

**University of Toronto – Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education**  
**Faculty Council Minutes**  
**October 7, 2022 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.**  
**Virtual Meeting, Zoom**

**Present:** Lynda Mainwaring (Chair), Catherine Amara, Kelly Arbour-Nicitopoulos, Michael Atkinson, Robert Bentley, Timothy Burkhart, Joyce Chen, Simon Darnell, Tracia Finlay-Watson, Caroline Fusco, Jenna Gillen, Paul Handley, Michael Hutchison, Ira Jacobs, Janelle Joseph, Gretchen Kerr, Jen Krol, Jamie Le, Marius Locke, Sabrina Malouka, Daniel Moore, Jessica Muha, Wendy Pais, Francesca Principe, Sarah Ryan, Boba Samuels, Malieka Shahid, Luc Simard, Mandy Wang, Tim Welsh

**Guests:** Doriano D'Angelo, Maryanne McCormick

**Regrets:** Beth Ali, Tom Babits, Sarah-Grace Chai, Alexa Govette, Hassaan Mahmood, Catherine Sabiston

**Secretariat:** Carolyn Laidlaw

1. **Call to Order:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m., and welcomed all new members to Council.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was accepted as presented. (**Motion:** Amara/Locke, Carried)
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the May 19, 2022 meeting were accepted as presented. (**Motion:** Shahid/Burkhart, Carried)

#### 4. **Committee Reports**

##### a. **Executive Committee**

Dean Kerr reported that over the summer the Executive Committee developed the slates of the standing committees of Faculty Council, and brought the lists forward to Faculty Council for approval. There are still some spots that need to be filled by alumni representatives, and the recently elected CAR co-chairs are not yet reflected on this list. Caroline Fusco mentioned that she was supposed to be listed as a member of the Curriculum Committee, instead of Adam Ali, and the motion was updated to accept this friendly amendment to correct this error. (**Motion:** Kerr/Amara, Carried).

##### b. **Undergraduate Examinations**

Professor Amara reported that the first meeting was September 19, during which the responsibilities of the committee were reviewed, as well as the review of the summer course grades and audit report. The grades had been previously approved by the Vice-Dean and released to students, and there was nothing remarkable to note. The summer audit report was presented, which showed the grade distribution across courses, as well as the academic standing of students across the summer courses. There were 341 students who took KPE courses over the summer, and there are 11 students who are projected to graduate in November 2022. Professor Amara thanked Tim Linden for his hard work in creating this report and supporting the committee. A motion to approve the summer audit report was made, and was passed. (**Motion:** Amara/Kerr, Carried)

##### c. **Curriculum Committee**

Professor Amara reported that the committee met on September 12 and discussed a variety of topics for the coming year such as outdoor physical education across the curriculum, the standard First Aid/CPR non-credit degree requirement, BKin course categories, new certificates and related processes. Additional regular processes such as learning outcomes and competencies of the BKin curriculum and the reviews of course outlines and calendar descriptions were also discussed.

Professor Fusco added that she and Professor Amara had met recently with staff from the Sustainability Office to discuss the possibility of developing a sustainability pathway through our undergraduate

curriculum, and looking at ways that we can add this to our program, which is also related to the academic plan.

**d. Admissions Committee**

Professor Locke reported that there was a large increase in the numbers of registrants, offers made and accepted this year. As of September 12, 2022, there were 326 first year students who had accepted an offer, but only 286 students who had registered. Currently there are 314 registered first year students.

Also planned for this year is a review of how special consideration admissions requests are handled, to find a way to streamline the process, and work with other campus groups to support this effort. Professor Amara added that there is currently a campus group that works to assist with this topic, and going forward there will be a representative from Accessibility Services to help review these submissions and provide guidance on interpreting the information.

**e. Graduate Committee**

Professor Atkinson reported that the committee met on September 26, and discussed ideas and themes for graduate program renewal planned for this year. The next meeting will develop a more concrete plan for consultation and process, which will be brought forward to the professoriate and Faculty Council soon.

