Faculty Council Meeting Minutes

CENTRE FOR THE ARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
FACULTY COUNCIL
September 26, 2012
Room 333
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Chair: Denise Roy
Attendees: Kathleen Byrne (observer) James Parker Tom Van Seters
Allan Gilliland Doreen Piehl Leslie Sharpe
James Head Bill Richards Dianne Westwood
Rita Long Chandelle Rimmer Robert Zylstra
Iain MacPherson Peter Roccia Karen Zypchyn
Darci Mallon Rey Rosales
John Montague (observer) Denise Roy Kim Sangster
Kathy Neiman Mike Sekulic (ex-officio)

Minutes: Christine Valentine

1. Approval of agenda
No amendments or new items were added to the Agenda.

2. Approval of Minutes from April 7, 2012 Faculty Council Meeting
   MOTION that April 7, 2012 minutes be approved.
   FFCACFC-01-09-26-2012
   Moved by Rita Long, seconded by Rey Rosales.
   MOTION CARRIED

3. Dean's Update
   - Denise welcomed Christine Valentine, the new Administrative Assistant in the Dean's Office. Chandelle Rimmer and Kent Sangster were congratulated on being hired into full time continuing positions in the Music program.
   - Update on curriculum developments: the proposal to revise the Design Studies program to make it a 3-year diploma will receive conditional approval from Alberta Enterprise and Advanced Education, contingent upon a degree proposal being submitted within 6 years.
   - New building update: The new CFAC building has transitioned from the schematic design stage into the process of value engineering to find ways to reduce the cost of the construction of the facility while preserving the essence of the functional program. This costing process should conclude in the next few weeks. The next phase is design development and ideally, construction will commence next spring.
   - Naming of the new building project: the CFAC Faculty Council Executive Committee met with the President and asked that the project name include the word 'Communications'. The name was changed briefly to include Communications; however, in the next newsletter the project was re-named to 'Centre for the Arts and Culture'. This is an interim name for the project and it is not meant to be the name of the building in the long term. There is a naming
opportunity for a suitable donor.

- Dean’s Fall Welcome is October 2, 2012. Visiting Scholar Dr. Fred Fletcher will speak on the topic, “Theory and Practice: A False Dichotomy.”

- Update on search for new VP, Academic and Provost: three candidates have been invited back for a second interview. The successful individual will most likely start in January, but that might change depending on their availability.

- Individuals are still being nominated to represent CFAC on various committees. Iain MacPherson volunteered to join the Academic Title Committee and Karen Zypchyn has agreed to represent CFAC on the MacEwan Curriculum Committee. Lucille Mazo will serve on a new institution-wide HR Advisory Committee.

- Meeting minutes: to ensure that meeting minutes are transparent and accessible, they will most likely be posted on the Academic Governance Council website in the future.

4. Election of Executive

Denise will chair the Faculty Council Executive Committee, and Leslie Sharpe will be the Vice Chair. The committee will include the 2 new members that are voted in today.

Candidates Karen Zypchyn, Rose Ginther, Peter Roccia, Bill Richards, and Iain MacPherson briefly spoke about their interest in serving on the Committee.

Results: Rose Ginther was elected, but there was a tie between two of the other candidates. Since the composition of the Executive is not specified by the bylaws, a vote was taken on whether to vote again or to allow one additional member join the Committee. There was a majority vote to allow one additional member, and both Peter Roccia and Bill Richards were welcomed to the Committee.

The Executive Committee will set up an official meeting schedule shortly. The meetings will likely precede Faculty Council meetings by about 2 weeks. Christine Clarke will be in touch with Faculty members regarding the schedule.

5. Report from the Academic Governance Council (AGC)

- AGC is undergoing a review as per the bylaws. A committee will be struck with representatives from around the university according to the terms of reference.

- An ad hoc committee on teaching excellence and innovation will also be struck as a subcommittee of the Faculty Standards Committee.

- MacEwan has just undergone an extensive self-study as required by the Quality Council. Site visit is coming up in October.

- Academic medals (both Dean’s and President’s Medal) will be awarded at spring and fall convocations according to merit.

6. New Business

6.1 Faculty Naming Process {Appendix II}

Rey Rosales has collected a total of ten name suggestions. Half suggested ‘School’ and the other half suggested ‘Faculty’.
Open discussion followed.

