Faculty Council Meeting Minutes

FACULTY OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
FACULTY COUNCIL
November 24, 2016
7-327, CCC
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Chair: Denise Roy

Attendees:
- Timothy Anderson
- Paul Johnston
- Peter Roccia
- Robert Andruchow
- Annetta Latham
- Rey Rosales
- Carole Charette
- Michael MacDonald
- Dawn Sadoway
- Allan Gilliland
- Iain Macpherson
- Kent Sangster
- Rose Ginther
- Lucille Mazo
- Christine Saul
- Brian Gorman
- Bruce Montcombroux
- Tom Van Seters
- Jim Head
- Chandelier Rimmer
- Kali Weber

Ex-officio members:
- John Corlett
- Sandy Stift
- Sandy Stift
- Mike Sekulic
- Dianne Westwood

Guests:
- Barry Boroditsky
- Sherrell Steele

Regrets:
- Ray Baril
- Ellen Karras
- Sony Raj
- Courtney Bettin
- Nichole Magneson
- Bill Richards
- Craig Brenan
- Darci Mallon
- Carson Schafer
- Rose Clancy
- Brad Necyk
- Leslie Sharpe
- Melissa Cuirrer
- Kathy Neiman
- Jennifer Spencer
- Neil Fitzpatrick
- Dianne Nicholls
- Scott Spidell
- Jim Guedo
- Constanza Pacher
- Leslie Vermeer
- Marcel Hamel
- Doreen Piehl
- Wayne Williams

Minutes: Christine Valentine

1. Approval of the agenda

MOTION to approve the November 24, 2016 Faculty Council agenda.

FFACFC-01-11-24-2016
Moved by Lucille Mazo, seconded by Carole Charette.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Approval of September 28, 2016 Faculty Council minutes

MOTION to approve the September 28, 2016 Faculty Council minutes.

FFACFC-02-11-24-2016
Moved by Rose Ginther, seconded by Jim Head.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Review of November 14, 2016 Executive Committee draft minutes

There was no discussion.

4. Chair’s update

This faculty has some good news in that our early enrolment numbers have improved. An individual recently accepted the Art Gallery Coordinator contract and will be announced soon. The priorities for this year’s annual budget process are to support academic programming.
through faculty positions and new degrees, and to acquire the necessary technical support staff needed to run the studios in the new building. We have asked for five staff positions and 11 faculty positions over the next few years to support the building in a professional manner and to launch new degree programming. In the case where we do not receive all of the staff positions, we may look at supplementing them through contracts.

The Bachelor of Music Recording and Production major proposal is coming forward to Curriculum Committee by the end of the fall term, and the BFA proposal as well as the LOI for the new Communication major in Rhetoric are forthcoming. Denise will be completing performance evaluations before she leaves. January 31 is the deadline for workloads and Denise is going to attempt to pin these down before the Christmas break.

Denise stated that it has been a pleasure to watch the evolution of faculty governance in this Faculty, and acknowledged the hard work of faculty members in making this happen. Denise thanked Christine Valentine who has been instrumental in keeping us organized, as well as Rey Rosales who chaired many of the committees in their first iteration. We are now moving into a new phase with the evolution and development of Department Councils, and Denise has every confidence that we are going to do well as we progress.

5. Department updates

**Art and Design**
- Edmonton-based mixed media visual artist Sydney Lancaster gave an artist talk on November 23
- Bruce Montcombroux’s show *Site, Sight, Cite* is installed at the Dunlop Gallery in Regina until January 4
- Bruce Montcombroux’s work will be displayed by the Mile Zero Dance improv group on December 15
- Constanza Pacher presented at the Design Thinkers Conference in Toronto on Thinking Design
- Robert Andruchow presented and received positive feedback on the new Bachelor of Design proposal at an industry conference

**Communication**
- Hosted 10 events this fall, including CBC events, a research symposium, LitFest, and the Earth Common Journal launch event
- Collaborated with English students to launch the Bolo Tie Collective anthology, a total of 272 pages with a cover designed by a Design Studies student. Barry Boroditsky was instrumental in pulling this book together. A grant was received to fund the second volume.
- A group of 10 students and faculty are travelling to Athens to present at a conference

**Music**
- The Big Band concert is on Monday, December 5 and the Showcase Bands concert is on December 6
Mallory Chipman released a new album under MacEwan’s new music label, which is currently #6 on Jazz CD charts in Canada.

Ray Baril had a recent show with New Wind Sinfonia.

Theatre

Drowsy Chaperone runs from November 23 through December 3.

Jennifer Spencer is performing in Fen at the New Varscona Theatre, which runs from November 24 to December 3.

There was no update from the Department of Arts and Cultural Management.

6. AGC update – Rose Ginther

Rose Ginther gave a brief report on AGC.

Key updates

- Subsequent to the threat to the university, the President announced that the University is reviewing how it communicates in these emergency situations.
- International tuition will be increasing approximately 5-10%.

To read full reports, please visit the AGC website.

