

Faculty Council Agenda
January 17, 2020 12pm – 2pm
Margaret Eaton Boardroom, BN 302

Present: Beth Ali, Catherine Amara, Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos, Barb Brophy, Joyce Chen, Robin Campbell, Mark Corsetti, Tracia Finlay-Watson, David Frost, Jenna Gillen, Jack Goodman, Sharon Grandison, Paul Handley, Lensa Hassan, Ira Jacobs, Janelle Joseph, Brenaven Kugamoorthy, Marius Locke, Margaret MacNeill (Chair), Lynda Mainwaring, Daniel Moore, Catherine Sabiston, Boba Samuels, Daniel Santa Mina, Ashley Stirling, Merrily Stratten, Tim Taha, Scott Thomas, Tiffany Tiu, Luc Tremblay, Linda Trinh, Jim Webster

Secretariat: Wendy Pais

Regrets: Michael Atkinson, Simon Darnell, Peter Donnelly, Emily Hickey, Braeden McKenzie, Timothy Welsh

1. **Call to Order and Introductions:** The meeting was officially called to order at 12:05 p.m.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Dean Jacobs requested that agenda items with associated motions be moved to the beginning of the meeting after the Executive Committee report. The circulated agenda was approved with the change in order of agenda items.

(**Motion:** Jacobs/Locke; Carried)

3. **Approval of Minutes:** The amended minutes of December 06, 2019 were approved. Professor Amara indicated one minor correction under the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Report. The minutes under Section 4.c. should be noted as follows: "... the feedback led to a broadened definition of physical literacy which consequently resulted in an expanded list of potentially eligible courses. To refocus the proposal on the original intent to highlight the unique characteristics of the certificate courses, the name of the certificate has changed from '*Certificate in Physical Literacy Pedagogy or Instruction*' to the '*Certificate in Physical Activity Instruction*'."

(**Motion:** Stirling/Locke; Carried)

4. **Committee Reports**

- a. **Executive Committee**

Dean Jacobs informed Council that the Executive Committee endorsed the agenda as presented and as being appropriate to come forward to Faculty Council.

- b. **Undergraduate Examinations**

Professor Mainwaring informed Council that the Examination Committee met to review and approve the final marks from the Fall 2019 term. The final marks were then reported to the Dean and are now being presented at Faculty Council before they are released to students. The mark review process was a rigorous one, whereby marks were reviewed alongside historical grades, across a particular year as well as in relation to the Faculty's grading guidelines. The Chair of the Examinations Committee followed up with six instructors in cases where grades fell outside of the parameters of the grading guidelines. Professor Mainwaring thanked Benjamin Divito for providing student representation at the marks review meeting.

Dean Jacobs thanked the Examinations Committee for their work with the marks review and processing. He indicated that he met with Vice-Dean Academic, Professor Ashley Stirling to discuss the final grades before recommending to the Examinations Committee that the marks could be released to the students. Dean Jacobs read a message he sent to Professor Mainwaring and the Examinations Committee regarding the final grades, which stated:

“I am forwarding this message after discussions with Vice-Dean Academic Professor Ashley Stirling. We have reviewed the marks for the BKin courses in the 2019 Fall Term and approve them for release as presented by the Examinations Committee. We understand that the overall decline in first year marks was noted and discussed at the recent examinations committee meeting. I also note that decline and ask that the Examinations Committee continue to delve into the distribution of grades and the assessment modes used in first year courses. The maintenance of strong academic rigour while also supporting the emotional health of our students should be a key component of those continuing discussions about grade distributions. This is something that merits consideration for all of our courses and students, but I am requesting deliberate attention to the first year student experience in the short term consultations of the Examinations Committee.”

Dean Jacobs informed Council that he has asked the Vice-Dean for assistance with drafting a proposed outline for the discussion by the Examinations Committee.

Brenanven Kugamoorthy indicated that a number of students have been inquiring as to why marks cannot be released earlier. Professor Mainwaring explained the grade review process in detail outlining the steps needed to review and process final grades. In addition, she explained that marks are submitted in early January, and given the requisite time for processing and approvals they cannot be released earlier.