Feedback:

- There were mixed opinions about the term ‘Faculty’ vs. ‘School’; some thought that ‘School’ sounded more inclusive, and others felt that the word ‘Faculty’ seemed to carry a weight which would allow for a wider range of programming and the possibility of various schools as part of the faculty.
- An observation was made that if an institution is called a School, the curriculum is more applied. In contrast, ‘Faculty’ sounds more theoretical.
- The majority of members agreed that the word ‘Communications’ needs to be retained in the name.
- Concerns were raised regarding the confusion of using ‘and the Arts’ because ‘Arts’ is not distinguished from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Alternative suggestions: ‘Fine and Performing Arts’, and add ‘Communications’.
- There were mixed opinions on whether the term ‘fine art’ was broad enough to include the performing arts.
- Need to be conscious of acronyms; it was pointed out that names such as ‘School of Arts, Culture and Communications’ (See Appendix I, #7) can be shortened to SACC, which does not sound professional.
- The word ‘Media’ should not be highlighted as a separate word since media is already highly integrated into most courses. Fine and Performing Arts seems more acceptable.

Denise asked that any additional feedback be sent to Rey Rosales after the meeting. The Executive will create a short list to be brought back to Faculty Council.

6.2 Representation from Part Time Faculty

The Faculty Council is not a fully constituted council at this time because there is no part time faculty or student representation as is required by the bylaws. The Students Association (SA) has asked for the Council’s assistance in recruiting 2-4 student members.

Members were asked to put forward names of exceptional students to Denise, who will contact the SA.

Any member of Faculty Council can nominate Sessional Faculty to be part of Council. Send nominations to Denise. The Executive will look at nominations and develop a slate to bring back to Faculty Council.

6.3 Academic Title Timelines & Processes

CFAC has approved standards for appointing assistant professors. The next part of the process is to create standards for the associate and full-time professor levels, as well as for the bi-partite stream.

Issues:

- To what extent will we be able to create one set of standards for each rank of professor?
- Can we find a common language to describe each
Denise recommended that one possible solution is to use a hybrid model, in which there will be generic CFAC standards with some discipline specific sections added.

At this point, the only deadline to submit standards is October 16, 2012, which is a problem because the foundational documents have not been circulated yet. Concerns were expressed about the lack of a winter deadline. Denise will take this concern forward to the EVPA.

General discussion about titling processes ensued.

The CFAC Titling Committee will be re-activated, and they will discuss what approach to take.

6.4 Committee Terms of Reference

Open forum discussion of the following Terms of Reference:

- 6.4.1 Curriculum Committee (Appendix IV)
- 6.4.2 Faculty Development Committee (Appendix V)
- Visiting Scholar/Artist Residency Committee (Appendix VI)
- 6.4.4 Standard Approval Committee & Faculty Standards Committee (Appendix VII)

Discussion:

- The upcoming performance review process may make grants and awards more important than they are at the present time. This could necessitate more rigorous terms of reference for committees.
- It was generally agreed on that the process of populating committees needs to be made more transparent.
- A question was asked whether or not an individual from another faculty could join the Council or a committee. Denise responded that there is no rule currently preventing this. Staff members may also be included in future meetings.

Visiting Scholar/Artist Residency Committee needs review. This is an ongoing fund that was designed to do more extensive residencies, however, this has been difficult to execute since many scholars and artists are not able to commit to a full term. The Design Studies program will host the next visiting artist who will not remain for an entire term, so the Terms of Reference are seen as guidelines at this point, rather than set rules.

Denise will draft a template for the Terms of Reference. Each committee will present updated Terms of Reference for approval at a future council meeting.

6.5 Academic Plan Discussion (Appendix VIII)

Questions posed by the Chair:

- Does everyone agree with the general direction of this document?
- Is this document consistent with where the institution should be going?

Open forum discussion followed.

Feedback on the original document:

- It is a discussion of the future; how will this be implemented and how much say will the councils and other governance
bodies have on this document?

- The course list on the last page of Appendix VIII (page 15) has not been drafted transparently.
- Concern was raised whether this document would be changed again once the new Provost is hired.
- An issue was raised regarding interdisciplinary degrees, e.g. music journalism. It was also agreed on that minors in other diploma/degree programs needs more visibility in this document.
- Order of programs: may be interpreted as the order of importance.
- There was concern that there is 'gluttony' of new proposals. We need to secure funding for current programs before we try to find funding for proposed programs.

Denise asked that further suggestions be sent to her before the end of October.

7. Open Discussion/Items for Future Agendas:

- Next time, it would be helpful if the agenda were to break down discussion, information and decision items.
- We hope to have representation from students and part time faculty at our next Council meeting.
- There was a request to discuss performance reviews at a future meeting.

8. Adjournment