

Faculty Council of Humanities and Social Sciences Meeting
Wednesday, March 1, 2023
1:00 p.m. via WebEx

The regular meeting of the Faculty Council of Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences was held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via WebEx. A list of those who attended is attached.

1. Land Acknowledgement

Dr. N. Hurley provided the Land Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that the lands on which Memorial University's campuses are situated are in the traditional territories of diverse Indigenous groups, and we acknowledge with respect the diverse histories and cultures of the Beothuk, Mi'kmaq, Innu, and Inuit of this province. We gather here as subjects implicated in the long history and structures of colonialism and in the spirit of community commitment to reconciliation and to undertaking the work of repair and building responsibility relations.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Hurley reminded everyone that we are maintaining the consent agenda format for remainder of the year and explained again the consent agenda format. Everyone was offered an opportunity to modify the agenda.

As there were no objections, the Consent agenda was adopted as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

3. Approval of Minutes of Faculty Council meeting January 4, 2023
(Note: FC Meeting Feb. 1-23 cancelled due to MUNFA job action)

REGULAR AGENDA

4. Dean's Remarks

Dean Hurley started by recognizing the recent events of the job action. They expressed thanks and recognized the commitment by everyone, on all sides, especially noting the professionalism shown in maintaining relationships and ties in the face of the challenging circumstances.

Dr. Hurley gave follow up on items noted at the recent town hall as follows:

-The Dean's Office is reaching out to students and the HSS community and have collected resources on collegial governance opportunities.

-An infographic was distributed (for ease of understanding) on post-strike academic remedies for the term. The Dean expressed thanks to Dr. N. Catto and Communications Advisor, C. Pelley, for their tireless work on that information.

-HSS is working to coordinate a student forum for HSS, more info will be provided by Dr. N. Catto.

-HSS needs additional Senate representation; HSS has 6 seats on Senate and they are all not filled.

Anyone who would like further information can contact the Dean's office.

-HSS Social: specific details were issued in an email from C. Burke for a function on Thurs/Mar 2, 5:00 p.m.

-In response to a query on HSS socials, Dr. Hurley will pursue information regarding "Bitters" pub and forward information on any possibility of it re-opening.

Status of Cluster Hire: This is now with Faculty Relations, and the hiring requires an MOU. A copy of the new Collective Agreement is also needed to move it along further. In the meantime, Dr.

Hurley plans to have more detailed conversations and hold them earlier regarding priority hiring, hoping this will help in advocating early for new hires.

Associate Dean (C&P) Position: There were no applications received in the fall for the position, and no applications received to date. The Search Committee has agreed to stay on during a new search to fill this AD role. The posting for the position has been issued.

In response to a request for feedback from Dr. Hurley, the following items were identified by faculty members as possible obstacles and barriers for applicants to apply to the AD role:

-AD in 2021-2022 had to spend a considerable amount of time cutting course sections and programs due to budget constraints. (Dr. Hurley acknowledged enrollment management is difficult, unless we look at amalgamations.)

-Possible loss of research time due to responsibilities of the role. (Dr. Hurley expressed that the Dean's Office is very supportive of maintaining applicants' research time and will work diligently to find ways to support applicants.)

-Lack of a full-time replacement during the term of appointment (vs. PCI's); faculty hesitant to leave department short-handed, particularly smaller departments, because course offerings may suffer. (Dr. Hurley confirmed that the current budget model is constraining however the Dean's office is working to change that model and working to secure some one-on-one funds when a department rep goes to the AD role.)

-The job responsibilities appear to be quite extensive. (Dr. Hurley indicated the graduate student responsibility is now being placed with the ADR role, and Curricular and all undergrad responsibility will remain with the AD C&P.)

There were a couple of testimonials with positive feedback on the AD (C&P) role indicating it's a very transformative experience, getting to know and work collaboratively with more people within the faculty, helping build solutions to problems for the faculty, and becoming more invested in the faculty. The portfolio allows an opportunity to help enact some changes and have some impact on the direction of the faculty. It was stated that having someone working in the Dean's Office with a vision for where we want to go is very important.

Dr. Hurley thanked everyone for the feedback, and indicated that Dr. N. Catto is available to answer any specific questions anyone may have about the role.

5. Update from Co-Chairs, Curriculum and Programs Committee 2022-2023 (K. Simonsen/P. Dold)
Co-Chair, K. Simonsen, stated February meeting of CPC was cancelled, as there would not have been an opportunity for progress on issues due to the job action. Committee Co-Chairs did meet with the Assoc. Dean (C&P) to discuss the iBA, Language Study Requirements, and review of the CRW courses, and further discussions will be needed.

Co-Chair, Pat Dold, gave the update on SCUgS:

-All HSS Calendar changes are now gone to Senate, and there are no issues anticipated.

-SCUgS is looking for volunteers for a subcommittee, which will look at emerging AI technologies and incorporating new AI technology into pedagogy; anyone interested can contact P. Dold, who will forward the names of volunteers to SCUgS. This is a temporary subcommittee for this specific task.

6. Update from Chair, Planning and Research Committee (J. Geck)

In the absence of J. Geck, Dr. L. Swiss provided the update:

-Research Catalyst Awards (RCA) deadline was extended to March 1; subcommittee of PRC will adjudicate the applications with an announcement early April.