Professor Stirling noted that the strength of this grade review process is that as opposed to looking at grade approvals on a course to course basis, they can be looked at in relation to overall trends and the students holistic experience across a cohort. The comment around the timing of the grade release has been noted and will be considered. Professor Mainwaring indicated that the Committee will reevaluate the process of grade review in light of the student comments on receiving grades earlier.

Professor Goodman acknowledged the concerns presented and indicated that attention needs to be paid to historical practice of the Examinations Committee whereby grades are rarely changed or altered and how this practice informs the grades review process and timing.

Professor Locke echoed that earlier release of grades should be considered in light of the timing of the add/drop deadline, and course prerequisites for the second term. Students may not know whether they have passed a course prerequisite and will have to drop out of a second term course that they have been attending if they receive a failing grade in a first term course.

Merrily Stratten asked if consideration can be given to arranging the examination schedule so that larger exams or ones with essay questions are earlier in the exam period to allow for more time for grading.

Professor Arbour-Nicitopolous commented that it is important to reiterate this process to the students, so that they know that substantial time is dedicated to the grade review process.

c. Undergraduate Curriculum

Professor Amara reported that the title of the talk for the keynote at the Bertha Rosenstadt Undergraduate Research Conference, presented by Professor Brenda Wastasecoot from the Centre for Indigenous Studies, will be, “*To do know harm - working with indigenous communities as helpers and allies toward a new healthful and helpful relationship*”. This talk will further our understanding about how students and researchers can prepare themselves to be helpers and allies to indigenous communities as health practitioners. In addition to understanding that, they are entering an already established landscape of indigenous health and healing practices. Health practitioners also need to know the history of settler indigenous relations and how they have eroded understandings of indigenous ways of health and healing. Professor Wastasecoot will provide stories and examples of indigenous ways of health and healing as a Cree woman with lived experience, and how we might reconnect lines of communication and understanding.

The other item for presentation is the *Certificate in Physical Activity Instruction*. There have been a few small changes to the document since it was last presented at Faculty Council. These changes were for clarification around the certificate eligibility requirements. As a reminder, this certificate was meant to highlight what is a long standing strength of this Faculty, physical activity instruction and unique courses where there is strong practical and theory integration across the courses. This will enable students to share that focus of our broadened understanding of physical education instruction that will go beyond formal classroom settings and includes health and rehabilitation and social community links, as well as instruction of physical activity.

In response to Dean Jacobs’ comment around the classification of this certificate as a Category 2 certificate, Professor Amara explained that this means a certificate has to be held in conjunction with an undergraduate degree.

Professor Amara put forth the following motion:

Motion: To approve the proposal for the *Certificate in Physical Activity Instruction* to be offered in conjunction with the BKin degree, effective 8 September, 2020. (**Motion:** Amara/Mainwaring; Carried).

d. Undergraduate Admissions

Professor Tim Taha reported that admissions applications have increased by 6% across the University of Toronto as well within our Faculty. This includes international students as well as Ontario high school applicants. The first round admission meeting will be held in February. This year the University has changed the admission process, downloading some of the responsibility on each individual division. This means more flexibility for the division but some more work to process applications.

e. Graduate Committee

On behalf of Professor Michael Atkinson, Vice-Dean Stirling reported that admission applications are open for all EXS graduate programs. The PhD applications closed on January 15th and we have 33 applications this year, which is a slight increase from previous years. A quick look suggests that we have a stronger applicant pool than previous years so we are moving in a positive direction. The admission deadlines for the MSc program is February 3rd and the MPK is March 15th.

f. Research Committee

Associate Dean, Research Luc Tremblay informed Council that it is now time to start considering summer research opportunities. The opportunity with the earliest application is the *CIHR Summer Studentship Award*. This award is not administered through KPE and applications can be submitted directly to CIHR on or before February 4th, 2020. Other opportunities will be announced soon for programs administered through KPE and an information session will be held for KPE undergraduate students. Lensa Hassan made a suggestion to have the information presented in a class visit rather than an information session to engage more students.

