Arts and Science Faculty Council

Minutes of Council

Meeting #: 33
Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2018
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Location: Room 5-142 (CN Theatre)
Initial Motion #: 336

Present:
Schalomon, M (Chair)
Snefjella, B (Secretary)
Alam, R
Amundson, L
Andersen, H
Angus, F
Anton, C
Bailey, C
Barran, S
Beauclair, A
Beltaos-Kerr, E
Bereska, T
Bernstein, N
Bica, I
Bittner, K
Blatz, C
Boag, F
Boers, N
Bott, T
Boucher, JC
Boyd, B
Bratt, S
Byrne, C
Carroll, M
Cobzas, D
Copland, S
Corrigall, K
Coulson, J
Cowling, E
Das, M
Davis, J
Digdon, N
Digweed, S
Einarsson, R
El-Hajj, M
Epp, M
Farvolden, P
Ferede, E
Franczak, B
Friesen, K
Gelmini, L
Giacomini, M
Gonzalez-Lucena, F
Grant, D
Gulayets, M
Haines, J
Hannan, S
Harcombe, K
Hayduk, L
Hayman, S
Herbert, C
Hills, M
Hilts, R
Howell, A
Indratmo
Irwin, B
Islam, S
Ivanescu, C
Jarick, M
Judge, K
Jyoti, R
Kim-Bernard, K
Lee, R
Legge, E
Llano, G
Long, J
Lorimer, S
Lorkovic, E
Macdonell, C
Malloy, N
Mark, M
Martin, D
McKenzie, H
McKeown, N
McMann, D
Mensah, C
Moscicki, M
Mills, S
Mugo, S
Nelund, A
O’Connor, J
O’Reilly, J
Overend, A
Patterson, A
Peace, K
Penney, A
Perschon, M
Pollock, C
Powell, R
Prichard, L
Prince, P
Ramsey, C
Robinson, J
Ross, M
Ruiz Serrano, C
Shaw, R
Shulist, S
Sibley, L
Sinclair, K
Skeffington, J
Skelhorne, A
Smereka, T
Soroski, J
Stepnisky, J
Summers, K
Swanston, T
Thompson, W
Thurairajah, K
Toth, J
Valdez Cardenas, L
Watson, D
Witherell, R
Youzwyshyn, G
Zadorozhna, N

Other - Voting
Beke, N
Cartledge, S
Duffy, J
Honey, L
Minaker, J
Mustafa, S
Norman, J
Reekie, S
Park, O
Sidhu, R
Stieglitz, T
Strayer, K
Wells, L
Wiznura, R

Ex-Officios and Delegates
McKenzie, D (for McRae, H)
McLaughlin, D
Zutter, C

Public Member
Charles, S (DO)
Bruins-Smith, T (DO)
Fedoruk, J (MATH)
Move into Session: The meeting was called to order by Melike Schalomon at 1:35 pm

Item I Adoption of Agenda

Motion #336 Move that the Agenda be approved. Motion: carried

Cartledge/Bica

Item II Approval of Minutes of Faculty Council #32, October 23, 2018

Motion #337 Move to approve the Minutes of Faculty Council #32. Motion: carried by consensus

Item III Items Arising from the Minutes

- None

Item IV Dean’s Report

- Moment for John Zorbas who taught in Mathematics and who has passed away.
- Moving ahead with 11 hires this academic year. New language on diversity and equity has been included in job ads. Members of Searches are encouraged to take unconscious bias training.
- Shortage of space across campus is acute. May lead to shuffling of office assignments for both full-time and sessionals, though Dean’s Office is trying to avoid full-time faculty sharing space. Stressing the urgent need for more lab space with space consultants.
- Chair searches will take place in three departments this year, Mathematics and Statistics, English, and Anthropology, Economics, and Political Science. Hope for vigorous participation of all in those department.
- An item on changes in the Post-Secondary Learning Act is included in Council package for information. MacEwan will move to Part I of The Act as Undergraduate University. These changes will impact Governance, and as of February 1, 2019, AGC will change to a General Faculties Council though changes will be implemented for fall 2019. Until fall term to implement changes.
Chair the last Faculty Council was challenging. We ended up having an excessively long Faculty Council and missed some items while editing wording of a curricular item on the floor. Had to change the wording the wording a document on the floor. We will send out a one-pager on Roberts’ Rules before next Council meeting.

In addition, Executive Committee to Faculty Council is looking at timing of how curriculum moves through department councils through year to see if there’s a way to mitigate curriculum bulking up at a couple of meetings.

Thank you to Lee-Ann Jeffrey for organizing food for the Council today. Had hoped to have an end-of-term celebration but did not want to interfere with Faculty Association meeting planned after Council.

