

Planning and Research Committee
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Minutes of Meeting
May18, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Room AA-5014 (and via Microsoft Teams)

A meeting of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Planning and Research Committee was held Thursday, May 18, 2023, 9:30 a.m. J. Geck was Chair, and the following committee members were in attendance:

J. Geck, English	M. Milner, GFO	K. Totten, Folklore
G. Kundhi, Economics	L. Swiss, Dean's Office	N. Welch, Linguistics

Regrets: V. Forbes, Archaeology

Absent: Bruce March, MUNSU (note: student academic term is now ended)

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented. (Moved/Second: L. Swiss/N. Welch) Carried.

2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes (April 20, 2023)

Minutes of April 20, 2023 meeting approved as presented.

(Moved/Second: N. Welch/K. Totten) Carried.

3. Terms of Reference for new Initiative

As referenced in previous PRC meeting, there is a new initiative for manuscript support that the Dean is hoping to launch this academic year focusing on supporting and promoting HSS authors and book publications. Dr. Swiss explained the new initiative and the possible grant or honorariums being considered. This will be a pilot project initially. A draft of the Terms of Reference is with the Dean for review. L. Swiss is hoping to get the ToR document to PRC members next week for review online. The plan is for PRC to adjudicate applications for this initiative.

4. Distinguished Lectureships Nominations

Three nominations were received in total for the George Story/Henrietta Harvey Lectureships. After committee discussion it was agreed all candidates nominated were excellent, with a decision to recommend the following to the Dean:

- George Story-Fall 2023: Dr. Barbara Barbosa-Neves (nominated by the Department of Sociology)
- Henrietta Harvey-Winter 2024: Dr. David Armitage (nominated by the Departments of Political Science, History, and Anthropology).

It was further agreed to recommend that HSS and the Dean's Office find funding for the 3rd nominated speaker (Dr. Steven High, nominated by the Department of History, supported by Geography) to be brought in as a lecturer in another series.

(Moved/Seconded: N. Welch/K. Totten) Carried

It would also be recommended to the nominating department that the Armitage lecture title be updated to bring greater public engagement. J. Geck, as committee chair will send the above recommendations to the Dean's Office.

5. ADR Update (L. Swiss)

The name of the new ADR will be announced within a couple of weeks and is for a one year acting role.

The Research Catalyst Award (RCA) winner was announced as Dr. D. Boltokova, and the award has been accepted. A runner-up award was issued to Dr. V. Forbes. The RCA is a pilot project for this year, and has received very positive feedback. Dr. Swiss gave credit to T. Allan, M. Milner, and H. O'Brien for the up-front preparation and development work. The hope is HSS continues this award going forward.

There is a call for volunteers for a Course Equivalency Committee which will look at options to compensate faculty members for extra work. Dr. Swiss encouraged PRC members to think about volunteering and also to encourage colleagues to volunteer.

The Dean's Office is organizing a retreat for faculty and staff, Monday, June 12. Dr. Swiss encourages everyone to attend and also for members to encourage colleagues to attend. The invitation was issued by Charlene Burke, and an RSVP is required.

The Early Career Researchers presentations organized by the ADR & Grants Facilitation Officers were not well attended. Dr. Swiss suggested PRC take a role going forward and come up with ideas for improving attendance and encourage new appointees to participate. It was suggested PRC could investigate reasons behind low turnout and inform of other possible ways to support and mentor Early Career Researchers. It was moved by N. Welch and seconded by K. Totten that two working groups be formed:

1) Early Career Researcher Support;

2) Indigenization

(Motion carried).

Both N. Welch and K. Totten volunteered for both working groups.

6. Other Business

The PRC motion to amend its by-laws was approved by Faculty Council in May. The Curriculum and Programs Committee are looking at its by-laws in light of PRC changes. Student representation on PRC is still a concern. The nomination comes from GSU or MUNSU, not from within our Faculty. Students nominated at a department level, may have more consistent presence at meetings and be a stronger voice for students. (It was noted, this year's MUNSU nominated rep did attend more than previous reps.) J. Geck to bring forward the concern to June Faculty Council with the suggestion that PRC student representation come from department nomination, same as CPC student reps.

Meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Next scheduled meeting is June 15, 2023; 9:30 a.m.