Faculty Council Meeting Minutes

FACULTY OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
FACULTY COUNCIL
May 22, 2014
440, CFAC
3 – 5 p.m.

Chair: Denise Roy

Attendees: Raymond Baril, Michael MacDonald, Rey Rosales
          Craig Brenan, Nichole Magnesson, Leslie Sharpe
          Carole Charette, Darci Mallon, Tom Van Seters
          Melissa Cuerrier, Lucille Mazo, Leslie Vermeer
          Allan Gilliland, Doreen Piehl, Dianne Westwood
          Rose Ginther, Bill Richards, Wayne Williams
          Jim Head, Chandelle Rimmer

Ex-officio members: Debbie McGugan for Jane Duffy

Guests: Sherrell Steele

Regrets: Rose Clancy, Madison Mitchell, Peter Roccia
         Brian Gorman, Kathy Neiman, Kent Sangster
         Jim Guedo, Dianne Nicholls, Hoyne Santa-Balazs
         Marcel Hamel, Constanza Pacher, Rachel Smith-Gay
         Rita Long, James Parker, Karen Zypchyn
         Iain Macpherson, Eva Revitt

Minutes: Christine Valentine

1. Approval of the agenda

MOTION to approve the May 22, 2014 Faculty Council agenda.

FFACFC-01-05-22-2014
Moved by Allan Gilliland, seconded by Rose Ginther.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Approval of March 26, 2014 Faculty Council minutes

MOTION to approve the March 26, 2014 Faculty Council minutes.

FFACFC-02-05-22-2014
Moved by Jim Head, seconded by Melissa Cuerrier.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Review of May 8, 2014 Executive Committee draft minutes

There was no discussion.

4. Chair’s update

Denise introduced guest Debbie McGugan, Acting Dean of Libraries,
and Carole Charette, the new Chair of Design Studies. Melissa
Cuerrier was congratulated on being hired as the Chair of Theatre
Production. Denise also acknowledged new staff member, Elizabeth
Hay, administrative assistant for the Fine Art and Design Studies.
programs. Geoff George, Sheril Hart, and Wilf Kozub have recently retired.

A long-service award BBQ will be held at CFAC on June 5 (for 5-15 years of service) and there will be a dinner on May 28 for faculty and staff who have reached 20+ years of service.

An offer is in process to hire a new faculty member for the Communication Studies program, scheduled to start tentatively in September. Paul Johnston was hired for the Music program. Jim Guedo, Iain Macpherson, Leslie Sharpe and Tom Van Seters have transitioned from probationary to continuing status. Agnieszka Matejko, Hoyne Santa-Balazs and Brian Thurgood won outstanding service awards at MacEwan Day.

Rachel Smith-Gay has finished her program and will not be continuing as a member of Faculty Council. A call for nominations of student members will be issued in the fall.

A motion to approve Faculty Council bylaw changes was passed by AGC, but it was a split vote. There were two main concerns: the first was that the Professional Resource faculty felt collapsing the Dean of Libraries and voting librarian positions into one ex-officio position marginalized their role in academic governance. The other aspect of this centers around to what extent councils and schools have autonomy to change bylaws. The response from the AGC Executive was that faculty councils have a certain amount of freedom to make changes to bylaw templates as long as they do not violate fundamental principles of academic governance.

Rank and title applications are in process, with a total of 6 applicants: 3 from Music, 1 from Fine Art, 1 from Design Studies, and 1 from Communication Studies with 2 of the 6 applications for the title of Associate Professor. Results are forthcoming early in June.

The Performance Evaluation Committee met today and Denise received the recommendations. Letters will be sent out by the June 15 deadline. There are a lot of concerns around the evaluation process, which have yet to be resolved, and will depend on the outcome of the collective bargaining process. There is a chance that this committee will disappear. The collective bargaining process will also address a change to annual report deadlines. The issue of salary has yet to be addressed.

The institution is implementing a slightly different budget process. Early in the fall, Denise will make requests relative to staffing and the base operating budget on behalf of the faculty.

The University is revising many of its policies and processes, the general trend of which is to shrink policies and shift the information into procedure documents. These changes will be reviewed with program chairs and may also come to a future Faculty Council meeting for discussion.

The Executive Committee would like to solicit feedback about Faculty Council operations. A short survey has been circulated to members.
There was a request to have survey results submitted before the Executive meets again on June 4.

Construction drawings are almost ready for 100% sign off. Denise thanked everyone who was involved with coordinating this process. The building plans were showcased at last night’s President’s Reception. Fundraising efforts will likely start to ramp up and Denise will be assisting Fund Development with touring potential donors around the campus soon.