7. New business

7.1 Institutional Strategic Plan progress report – John Corlett

John Corlett shared a progress update on the Institutional Strategic Plan. We are currently at about the halfway point of the 2014-19 strategic plan’s mandate. The three major goals that this plan focuses on are: creating a unique academic environment, building strong community relationships, and committing to institutional excellence.

John announced that he is happy with the progress we have made as a university in terms of moving from a diploma to a baccalaureate culture. Some programs needed to be eliminated in this process as a response to budget reductions and provincial need.

This Faculty has done well with the development of the Bachelor of Design and the other proposals that have come forward. Our vision for this Faculty will allow us to claim rightly that there is a unique academic environment that exists at MacEwan that doesn’t exist in other places. Though there are some goals in the strategic plan that John felt we might have done better, in many ways our progress is subject to the Ministry and Quality Council approval. Also, the Ministry is not making replacements to the Board as quickly as we would like.

With respect to community outreach, this faculty has a long and proud history of engaging community stakeholders, but we are not especially good at raising money. John expressed concern that we are far behind where we should be in terms of providing financial support for our students, which is a major concern as this is an issue of accessibility. Overall, we need to find ways to reach out more constructively to the community than we have in the past because the Government is not funding education the way that it used to. This roles of the Dean and the Provost may change in the future as we focus on generating revenue. We need to use our own faculty and leverage our new facility.
to reach out further across Canada to convince students to come to MacEwan.

During the presentation, the following discussion arose:

- How can individual faculty members contribute?
  - One of our biggest limitations is that we haven’t cast our vision widely enough. We don’t spend our time in other provinces to find the talented people that we need. Faculty should be communicating the message about our unique artistic cultural environment with prospective students rather than recruiters.

- Are we on the right track with respect to entry into degrees via diplomas?
  - The Ministry has had a hard time getting their minds around this concept despite the fact that this is something we’ve done for a long time. While continuing to lobby the Ministry, we should continue with this practice.

- Are we limiting ourselves with respect to the traditional model of degrees?
  - It’s possible to explore other modalities, such as teaching one-week, intensive courses. We tend to operate on the basis that we are not allowed to do things differently.

7.2 Response to Truth and Reconciliation Commission – Valerie Henitiuk

Valerie Henitiuk, who is leading the response to the TRC initiative, spoke about how to deal with the collective institutional response to the TRC. She suggested that for transformation to be real, it must be based on the foundations of an open mind, open heart, open will or intent, and an open spirit. Valerie explained that she is currently establishing an Indigenous Advisory Council as outlined in the Strategic Indigenous Initiatives document, and she created a working group to advise her on this process. During the time she has spent working on this initiative, Valerie has discovered that there is a tremendous amount of good will from all over the institution and many people want to be involved. Faculty and staff have expressed interest in setting up a film festival and a faculty survey in order to teach Indigenous issues better in the classroom. There will be a hard launch of the Canadian Authors Indigenous reading circle in January, and they are also considering launching a Listening to Our Elders series, time permitting. This is a massive initiative and it will take the entire institution to address it.

During the presentation, the following questions arose:

- What are the roles of the working group?
  - The working group’s primary mandate is to establish the membership of the Advisory Council. They also advise Valerie on initial initiatives and discuss process and ideas.

- What is the projected date for the establishment of the Indigenous Advisory Council?
  - By spring 2017. The working group will need to determine the size of the Council.

- Is the framework for the membership laid out in the Strategic Indigenous Initiatives document?
The document states that the membership should be half external and half internal, but does not specify an exact number of members.

- Would it be possible to set up a reading group at CFAC?
  - Valerie doesn’t facilitate the reading groups, but offered to bring this idea forward to the right group.

- Is there any support or information that might inform the development of the BFA to align with the Council’s initiatives?
  - This is the kind of initiative that the Council would advise on and action. Valerie invited faculty to send an invitation to the Advisory Council once it’s formed.

- Faculty also pointed out that we need better Indigenous protocols at convocation, such as time for Indigenous ceremonies and proper respect for Elders. We may also include a Treaty 6 flag.

### 7.3 Institutional Learning Outcomes Working Group presentation –Rose Ginther and Dawn Sadoway

Dawn Sadoway noted that many of the draft learning objectives have to do with the development of certain attitudes and not the development of skills. There may need to be some more discussion on a balance of knowledge, skills, and attitudes in terms of how the objectives actually look. There will be a Town Hall on our campus on Tuesday, November 29 at 10 a.m. in room 296. Any suggestions can be e-mailed to Dawn.

### 7.4 Building update –Rey Rosales

Rey Rosales noted that CFAC will be closed to the public on June 30. Town Halls reached over 65% of the target groups of students, faculty, and staff. The open house also generated a lot of questions about the new building. Open tours of the east block of the new building are closed as of November 17, but Dianne Westwood encouraged any small groups that had a reason to see inside the new building to contact her.

