney, A	Vo, N
Bowles, V	Farvolden, P	Jarick, M	Perschon, M	Wagner, A
Boyd, B	Ferede, E	Judge, K	Powell, R	Watson, D
Buchanan, D	Flaherty, L	Jung, S	Prichard, L	Witherell, R
Buro, K	Forth, A	Jyoti, R	Prince, P	Woywitka, R
	Fong, J	Keiller, K	Ramsey, C	Yaremko, T
	Franczak, B	Kenney, J	Rezania, V	Zadorozhna, N
	Friesen, K	Kim-Bernard, K	Rice, J	Zalghout, A
	Gelmini, L	Korpesho, E	Rollings-	Zutter, C

Other - Voting

Bao, Tan
Barbar, N
Beke, N
Duffy, J
Fallis, C
Foster, A

Lipes, R
Milner, K
Minaker, J
Park, O
Stewart, A
Unera, R
Wiznura, R

Ex Officiis and Delegates

Badger, M on
behalf of
McLaughlin, D
Kachmar, T
Keiller, K

Malin, M
McKenzie, D
Monk, C

Jeffrey, L
Keymer, B
Wu, C

Public Members

Gatto, D
Herbert, C

Regrets

Martin, D

Sinclair, K

Trimbee, A

Move into Session: The meeting was called to order by Melike Schalommon at 3:02pm.

Item I Adoption of Agenda

Motion #402 Move to approve the agenda as presented.
Overend / Biittner

Consensus

Item II Approval of Minutes of Faculty Council #40, Sep 21, 2020

Motion #403 Move to approve the Minutes as presented.
Overend / Biittner

Consensus

Item III Items Arising from the Minutes

- None

Item IV Dean's Report

- Thank you to everyone for the work you've been doing during the pandemic. This summer and after the pandemic, we will need to review what we want to retain from this time and what we want to revert.
- Provost proposed a broad definition of hybrid modalities which hopefully will give faculty the flexibility to adjust teaching to changing circumstances.
- Due to available classroom sizes, most large first year courses will be scheduled fully online if classroom capacities remain reduced in the Fall term. Faculty can still opt to teach full face to face where classrooms can be found.
- Switching all online classes to in-person after vaccinations are further underway is not an option
- There was an increase in academic integrity violations. The university requests removal of test banks shared online, such as Chegg, as they are found. Links added below.
- Faculty can assist in reducing cheating by being explicit in their communication with students. Prevention is preferable to penalizing.
- President Trimbee has said enrollments should increase over the next few years. Even if FAS does not increase intake, increases in other Schools and Faculties will affect enrolment in Arts and Science.

- Oppose any more class size increases in Arts and Science unless the other Schools and Faculties' class sizes and fill rates are close to those in FAS.
- Learning Outcomes are being developed as a faculty-driven initiative for the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science. The Learning Outcomes and a comprehensive Teaching and Learning report are on target to be completed by September 2021.
- Development of a Faculty mission and vision statement will follow to communicate Faculty direction and guide strategic planning within the Faculty.
- A moratorium on all new major and minor proposals not already discussed with the Dean's Office was announced until a comprehensive plan for program proposals is developed next year.
- New labs: A Chemistry teaching lab and a large science research lab are slated to open in the Fall on the main floor, and a Fish research lab by end of year in the basement of Building 5. Construction noise expected this summer.
- A new permanent postdoc and research student space will be built in 5-105 with four small postdoc offices and seats for up to 16 students.
- The university operating grant was not reduced for 2021/22 and remains at the 2020/21 level.
- Low participation in student evaluations is disheartening to faculty. Participation is not compulsory. Faculty may increase participation by explaining to students how they will benefit such as influencing the curriculum.

Items for Action

a) Program and Curricular Items

Omnibus

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| Motion #404 | That Arts and Science Council approve changes to ENGL 342. |
| Motion #405 | That Arts and Science Council approve changes to FREN 111. |
| Motion #406 | That Arts and Science Council approve changes to HIST 100 and HIST 301. |
| Motion #407 | That Arts and Science Council approve changes to PHIL 360. |
| Motion #408 | That Arts and Science Council approve the list of courses with minor or no changes. |

Wiznura / Carroll

Motion: **Carried**

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| Motion #409 | That Arts and Science Council approve HIST 343 and HIST 491. |
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Wiznura / Carroll

Motion: **Carried**

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| Motion #410 | That Arts and Science Council approve and recommend to Academic Planning & Quality Assurance Committee, the designated General Faculties Council subsidiary, the Film Minor. |
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Wiznura / Farvolden

Motion: **Carried**

Secretary's note: Votes were verified for eligibility. The vote carried with 81 in favour and 13 opposed.

- Concerns were raised about the quality of the proposed minor, compared to the initially written proposal, and that the Film Minor would be administered by the Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications (FFAC) although most of the courses would be taught by FAS. The original idea was for Continuing Education to administer the interdisciplinary minor.
- Another concern was FAS students would not be able to access the Film Minor if Faculty Council does not support the proposal.
- Positive relationships fostered between FFAC and FAS will allow Arts & Science to have input into the development of the Minor, even if it is housed in FFAC.
- Continuing Education does not have the capacity to look after interdisciplinary minors. Enhancement of the minor can occur as the faculties work together.
- Administration of the minor does not mean FFAC students would get preferential access to seats. Seats may be reserved for FFAC or FAS students to ensure they have access.

Chair Duties Handed to Vice-Chair: Chair and Dean Melike Schalomon handed over the chair to Vice-Chair Alissa Overend.

Motion #411 That Arts and Science Council approve and recommend to Academic Planning & Quality Assurance Committee, the designated General Faculties Council subsidiary, to suspend the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Transfer.

Wiznura / Beke

Motion: **carried**

Secretary's note: Votes were verified for eligibility. The vote carried with 47 in favour and 41 opposed.

- The Dean presented reasons for suspending the program including increased intake by University of Alberta program impacting the number of students taking one-year transfer program, the administrative costs involved in filling and refilling transfer program seats, and the opportunity to redirect funds to shorten waitlists in Bachelor of Arts and Science classes. The Dean's preference is for the university to support the students who will earn their degrees at MacEwan.
- Several faculty members said they opposed the motion. Faculty members argued a minimum of one cohort could be maintained to retain market share rather than MacEwan suspending the program.
- Concerns were raised by teaching staff about no longer being able to maintain their engineering registration following the program suspension.
- Faculty members stated attrition is a part of the process in developing engineers, stating even unsuccessful engineering transfer students are strong students in whichever MacEwan program they transfer into.
- It was also stated the Bachelor of Engineering Transfer fits into the performance-based metrics promoted by the provincial government.

Chair Returned: Vice-Chair Alissa Overend returned the Chair duties to Dean Melike Schalomon.

Item V **Items for Information – Deferred**

- a) *GFC Update*
- b) *Executive Minutes for October 2020 and January 2021*
- c) *TRFDC Creating Connections update (Joanne Minaker)*

Item VI **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Additional Note: Links regarding Academic Integrity

<https://sites.google.com/macewan.ca/elearningoffice/training/going-remote-with-academic-integrity>

<https://www.macewan.ca/campus-life/academic-integrity/>

[https://www.macewan.ca/wcm/MacEwanNews/NEWS ACAD INTEG TUTORIAL 20](https://www.macewan.ca/wcm/MacEwanNews/NEWS_ACAD_INTEG_TUTORIAL_20)

<https://www.macewan.ca/campus-life/academic-integrity/definitions-scenarios/>