g. Council of Athletics & Recreation

Beth Ali informed Council that the 2020-21 budget for the co-curricular program for Sport and Recreation was passed at the Council for Athletics and Recreation (CAR) meeting on Tuesday, January 14th. It was passed 13-1. There was 1 vote against the budget from the Graduate Student Union (GSU). CAR will be presenting the budget to the Council of Student Services on Monday, January 20th. The proposed increase to the related ancillary fee paid by students will be 2.89%.

h. Equity Committee – no report

i. Awards Committee

Robin Campbell presented a new academic award for approval. The Awards Committee recommends that Faculty Council approve the *Weinbaum Family Foundation Scholarship*. The donor is in agreement that the Awards Committee can decide on any combination of up to 5 awards under this award.

With the endorsement of the Committee, Robin Campbell put forth the following motion:

Motion: Approval of the *Weinbaum Family Foundation Scholarship*. (**Motion:** Campbell/Stirling; Carried)

j. Restricted Funds Committee – no report

k. Sponsorship Committee

Robin Campbell noted for Council that the minutes of the November 22nd 2019 Sponsorship Committee meeting have been circulated, indicating the amount of money that has come in so far this year and projected for this year.

5. EDU Reports

a. Centre for Sport Policy Studies – no report

b. Centre for Motor Control

On behalf of Professor Timothy Welsh, Professor Luc Tremblay announced that the next presenter in the Speaker Series is Dr. Chris Forgaard from Western University. The presentation will take place on Friday, January 31st, 2020 between 11 a.m. and noon in room BN 304. The presentation is entitled, “*Observational motor learning and modifications to rapid corrective responses*”.

On behalf of Professor Timothy Welsh, Professor Catherine Sabiston reported that a review and survey of the Centre for Motor Control membership will begin in the coming weeks to help evaluate the current goals and activities of the Centre. In consultation with all stakeholders, we will work to revise and develop new goals and activities based on the results of this review and survey.

c. Mental Health and Physical Activity Research Centre – no report

6. Deans’ Reports

a. Dean

Dean Jacobs expressed sympathies and condolences to the community of Iranians and those who identify as Persians in response to the loss of life when the commercial airline was shot down in Iran recently. That loss of life included 8 members of the University of Toronto Community, 6 of whom were students. There was a moment of silence observed at the University of Toronto and at our Faculty on Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. to acknowledge this tragic event.

The Faculty is busy with academic and co-curricular programming. There are currently two tenure searches underway and we were gratified by the quality of the applicant pool for those two positions. There was announcement of a retirement package for faculty members who meet the age and years of service criteria .

The *Final Report of the Presidential & Provostial Task Force on Student Mental Health* was released recently. This was a thirteen member taskforce, led by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Trevor Young, and included undergraduate and graduate students who spent months gathering input from students, staff and faculty across all three campuses. The Taskforce made twenty one recommendations which all were accepted by the University and related actions are already being planned. The report is characterized by a student centred approach to more timely and more harmonized mental health services to make it easier for students to get help when they need it. The report also urges our University to expand partnerships with the community and hospitals and others in the mental health sector to try to address the imbalance between the growing demand and availability of services. There is a formal partnership for the planning and delivery of that service with CAMH (Centre of Addiction and Mental Health) and this is designed to better address the growing pressures. The report addressed four specific areas: mental health services and delivery, the coordination of services across the three campuses, expanding community partnerships, and physical spaces in the University designed to offer mental health services. The Taskforce also examined “the culture of excellence” at the University of Toronto (which was not part of the

University of Toronto - Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education original mandate) and the institutional policies that may affect students mental well being, along with the concept that excellence should be expanded to include wellness.

The Faculty has now received the draft of the external reviewers report as part of the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP), and the formal report is expected imminently.

The Academic Plan extension was presented to Planning and Budget and will now proceed to the Academic Board of the University. The plan has received a positive response. Dean Jacobs expressed thanks to all the constituents that helped develop the plan.

b. Vice-Dean, Academic

Vice-Dean Stirling reminded Council that at the last Faculty Council meeting the motion to close the Bachelor of Physical and Health Education (BPHE) undergraduate degree program as of Aug 2025 was successfully passed. Admission into that program had ceased as of March 2015. The final step in the closure of BPHE program at our faculty level is the closure of the Combined Physical and Health Education degree and Master of Teaching degree program in partnership with OISE. There are currently no students active in that program and there are no anticipated effects on faculty or students. As a Faculty, there is still a commitment to maintain teaching and learning options for those students who seek physical education teacher preparation; the Combined Bachelor of Kinesiology and Master of Teaching combined program with OISE fulfills this commitment.