**f. Research Committee**

Professor Welsh reported that the committee discussed their agenda for the rest of the year, by reviewing their bylaws, membership, and will be working to develop principles for dealing with space issues for various research teams. The committee also discussed different communication methods to share their research and achievements with the greater community, including events such as lab tours and scientific cafes. Another major topic of discussion for the year will be to address issues related to indirect and hidden costs of research, that are currently being borne by the Faculty, and how these can be addressed as researchers and as a community.

**g. Council of Athletics and Recreation**

Luc Simard reported on behalf of Beth Ali. With the return to campus, students are participating in our programs in record numbers and a full schedule of Sports and Recreation activities is being offered. This includes over 7,000 students participating in intramurals across 428 teams (which continues to expand), 15 different drop in sport options, as well as instructional activities, Varsity and Junior Blues programs.

The first meeting of CAR was held earlier this week, with new co-chairs Jessica Muha (from SGS) and Jamie Le (from KIN – MSc) being elected. There are also 5 new Varsity Coaches this year.

Some new programs that are in place this fall include: Move with Us (introduction to gym and weightlifting) and Vent & Sweat (mental health and fitness workshop), a partnership with ‘Let’s Hike TO’. The first skate of the year was held recently and was well attended.

**h. Equity Committee**

Professor Arbour-Nicitopoulos reported that the committee met last Friday, and welcomed the new CAR co-chairs to join the next meeting. The committee reviewed their terms of reference, and would like to focus on providing Equity, Diversity and Inclusion support and resources to other committees. They are also revisiting membership of committee. Further updates and requests for approval will be coming later in the year.

**i. Awards Committee**

Paul Handley brought forward four awards for the Council’s review and approval.

- Yat Family Student Athlete Award (**Motion:** Handley/Amara, Carried)

- Tanenbaum Institute for Science in Sport Research Trainee Awards (**Motion:** Handley/Locke, Carried)
- Dr. Guido Geisler Legacy Award (**Motion:** Handley/Locke, Carried)
- Joel Greenberg Memorial Scholarship (**Motion:** Handley/Kerr, Carried)

**j. Restricted Funds Committee** – No report

**k. Sponsorship Committee** – No report

## **5. EDU Reports**

### **a. Centre for Sport Policy Studies**

Professor Darnell reported that they are in the process of rebuilding the Centre website, and once updated will include the history of the Centre, as well as new practices and activities that are underway. The Sport Policy Matters seminar series is also being reintroduced, with the first event scheduled for November 3. Finally, a new policy brief series is being introduced, in which experts from around the world are being recruited to write policy briefs in response to pressing social issues in sport, which the Centre will then store and distribute to try to get them into the hands of policymakers.

### **b. Centre for Motor Control**

Professor Welsh reported that the Centre has been working on plans to increase training and networking activities for student members of the group. Professor Joyce Chen then provided an update regarding the lecture series, which will be starting on Friday October 28.

- Friday October 28, 12:00-1:00p.m.: Dr Gerome Manson, Queens University
- Thursday November 24, 2:30-3:30p.m.: Dr Leah Bent, University of Guelph

### **c. Mental Health and Physical Activity Research Centre**

Professor Mainwaring read a report provided by Professor Sabiston: MPARC continues to lead the MoveUHappyU program for the 5th year. This year there are stronger connections with Sport and Recreation to develop a sustainability plan. Thank you to Luc, Douglas, and Adrian for their collective support as we co-develop the training and mentoring of on-campus exercise professionals and outreach strategies to serve student needs. We are also building momentum for new community-based projects with clinical groups and delivering home-based/virtual as well as in-facility exercise training

Professor Sabiston continues to lead a global consensus initiative focused on student mental health as part of the Student Mental Health ISI at the University of Toronto. With this work, we are identifying key priorities for research that will in turn foster training opportunities and international collaborations.

### **d. Centre for Sport-Related Concussion Research, Innovation and Knowledge**

Professor Hutchison provided an update on the Centre's activities. After spending their first year establishing governance, the Centre has transitioned into action with several events planned. An educational video about Rowan's Law has been created, which has been circulated among coaches and athletes. The Centre is also involved in a group which is part of a national research study looking at innovative technology in youth, concussion and evaluation in return to play.

