Faculty Council Meeting Minutes

FACULTY OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
FACULTY COUNCIL
February 25, 2015
440, CFAC
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Chair: Denise Roy

Attendees: Robert Andrucho, Michael MacDonald, Rey Rosales
Craig Brenan, Darci Mallon, Kent Sangster
Carole Charette, Lucille Mazo, Leslie Sharpe
Rose Clancy, Brittany Pitruniak, Tom Van Seters
Allan Gilliland, Sony Raj, Annette Wierstra
Rose Ginther, Bill Richards, Wayne Williams
Michelle Lavoie, Chris Ryan

Ex-officio members: Debbie McGugan, Mike Sekulic, Dianne Westwood

Guests: Ken Ristau, Kim Warkentine

Regrets: Ray Baril, Paul Johnston, Constanza Pacher
Melissa Guerrier, Iain Macpherson, Doreen Piehl
Brian Gorman, Nichole Magneson, Chandelle Rimmer
Jim Guedo, John Mahon, Peter Roccia
Marcel Hamel, Kathy Neiman, Leslie Vermeer
Jim Head, Dianne Nicholls

Minutes: Elizabeth Hay

1. Approval of the agenda
   MOTION to approve the February 25, 2015 Faculty Council agenda.
   FFCFC-01-02-25-2015
   Moved by Darci Mallon, seconded by Lucille Mazo.
   MOTION CARRIED

2. Approval of January 29, 2015 Faculty Council minutes
   MOTION to approve the January 29, 2015 Faculty Council minutes.
   FFCFC-02-02-25-2015
   Moved by Carole Charette, seconded by Tom Van Seters.
   MOTION CARRIED

3. Review of February 19, 2015 Executive Committee draft minutes
   There was no discussion.

4. Chair’s update
   Dr. Sony Raj, the new faculty member in BCS, was welcomed to the Faculty Council.

   Congratulations went to Leslie Sharpe and Rose Ginther who were both successful in their Rank and Title applications. Congratulations were also offered to Kent Sangster and Chandelle Rimmer for
successfully completing their probationary period.

There are four faculty hires that have begun and it is hoped that they will move ahead without budget implications. Candidates should be shortlisted soon and interviewed in the next month.

There is no information regarding provincial budget implications; the Dean is waiting to hear about provincial outcomes and next steps. To be proactive, program chairs are being met with and are being asked to identify areas of savings. Program closures shouldn’t be an issue within our faculty, and there should be further directives from senior university management by the end of March.

There are two items of business from Faculty Council that are on the March 17 agenda at the Academic Governance Council: the exemption regarding residency for the BCS degree and the proposal for the new department structure within FFAC. The process of approval for the department structure is complicated because the structure needs to be approved by the Board of Governors and in place by the 1st of July, but the transition and planning in anticipation of that approval needs to be started now. The Dean has begun the process of meeting with new departments and starting the first steps of chair searches.

5. Program updates

Arts and Cultural Management
- Richard Evans will be the Visiting Scholar on March 12 from 7 PM to 9 PM at the Kule Lecture Theatre (9-323) at City Centre Campus

Communication Studies
- Brittany Pitruniak completed the CEO for a day program and we are proud that two out of the five students awarded were from BCS
- Welcome to Sony Raj
- New scholarship is in development for Journalism; details to be provided at a later date
- Dr. Brian Gorman will be publishing a book by Queens/McGill in the spring and is working on two other books
- Thank you to Rey Rosales for helping to obtain funding for journalism students in the amount of $13,000 so they can go to Los Angeles (last year they went to Chicago, again thank you to Rey Rosales for securing that funding)

Design Studies
- Curtis Trent, sessional faculty in Design Studies, exhibited his personal work at Harcourt House
- Book of the Year posters created by Design Studies students will be showcased at City Centre Campus starting Monday next week
- Tuesday, March 3rd will be the first French conversation group held on CFAC campus, organized by CAFÉ. All are welcome to attend