### 7.5 Year of Celebration Committee update –Sherrell Steele

The Year of Celebration will profile our faculty, launching with the Mad Hatters next year and will close with the Mad Hatters event the following year. Some of the initial events within the Year of Celebration will be spearheaded on our campus and others by CCC. We will be throwing a party to say goodbye to our campus, hosting a ribbon cutting event, as giving lunch hour performances. These events have been allocated a budget of $158,000, which is good news for us in terms of our profiling and marketing goals. The Year of Celebration has an overall budget of $225,000. OCM will assist with the promotion elements. Every department will be involved in improving and capitalizing on our strengths as a Faculty.

### 7.6 Ratification of degree self-study teams –Rey Rosales

**MOTION** to ratify the following members of the degree self-study teams: Lucille Mazo, Peter Roccia, Brian Gorman, and Chaldeans Mensah on the Bachelor of Communication Studies degree self-study team, and Allan Gilliland, Bill Richards, Jim Head, Chandelle Rimmer, and Rose Ginther on the Bachelor of Music in Jazz and Contemporary Music degree self-study team.

**FFACFC-03-11-24-2016**

Moved by Tom Van Seters, seconded by Rose Ginther.

1 abstained.
7.7 Department of Communication Council Terms of Reference – Lucille Mazo

Lucille Mazo presented the Department of Communication Council Terms of Reference and explained that they were compiled from referencing three or four examples of Terms of Reference across the university that they felt worked best for their department. Faculty (full time and sessional) and staff members were consulted. The establishment of quorum at 50% of the full-time and probationary faculty seemed fair as sessional faculty members are not paid to attend meetings and reaching quorum with sessional faculty may present a significant challenge.

MOTION that the Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications Council approve the Terms of Reference for the Department of Communication Council.

FFACFC-04-11-24-2016
Moved by Lucille Mazo, seconded by Peter Roccia.

MOTION CARRIED

7.8 FFAC Marketing Task Force update – Melissa Cuerrier and Chandelle Rimmer

Task Force members are looking for a presence at the Edmonton Teachers Association Convention in March. This group meets again next week.

8. Committee reports

8.1 Curriculum Committee – Jim Head

The Committee recently approved admission criteria for Design Studies and Fine Art. There was an interesting discussion about what existing courses could be used as non-music electives in the development of the Bachelor of Music major in Recording and Production. Further discussion will happen at the next meeting when the Committee reviews the proposal.

There were no MCS approvals to note.

8.1.1 Design Studies criteria review – Robert Andruchow

The Design Studies program recommends removing skills appraisal from their diploma criteria to better align with degree requirements. This would only affect approximately 4% of students. These criteria would be a moot point in the case where the Bachelor of Design degree is approved and the degree admission criteria take effect.

MOTION to recommend to Committee on Admissions and Transfer (CAT) the approval of the changes to the Design Studies admission criteria, effective for the 2018-19 academic year.

FFACFC-05-11-24-2016
Moved by Robert Andruchow, seconded by Jim Head.

MOTION CARRIED

8.1.2 Fine Art criteria review – Leslie Sharpe

Fine Art faculty agreed that they did not wish to make changes to the existing admission criteria. A significant number of students are admitted to the program via the skills appraisal route, and the program
sees many students succeed despite not meeting the English requirement.

**MOTION** to recommend to Committee on Admissions and Transfer (CAT) that no changes be made to the Fine Art diploma admission criteria.

**FFACFC-06-11-24-2016**
Moved by Leslie Sharpe, seconded by Rey Rosales.

**MOTION CARRIED**

8.2 Faculty Development, and Sabbatical Committee update – *Iain Macpherson*

Iain Macpherson explained that the committee did not have enough funds to cover all applications, but that everyone who was accepted received full funding. A minimum amount of funding is still available. This doesn’t affect sabbatical funds since these are centrally held in the institution and this committee’s only role is to make recommendations at the faculty level.

8.3 Research Committee update – *Tom Van Seters*

The Committee continues to work on their Terms of Reference.

8.4 Visiting Scholar and Artist Committee update – *Annetta Latham*

This Committee was asked to provide support to the events related to the Year of Celebration, but collectively decided to stick with its current process. The Committee meets again in January.

9. Open discussion and future agenda items

Sandy Stift announced that the library has been struggling for the last year and a half to maintain their existing subscriptions to journals and databases because of the US conversion rate. They will be making approximately a quarter of a million dollars in cuts to current subscription services, but wish to consult with the faculties to inform any decisions they make. Immediate concerns can be sent to Sandy at stifts@macewan.ca

The following questions arose:

- Are the budget cuts split up by faculty?
  - The journals and databases are divided into broad subject clusters, but there is no specific dollar figure targeting this Faculty. The Library will be looking to cancel subscriptions to journals and databases that are high cost and low use, without targeting one specific discipline.

- When will this occur?
  - Final decisions will be made by the end of April for the 2017-18 academic budget year. All faculty will have at least four months’ notice in case their reading lists are affected.

- Will journals in the OJS be affected?
  - No; only content that we currently get from commercial publishers.

- Is there a way to know by discipline what journals/databases are low use and high cost?
  - This information is available at the title level, not broken down by discipline.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.