The Centre is exploring seminars related to concussion, and how they can be delivered in a way to differentiate ourselves. A graduate student platform is being considered to showcase emerging research and training opportunities, to blend mentorship and education.

## **6. Deans' Reports**

### **a. Dean**

Dean Kerr welcomed everyone to the new academic term, and to the first Faculty Council meeting of the year, with a special welcome to the newest members of Faculty Council. This is the biggest back to school ever, it is great to see students back on campus, and our physical activity spaces being so active.

Dean Kerr reported that we continue to be in a period of transition, with most classes back as in person learning, with a few hybrid/online learning options. We are looking to designing our programs in an intentional way to accommodate different comfort levels, including providing a mask friendly environment.

An item that Council members will hear about throughout the coming year is the new Academic Plan which will be released in the coming month or so. Dean Kerr reminded council members of the mission of the Faculty: “to develop, advance, and disseminate knowledge about physical activity, health and their interactions through education, research, practice and the provision of opportunity”. This mission is important for the grounding of the Academic Plan and is especially important coming out of COVID. During the lockdowns and various restrictions, there was an increase in outdoor activities such as walking, hiking and cycling in high numbers, as well as an increase in virtual fitness and training opportunities. There is increased societal recognition of the importance of our field to the health and well-being of our population. However, we also know that access to sport and physical activity opportunities has been uneven and social inequities that existed before the pandemic have been exacerbated. We’re concerned about a cohort of youth who missed, due to the pandemic, exposure to physical activity during a critical period of development. Emerging evidence also indicates that there is difficulty getting some youth to return to physical activity post-COVID. Increasing equitable and inclusive access to physical activity and sport will be an important component to the Academic plan.

Another priority that will be embedded in the new Academic Plan is environmental sustainability. Climate action is an urgent priority across the university as well as in KPE so we’ll be pursuing ways to address climate action through the design and delivery of our programmes and through our operations.

As people who believe in the potential benefits of sport, it’s difficult to not be impacted by the case Hockey Canada. Although media attention is focused on Hockey Canada and for good reason, the problems that have been revealed also exist in smaller ways in other sport organizations. Our faculty, with expertise in hegemonic masculinity, toxic cultures, youth development, human rights, and governance, have much to offer to addressing these problems through advocacy, research and public scholarship.

Finally, advancing research and innovation will be priorities in the new Academic Plan. We’ll continue to pursue innovation in our educational programmes – both curricular and co-curricular – and diverse ways in which we teach and instruct and diverse ways in which students learn. We’ll also continue to advance research – from UG engagement through to graduate and professoriate research programmes. It’s wonderful to see renovations of labs in the Goldring Centre. Research is very important at all times but particularly so in this time of misinformation and dis-information. Regardless of students’ career paths, gaining skills of inquiry and the abilities to critically assess information, and make evidence-informed decisions are key competencies.

In closing, Dean Kerr congratulated two of our Athletic Instructors for their recent inductions:

- Byron MacDonald, Canadian Swimming Coaches Hall of Fame
- Kristine Drakich, Volleyball Canada Hall of Fame.

#### **b. Vice Dean, Academics**

Professor Amara welcomed everyone back to this academic year. She informed council that among our 314 new first year students there are 49 international students, and across our graduate programs we have 33 new students in the Master of Professional Kinesiology program, 19 new Master of Science and 13 PhD

students. Next year we will also be welcoming students to the newly launched Master of Arts program as well. There are currently 185 graduate students enrolled across all programs.

The recruitment cycle is underway for both undergraduate and graduate programs for September 2023 entry, with the Ontario University Fair held in early October, and Fall Campus Day happening later this month. The graduate program admission cycle has already opened. The Registrar's Office recruitment officer, Steve Marchment, is conducting weekly in person and virtual visits with future students, which will continue throughout the year. He has also been attending several graduate program fairs recently at universities across southern Ontario, and an open house for our graduate programs is also being planned for the near future by the Registrar's Office.