Vice-Dean Stirling put forth the following motion:

Motion: To approve the closure of the Combined Degree Program: STG, Bachelor of Physical and Health Education / Master of Teaching, effective August, 2025. (**Motion:** Stirling/Amara; Carried).

Vice-Dean Stirling also informed Council that two hybrid courses were launched this term. She extended congratulations to Professor Linda Trinh and Tracia Finlay Watson, the instructors of these courses in exploring this pedagogical approach. Thanks was also extended to Iain MacPherson, our online course developer who has been assisting with this project. More courses are being developed for the upcoming academic year.

c. Associate Dean, Research

Associate Dean, Research Professor Luc Tremblay informed Council that following the approval of the Academic Plan Extension, which includes identifying one or two new extra-departmental units, a call for EDU Proposals has been circulated to the professoriate. These EDUs are meant to facilitate research that cannot be held within a single academic unit and requires multi-disciplinary collaborations from across different academic units. Researchers interested to submit a one-page proposal are asked to do so on or before January 31st. Considerations for these proposals will also include face-to-face interactions with the Research Committee on February 24th.

d. Executive Director, Co-Curricular Athletics & Physical Activity Programs

Beth Ali informed Council that a casual staff indigenous cultural awareness training is taking place on January 25th. This training was intended originally of our indigenous swim

University of Toronto - Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education initiative instructors but is open to casuals around the Athletic Centre. The training will examine the Indigenous peoples of Ontario's relationship to water, and provide a broad cultural understanding of Indigenous peoples in Canada. The knowledge and insights gained from this training will help promote relationship building between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and communities, and enhance our programs.

Within our physical activity programs, the skate program is one of our most popular programs, especially amongst our international students. We are getting an additional 30 pairs of skates which will help with being able to accommodate more people at our skating events, the next of which is the **Let it Go Skate** event on Thursday, January 23rd from 7 – 8:30pm.

Varsity Blues has launched a new mobile app, featuring a re-vamped Varsity Rewards program with contests, prizes, a schedule and several other features.

There are eight teams in the top ten including track and field and men's hockey ranked 3rd in the country, women's hockey ranked 4th and swimming ranked in the top 10.

Child and youth registration for summer camps will begin on February 12th and the Junior Blues programming begins this weekend.

December saw the fall intramural season wrap up with just over 7000 roster spots used (about 4600 unique participants), and we are expecting about the same for 2nd semester.

The closure of front campus and Robert Street will have an impact on the provision of Sport and Recreation opportunities, as well as revenue implications.

e. Chief Administrative Officer

Paul Handley informed Council of two project updates. The electrical project is proceeding as scheduled. We received a cost report on the Goldring lab remodeling project recently, which will be analyzed and next steps will be taken as appropriate.

7. Student Governments' Reports

a. KPEUA

On behalf of Benjamin Divito, Mark Corsetti reported that there is an increase of seven percent on the KPEUA annual budget as a result of the recent change in the student ancillary fee opt out. KPEUA is extending an invite to faculty who want to participate in PHE4All where students from all years and alumni come together to engage in different physical activities at the Athletic Centre.

b. KPEGS

On behalf of Braeden McKenzie, Wendy Pais reported that KPEGS wrapped up 2019 with a well-attended holiday social after winning two of their three intramural leagues. The most pressing item on our agenda continues to be planning *Bodies of Knowledge*, the annual conference. The conference will be held on May 21st and 22nd, with the 21st mainly involving more interactive seminars or sessions and then on the 22nd conference presentations. Preparations are well under way so a detailed outlook of the conference will be presented at the next meeting.

8. **Other Business/Announcements** – no report
9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:19 p.m. (**Motion:** Amara/Stratten; Carried).