- PRC has been discussing a revision of the Faculty Council by-laws for the committee, and has now put this off since there may be higher level discussions on governance forthcoming due to the new Collective Agreement.
 - PRC strongly encourages all departments to have their department representatives on Faculty Council.
 - A Call for Expression of Interest for the Distinguished Lectureships (George Story and Henrietta Harvey) will be issued shortly. There have been discussions on how these can fit into the SHERC connections grant and futures of the university; PRC adjudicates these applications.
7. Update from Acting Associate Dean, Curriculum and Programs (N. Catto)
- HSS is encouraging and looking for student representation from each department for Faculty Council
 - A student forum is being planned, which will be student driven and they are responsible; the Dean's office will share information on their behalf. This will possibly be set for the 3rd/4th week of March.
 - Infographic that Chad prepared has been issued; if you have any questions, please contact Dr. Catto.
 - We are excusing the deadline of the Feb 28th regarding calendar change proposals; if you have calendar changes, please submit and they will be processed as they are received.
8. Update from Acting Associate Dean, Research (L. Swiss)
- CRC position of Governance & Northern policy: A short list of candidates has been chosen; there may be a range of different groups called for meetings; a formal process will be in place for feedback; Dr. Swiss expressed thanks to the search committee.
 - The 2nd round of calls for the HSS Connections Grant has been issued; deadline is March 24; the HSS proposal will be for the May competition; the GFO's and the GA assistants are working on the submission for HSS.
 - Our annual Faculty event "A Fine Crowd" is scheduled for Wednesday, April 26th, Signal Hill Campus, 4-6 pm. The Dean's office will reach out to departments with information taken from the annual reports to confirm collected data is accurate and complete.
 - The deadline for nominations for The Dean's Awards is now March 15th.
 - A committee to adjudicate the Peter Cashin Prize has now been filled; thanks to those volunteering; deadline for nominations is March 15, and this will be awarded at A Fine Crowd.
 - ISER Grant deadline is March 15.
 - Henrietta Harvey Distinguished Lectureship is scheduled for March 17, Suncor music Hall with G. Rockwell as presenter.
 - The next Early Career Researcher Network webinar is March 24, 12pm, entitled: P&T – Promotion & Tenure in HSS.
 - Dr. Swiss provided information on revised funding deadlines that had occurred due to the job action.
 - Research grants and funding appears to not have been affected by the labour disruption; anyone requiring assistance on grants or funding should reach out to Grants Facilitation Officers, M. Milner or H. O'Brien.
9. Announcements, other business, questions
- No announcements or new business was brought forward.
10. Adjournment (Moved/Second: K. Simonsen/L. Swiss)
Meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm

Next Faculty Council meeting: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 1 p.m. (via Webex)

LIST OF ATTENDEES:

Attendees:

Kelsey Downer, Theresa Mackenzie (Co-operative Education), Norm Catto (HSS, Dean's Office), Milo Nikolic (Classics), Ken Hopkins (HSS, Dean's Office), Sara Mackenzie (Linguistics), Arthur Sullivan (Philosophy), Jeff Howard (Classics PCI), Vaughan Grimes (Archaeology), Holly Everett (Folklore), Karin Thomeier (Digital Learning Centre), Liam Swiss (HSS, Dean's Office/Sociology), Maria Mayr (MLLC), Meghan Forsyth (Music), Myriam Osorio (MLLC), Patricia Dold (Religious Studies), Philippe Basabose (MLLC), Roberto Martinez-Espineira (Economics), Amanda Tiller-Hackett (Library Rep), Arn Keeling (Geography), Caighlan Smith (English Grad Student Rep), David Hancock (Human Kinetics and Recreation), Fiona Polack (English), Jennifer Dyer (Gender Studies), Michael Kirkpatrick (History), Nat Hurley (HSS, Dean's Office/English), Alyson Byrne (Business), Allyson Stokes (Sociology), Jeff Webb (History), Josh Lepawsky (Geography), Julie Kavanagh (Co-operative Education), Lincoln Addison (Anthropology), Alex Marland (Political Science), Danine Farquharson (English), Emmanuel Quarshie (Economics Grad Student Rep), Kate Lahey (Gender Studies Grad Student Rep), Kathryn Simonsen (Classics), Heather C. O'Brien (HSS, Dean's Office), Lisa-Jo van den Scott (Sociology), Mark Stoddart (Sociology), Meghan Collett (Arts Registrar), Neil Kennedy (History), Rebecca Newhook (Co-operative Education), Robert Ormsby (English), Sarah Thorne (English), Sebastien Rossignol (History), Sharon Roseman (Anthropology), Stephan Curtis (History), Steve Shorlin (Medicine), Taylor Burke (History Undergrad Student Rep), Tyra Dawe (Geography), Vicki Hallett (Gender Studies), Wendy Mosdell-Wadman (English), Derek Messacar (Economics), Elizabeth Dane (Gender Studies Grad Student Rep), Laya Heidari Darani (Linguistics Grad Student Rep), Paul De Decker (Linguistics), Anne Thareau (MLLC), Adrienne Peters (Sociology), Kelley Totten (Folklore), Nicole Power (Sociology), Sarah Gordon (Folklore), Matthew Milner (HSS, Dean's Office/History), Alison Coffin (Economics PCI rep), Rose Frew (Dean's Office), Sarah Penney (Dean's Office)

REGRETS:

John Geck (English), Nancy Pedri (English), Renée Shute (HSS, Dean's Office), Walter Okshevsky (Faculty of Education)