The AFA has provided major funding of $150K for a site-specific commissioned piece of artwork for the new building. The total budget for this project is $350K. The CFAC Art Selection Committee is composed of Denise as Chair, two representatives from the AFA, Erin McDonald and Joan Pittfield, two art experts including Kristy Trinier from the AGA and Leslie Sharpe, architect representative Shafraaz Kaba and public representatives John Mitchell, MacEwan board member and Tyler Bartoshyk, Design Studies student. The members recommended that selected artists be invited to submit proposals rather than having an open call, as artists need to have certain prerequisites to be considered. The Committee will shortlist artists and then provide funding for these artists to create maquettes. The aim is to award the commission by next fall. The piece will likely be unveiled as part of the opening of the new building. There will be more discussion relative to planning for the opening ceremonies soon.

5. Program updates

Each program area acknowledged the hard work and collective effort of their full-time and sessional faculty.

Arts and Cultural Management

- There are currently 28 students on field placement with 4 completing placements outside of town. Students will be completing placements between now and the end of summer
- Rose Ginther will be attending a conference in Montreal next week to present on collaborative learning
- Rose Ginther has collaborated with Kathleen Byrne on a learning outcome study and they will be ready to present it to chairs, the Curriculum Committee and the Faculty Council soon

Communication Studies

- Charlotte Nesbitt, a BCS student, won a content strategy international competition through Facebook. She was the first Canadian student to win this competition. She won a further opportunity when 2 of the 3 competition winners were selected to participate in a summer internship
- Lucille Mazo and Brian Gorman recently returned from Ecuador where they took a group of students to work with several universities
- Peter Roccia is currently in the Ukraine and is meeting with several universities to establish important connections
- Iain Macpherson will be travelling to Japan to continue to establish international relationships
- Lucille Mazo is overseeing an international research journal called the Social Health and Communication Research
Journal. The first publication is scheduled for November

- The student editorial board of Earth Common Journal has received 20 strong submissions and are working hard to get the next issue ready for publication
- A faculty curriculum workshop is scheduled for June 3

Design Studies

- Recently wrapped up a successful student portfolio show
- Completed first year of offering the new Program of Study
- Students in Constanza Pacher’s typography class participated in the contest for MacEwan’s award-winning book of the year, Indian Horse
- Established connections at the PICA Conference
- The next challenge for the program will be the development of the new degree

Fine Art

- Agnieszka Matejko received an outstanding service award. Special thanks was made to Darci Mallon for her nomination
- The program finished their program review. They have just received their report and are in the process of drafting an action plan

Library

- Two new services are available:
  - The MacEwan Author’s Collection makes faculty work searchable in the catalogue. Print and digital work will be added to the circulating collection, so anyone across the world can check out materials
  - The institution digital repository is another initiative that features faculty scholarly work and will be launched in June. Materials can be sent to the library with a note specifying that it is faculty work

Music

- Hired a new faculty member, Paul Johnston, who is an experienced recording engineer
- Tom Van Seters has released a new cd
- Faculty members had a great program retreat and will be spearheading some new changes soon
- Faculty, alumni and students performed in the Cantando Music Festival in Whistler, BC for more than 3000 people. A successful music clinic was held as part of the festival. Special thanks were given to Ray Baril, Allan Gilliland and Katie Olsson for putting it together
- Michael MacDonald has been involved with the Critical Youth Studies Network for the past year and will be publishing a reader based on multiple works in April. CAFÉ has committed their support for this network. Anyone interested in getting involved is encouraged to contact Michael

Theatre Arts

- The program completed their performance evaluation and now have an action plan to implement. A draft of the action plan will come forward at the May 26 Curriculum Committee
Theatre Production

- Recently received the script for next year's musical, *Catch Me If You Can. Big Fish* and *Sondheim on Sondheim* will also be performed next year. These are all brand new plays that have only ever been performed on Broadway, and for most of them, this is the first time they will be performed in Canada.

6. New business

6.1 Program of Study changes

6.1.1 2015-16 BCS Programs of Study – Rey Rosales

BCSC 1XX was created out of the need for a specific course dedicated to contemporary issues as faculty are using valuable instructional time during other classes to teach students the foundations of journalism. This course will be temporarily offered as an option because no changes can be made to the fundamental structure of the major at this point. Once the self-study is submitted one year from now, this course will likely be transitioned into a core course. The program will discuss this further at their workshop on June 3.