**Item V**

**Guest Presentation - Dr. Lynn Wells, Associate Vice President, Students**

- AVP Students plays a key role related to student experience and student issues at a strategic and policy level. The Office of Teaching and Learning will be added under portfolio as of January 1, 2019. Athletics, Student Wellness and Psychological, Services for Students with Disabilities, Exam Centre, and Academic Integrity Office are also under AVP Students. At Faculty level, work closely with Deans and Associate Deans, deal with students including non-academic conduct and students of concern. Will also be working on a cross-institutional basis to bring forward programs that enhance classroom experience.

- Question: what is the AVP Student relationship to the Student Ombuds?
  - Answer: work in frequent contact and Ombuds is often a first call or point of referral for students with challenges. The Ombuds is an arms’ length resource for students.

- Question: What happens in instances where faculty have been threatened by students?
  - Answer: Currently, through Provost’s Group, I am working on a document about how to deal with those challenging situations. It’s important to secure your own safety, and for us to find additional supports for students. Document will be vetted by the Faculty Association. If you feel unsafe or students in class are threatened, don’t hesitate to call Security. Each situation is different. OHS Act requires the institution to have a plan, and other related work include revision of the Harassment Policy.

- Question: What about instances where teacher and student goals are in opposition to each other – such as on Fall Reading Break?
  - Answer: Start with a conversation. It’s important to listen to students and SAMU and listen to faculty on concerns like academic freedom.

**Item VI**

**Action Items**
a) Department of Computer Science Terms of Reference

Motion # 338: That the Faculty of Arts and Science Council approve the revised terms of reference for the Department Council of the Department of Computer Science

Macdonell/Coulson

Motion: carried

Item VII Items for Discussion

a) Score Voting

• Discussion of proposal to adopt score voting as implemented on a test basis in Faculty Council elections in winter 2018.
• General agreement on proposal however concerns raised over mechanism to determine winner in instances of tied votes (has occurred twice in past elections).

Motion # 339: That, henceforth, faculty of Arts and Science Council will use a score voting system for Faculty elections.

Bica/Powell

Motion: carried, 4 opposed

Motion # 340: That in the event of a tie, a run-off vote would be held, and that in the event of a subsequent tie in the run off, a coin toss would determine the winner.

Toth/Kim-Bernard

Motion: defeated

*Direction that Executive Committee to examine issue and return to Council with options for determining the outcome in the event of a tie.

b) Draft Faculty Council Bylaws

• Please provide any additional feedback you may have and these will be considered along with other changes identified to-date
• Some key questions about alignment between ex-officio members who don’t vote and seconded administrators who do vote
• Review 4.2.3.1 and 4.1.4 for alignment and removal of duplication
• Remove redundant “on the basis of their position” from ex-officio language
• Some concern raised with recommended creation of Minutes Committee. Don’t want additional work for both committee members and faculty – could just send out minutes early and get feedback without voting on them until the next Council meeting.

Item VIII Items for Information

a) BA Review Committee Update (Jeff Stepnisky)
The BA Review Committee has largely completed data collection phase, and the report is currently being drafted. Tremendous amount of effort put into the project by the Committee and those who have provided information. Report and related Action Plan will come to Faculty Council, as part of process.

b) Teaching, Research, and Faculty Development Committee Update (Joanne Minaker and Erin Cowling)
   • Committee working on an event called Creating Connections to celebrate teaching and research and their integration. In January there will be a call will be looking for panelists and workshop leaders.

c) Reports from other Faculty/School Councils
   • Tina Bott – Faculty of Fine Arts and Communication – Currently a huge amount of work on curriculum Design Major and Bachelor of Music.
   • Amanda Nelund – Health and Community Studies – Different than Arts and Science, still in development and has 40 faculty members. Hiring 10 new this year. They use a consent agenda to deal with curricular changes. They discussed legislative changes potential impact on practicum students. Suggest checking if any legislative impacts on COSL and WINL students.
   • Brian Franczak – Faculty of Nursing – Different style of Council, with spirit sessions at the start of each meeting.
   • Bronwyn Snefjella (temp) – School of Business – Council meetings include significant acknowledgement and recognition, and reports from Department Chairs.

d) Academic Governance Council
   • None. Information of note in Dean’s Report

e) Minutes of Executive Committee November 2018
   • Document provided

Item IX  Other Business
   • None raised

Item X  Adjournment

Motion #341  Move that the Faculty Council adjourn.
Macdonell/Skeffington Motion: carried

Item XI  Question Period – Not minuted

Future meeting dates: February 5, 2019