Professor Amara reported that there have been many final exams taking place for graduate students lately, she congratulated all of the students for their hard work and thanked the supervisors and supervisory committees for their support of student success.

Professor Amara provided an update on the various equity engagement events that have been taking place within the Registrar's Office for both undergraduate and graduate students, such as anti-oppression facilitated discussions, a Black student mixer, and a city bus tour for international students. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion training has also been taking place for all student volunteers, work study students and ambassadors. The KINections program is also going well, with recent events being a campus scavenger hunt and an Indigenous story walk in September.

Professor Amara reminded faculty and students that there are many resources available to them at the Registrar's Office if they need support during the midterm season, or for any other reason during the academic year. Appointments with various advisors are available both in person and online.

In closing, she announced that the Fall Convocation date for KPE will be November 10, 2022, and will be followed by a reception at KPE. There are 11 BKin students graduating in November, as well as 8 PhD and 6 MSc students. Additionally, the University is hosting make-up in person Convocation ceremonies in December for the classes of 2020 and 2021, dates still to be determined. A reception will also be held following the December ceremony.

**c. Associate Dean, Research**

Professor Welsh reported that the space allocation process for the research teams is now completed, and asked that people contact him directly if there are any issues with this. The Research Services Office has been very busy with the start of the year working on various grants. The internal faculty research grant process will be beginning soon, with details to be confirmed. The anticipated application deadline is late November.

**d. Executive Director, Athletics and Physical Activity – No report**

**e. Chief Administrative Officer**

Paul Handley provided reports on several ongoing projects:

- Goldring Lab Space redesign: spaces are now available for use, and project is nearly complete
- Benson Student Lounge air conditioning: project mostly complete, occupancy complete and space is in use
- Academic Wood Tower: this project was cancelled, then reinvigorated, but the KPE allocation was reduced to one floor. We are continuing to advocate for our original allocation of two floors.
- Creation of a Soccer Plaque to honour the University's promotion of soccer in Canada. This will be installed on the Heritage brick wall at the north end of Varsity Centre, hopefully in the Spring.

- Medicine Garden installation along the west wall of Warren Stevens, working with facilities and First Nations House. We are looking to engage an Indigenous landscape architect to design this project
- Planned installation of Indigenous artwork in Warren Stevens building, in the main stairwell section spanning three levels
- BN 302 Classroom improvements: asbestos abatement and aesthetic improvements took place over the summer, and technology improvements are ongoing, hoped to be completed over the Fall reading week.
- Benson 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> floor corridors, looking to make aesthetic improvements to the spaces
- Benson elevator: moving to 'development' phase, looking into the possibilities and requirements for installation. Planned location would be near the Huron Street entrance
- Plans for new office spaces for the planned growth of the professoriate, further updates to come

## **7. Student Governments' Reports**

### **a. KPEUA**

Malieka Shahid, the new KPEUA President introduced herself, as well as the KPEUA executive members who were present at the meeting. She reported that the general elections process for KPEUA is currently underway, and should be complete by November.

### **b. KPEGS**

Francesca Principe presented on the recent events of KPEGS. A welcome back event was held recently, and attended by 65 students from across all graduate programs. There are plans for another large event before the end of the semester, with several smaller events as well. Planning is underway for the Bodies of Knowledge conference, which will take place in person in May or June 2023. The next KPEGS meeting is on Tuesday October 11.

## **8. Announcements**

Professor Fusco announced that the inaugural Dr. Brian Pronger Lecture would be taking place in the evening of November 15 (more information and registration details to follow). In honour of Brian, a former, highly esteemed and respected KPE professor who passed away on October 18, 2018, this legacy lecture series was established after his death, but implementation was delayed due to COVID.

Professor Mainwaring reminded all members of Council who made reports today to send their notes to Carolyn Laidlaw, to assist with completing the minutes.

## **9. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. (**Motion:** Finlay-Watson/Darnell, Carried)