**MOTION** to approve the changes to the 2015-16 BCS Programs of Study.

**FFACFC-03-05-22-2014**

Moved by Bill Richards, seconded by Rose Ginther.

**MOTION CARRIED**

6.1.2 Amended 2014-15 Fine Art Program of Study – Rey Rosales

The revised Program of Study splits each of the current 8 credit Painting and Intermedia courses into two 4 credit courses. The content will be delivered over a full year, rather than packed into a single term. Painting and Intermedia will become Painting I/II and Intermedia I/II, effective fall 2014. The new model allows students to better process content and develop skills and methods to achieve learning outcomes. Students also have more time to experiment with new media and have more options in terms of transferability. Students were enthusiastic about this change when they were surveyed. The changes may affect the current schedule, but have no effect on block transfer agreements.

**MOTION** to approve the amendments to the 2014-15 Fine Art Program of Study.

**FFACFC-04-05-22-2014**

Moved by Jim Head, seconded by Wayne Williams.

**MOTION CARRIED**

6.2 Draft integrated strategic plan

The Executive Committee wanted to provide the Faculty Council with an opportunity to review the draft integrated strategic plan since many staff and faculty could not attend the information session held at CFAC during the consultation process. This document went to AGC at their last meeting and was supported. It will now go to Board of Governors for approval.
Discussion/feedback

- Concern was expressed about how the second strategic direction about research will be interpreted. How will a determination be made as to what activities “support and reflect the primacy of the university’s undergraduate teaching and learning role”?
- A recommendation was made to create a standard document that outlines guidelines for the type of creative and scholarly work that occurs in FFAC.
- The current undergraduate research fund does not seem large enough to support a great number of student research projects.
- Further discussion is needed on the relationship between diplomas and degrees.
- Further definition for community engagement was recommended. There was a suggestion that the new building may provide our faculty with many opportunities to connect and engage.

Significant revisions to this document have been made since this draft was released for consultation. Those changes should be made available shortly.

6.3 FFAC academic plan

The ideas that were gathered from the March 26 Faculty Council breakout groups now need to be refined as we moved forward with creating a draft academic plan. There is no plan to create a separate steering committee for this process.

A summary of progress to date, including next week’s chairs workshop will be shared at the June 25 Faculty Council meeting. The Council will eventually be asked to decide on priorities relative to the development of potential new degrees, the expansion of current ones, and other shorter-term initiatives such as the creation of interdisciplinary courses.

It appears that there is some pressure to submit a letter of intent to the board for the Design Studies degree as soon as possible, ideally in the fall. Denise is trying to get more clarity about expectations and the possibility of submitting an omnibus letter of intent, outlining our general intention to pursue several degrees and allowing the faculty more time to submit detailed degree proposals. There may be some issues relative to sorting out workloads as faculty need more of their time available to resource the development of new degrees. There will be more discussion around this issue in the future.

7. Committee reports

7.1 AGC – Jim Head

There were two AGC meetings since the last Faculty Council meeting, one on April 29 and the other on May 30.

Key highlights

- AGC review report was approved
- Violence on campus presentation to develop awareness
- There has been increased enrolment and more course
offerings in the spring and summer terms

- Draft integrated strategic plan was approved
- Changes to policies and course outlines
- APPC passed an honours designation, which can be awarded through any program
- Presented a comprehensive institutional plan created for the government

7.2 Curriculum Committee – Rey Rosales

There is a meeting on May 26 to review the draft Theatre Arts action plan as well as syllabi revisions for Music and Design Studies.

7.3 Faculty Development Committee – Rey Rosales

The Committee completed adjudication of applications last week. Rey will inform successful applicants by Monday. The total ask was for $50K, and the budget is $25K. The total budget designated for travel beginning July 1 will be $15K.

7.4 Visiting Scholar and Artist Committee – Rey Rosales

Nominations for visiting scholars and artists are due at the end of the month. The budget for the visiting scholar fund will be $50K annually for the next three years.

We are investigating the possibility of creating a student research and experiential learning fund to support student research and other activities. Michael MacDonald and Allan Gilliland were the winners of the FFAC Teaching Innovation Award and now they are creating an iBook on music theory, composition and technology. This project may provide some opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration.

8. Open discussion and future agenda items

A discussion around the new honours designation will be added to a future Faculty Council agenda. Denise will follow up on when the foundational plans might be available for the Council to review.

Ray Baril will be performing a recital Monday night at 7pm at the University of Alberta.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.