Fine Art
- Student outdoor installations at Flying Canoe were a great success and there is a story on MacEwan.ca
- Second year students went to New York City over Reading Week; students planned their own itinerary and Leslie Sharpe planned two specific outings, and a gallery tour of Mary Maddingly’s artist studio
- Two of the Fine Art program’s alumni will have work in a show that is opening this Friday
- Visiting Artist Evan Lee will be presenting over lunch time on March 12; Evan is a photographer and painter based in Vancouver
- Gary James will be presenting later in the semester as a Visiting Artist, date to be confirmed. His work joins sound/video printed images: music students may be very interested in his work

Music
- Two students accepted to present at conferences in Europe
- Christine Jensen will be joining the Music program as a visiting artist later in the year
- March 9 Concert at the Yardbird suite – featuring the MacEwan Big Band & the Yardbird Little Band

6. AGC update
   6.1 AGC report
   There was no February AGC report.

7. New business
   7.1 New CFAC building discussion
   The President had a town hall discussion at CFAC a couple of weeks ago, and informed the group that several decisions had been made because the building was over budget. Specifically, the look of the exterior was changed, a pedway was removed, some other structural components were altered and several program-related spaces and items were deferred until a later date. As well, a decision was made that the office spaces would be entirely open concept. The President indicated that FFAC would be consulted regarding the final design of the open office space area.

   Since that meeting, the Dean has brought forward the serious concerns about an open office space plan (specifically being privacy, noise, storage space), and how these decisions were made with little consideration for the specific work that the FFAC faculty do on a daily basis. She has had a couple of meetings with the architects, and is hoping to share a draft plan with the coordinating group (i.e. FFAC Chairs) soon, and she is also hoping that there will be an opportunity to have broader presentations for all faculty, staff and students to know of the changes.

   Faculty members also spoke about the fact that the Faculty Association will be bringing the concerns of FFAC faculty members forward.

   **MOTION** that the FFAC Council expresses dissatisfaction with the process and the decisions regarding the recent changes in the new CFAC building and to ask for a consultative process going forward.
MOTION CARRIED

MOTION to ask for a response to concerns regarding the new CFAC building.

FFACFC-04-02-25-2015
Moved by Allan Gilliland, seconded by Wayne Williams.

A discussion ensued regarding the specific ways in which the Faculty Council could provide further evidence of the impact of these new building decisions and bring this information to the attention of the University’s Executives.

MOTION CARRIED

Program Chairs are asked to submit impact statements about these changes and any research on open offices to Leslie Sharpe by Monday, March 2. Leslie Sharpe will compile the response on behalf of the Faculty Council.

7.2 Academic Technology Initiative update –Craig Brenan

The Academic Technology Committee, an initiative of the Faculty Association, was started as a way to bridge faculty needs with the IT department. Updates will be sent out after committee meetings, and any issues regarding technology can be sent to Craig Brenan for bringing through to the Committee as needed.

IT initiatives

- Wifi networks on both campuses will double (stronger network to connect more devices, not more points of contact)
- 10 gbps network, access to Canarie research network
- Tech emergency in classroom: call instead of email
- Working on the ability to change passwords for PCs off-campus
- Changing the annual report process on Peoplesoft
- University has a signed an agreement with Microsoft, every person on campus will get 5 desktop licenses and 5 mobile licenses
- Deciding how to move forward, either to use Google or Microsoft platforms: Google has more student-related functioning, whereas Microsoft has more administrative-based functionality
- Working to integrate Blackboard app with the current MacEwan app (they are not currently compatible)
- Moving towards virtual desktop for students
- Developing a class cancellation app

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Curriculum Committee –Rey Rosales

- The Committee approved Program of Study changes for four programs that are now coming forward for the approval of
Faculty Council

- Met twice regarding items on the agenda
- All content brought forward garnered full support from the committee

8.1.1. Music 2016-17 Program of Study changes –Allan Gilliland

MOTION to recommend that the 2016-17 Bachelor of Music and Music Diploma Programs of Study be approved by AGC.

FFACFC-05-02-25-2015
Moved by Carole Charette, seconded by Brittany Pitruniak.

Allan Gilliland summarized the changes to the Music Diploma Program:
- Combine the intake for the two programs so no longer duplicating work and auditions
- Align tuition so both diploma and degree students have similar costs for similar courses
- Provide more options for students if they would like to continue on to a degree

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION to recommend that suspension of the intake for the Music Diploma Program effective for the 2016-17 academic year, be approved by AGC.

FFACFC-06-02-25-2015
Moved by Rose Ginther, seconded by Bill Richards.

Allan Gilliland summarized the changes to the Music Diploma program:
- Suspending intake into the Diploma program, but not suspending the credential

MOTION CARRIED

8.1.2 BCS 2016-17 Program of Study changes –Lucille Mazo

MOTION to recommend that the 2016-17 BCS Programs of Study be approved by AGC.

FFACFC-07-02-25-2015
Moved by Bill Richards, seconded by Rose Ginther.

Lucille Mazo summarized the changes to the BCS program:
- Professional Communications: added two new courses, Organizational Communication and Foundations in Sustainability Communication
- Journalism: addition of four courses Foundations in Journalism, Online News Production, Advanced News Reporting, and Journalism in the Digital Age; deletion of two courses from core; renaming of two courses; and moving two courses from core to options.
- Elective credits have dropped by 3 in Journalism and 6 in Professional Communication.

MOTION CARRIED
8.1.3 Fine Art 2016-17 Program of Study changes – Leslie Sharpe

**MOTION** to recommend that the 2016-17 Fine Art Program of Study be approved by AGC.

**FFACFC-08-02-25-2015**
Moved by Allan Gilliland, seconded by Michelle Lavoie.

*Leslie Sharpe summarized the rationale for the changes to the Fine Art program:*

- Lay framework for eventual degree, seamless transition from one to another
- Changing courses from four, five or eight credits to three credits, to ultimately ensure easier transferability to other institutions
- Redesign courses to align with current art pedagogy and to work into future degree that will also allow to transfer more easily for students that are looking at course by course transfers

**MOTION CARRIED**

8.1.4 Theatre Arts 2016-17 Program of Study changes – Rey Rosales

**MOTION** to recommend that the 2016-17 Theatre Arts Program of Study be approved by AGC.

**FFACFC-09-02-25-2015**
Moved by Lucille Mazo, seconded by Carole Charette.

*Rey Rosales summarized the rationale for the changes to the Theatre Arts program:*

- Standardize total number of credits for diploma credential
- Create easier transition to a degree in the future

**MOTION CARRIED**

8.1.5 Music admission criteria – Allan Gilliland

**MOTION** to recommend that the Bachelor of Music admission criteria be approved by CAT.

**FFACFC-10-02-25-2015**
Moved by Allan Gilliland, seconded by Brittany Pitruniak.

*Allan Gilliland summarized the recommended changes:*

- Updated English language requirement
- Clarified one intake to program

**MOTION CARRIED**

8.1.6 Theatre Arts admission criteria – Rey Rosales

**MOTION** to recommend that the Theatre Arts admission criteria be approved by CAT.

**FFACFC-11-02-25-2015**
Moved by Lucille Mazo, seconded by Rose Clancy.

*Rey Rosales summarized the recommended changes:*

- Remove all of the groupings
- Remove D-level courses
- Add minimum grade of 4 on the essay portion of Skills
MOTION CARRIED

8.1.7 Theatre Production admission criteria – Rey Rosales

MOTION to recommend that the Theatre Production admission criteria be approved by AGC.

FFACFC-12-02-25-2015
Moved by Wayne Williams, seconded by Rose Clancy.

As a requirement, all admission criteria has to be reviewed and approved even if there are no changes.

MOTION CARRIED

8.2 Faculty Development, Research, and Sabbatical Committee – Rey Rosales

The Faculty Development Committee meets next week to review undergraduate research applications and faculty travel applications.

8.3 Visiting Scholar and Artist Committee – ReyRosales

Application deadline for the Visiting Scholar and Artist fund is March 2.

9. Open discussion and future agenda items

There was no discussion.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.