

Faculty Council of Humanities and Social Sciences Meeting

Wednesday, June 1, 2022

1:00 p.m. via **WebEx**

The regular meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences was held on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via WebEx. A list of those present is appended.

1. Land Acknowledgement

Dr. Ailsa Craig provided the Land Acknowledgement:

We respectfully acknowledge the territory in which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, and the island of Newfoundland as the ancestral homelands of the Mi'kmaq and Beothuk. We would also like to recognize the Inuit of Nunatsiavut and NunatuKavut and the Innu of Nitassinan, and their ancestors, as the original people of Labrador. We strive for respectful relationships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation and honour this beautiful land together.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved and Seconded that the Agenda be approved (H. Everett/L. Addison). Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes

It was noted that Faculty Council May meeting was cancelled. Moved/Seconded that the minutes of April 6, 2022 meeting be approved (A. Thareau/H. Everett). Carried.

One abstention: M. Forsyth.

4. Update from Chair, Curriculum and Programs Committee (2021-2022) (N. Catto)

No update from CPC.

5. Update from Chair, Planning and Research Committee (2021-2022) (C. Thorne)

Dr. J. Lokash gave the update in the absence of C. Thorne:

- A proposal is being prepared for consideration for the G. Story Lectureship.
- PRC will be consulting with Dr. Swiss to set goals for next academic year.
- PRC is having ongoing discussions to get the committee to full membership. Dr. Lokash encourages Faculty members to volunteer.

6. Update from Acting Associate Dean, Curriculum and Programs (S. Hoff)

- The request for faculty representatives for HSS committees has been issued; members are required for Faculty Council, the Curriculum and Programs Committee, and the Planning and Research Committee. It is important for the Faculty that we have representatives on these committees. Committee membership (voting and non-voting members) is identified in the constitution and by-laws, which have been issued. Academic Councils from other Faculties request representatives from HSS for their committees as well, and that list was also issued.
- As of today, June 1, the mask requirement and vaccine mandate is lifted at MUN.
- The "Gradcolades 2022" video (celebrating graduate student awards) is available for viewing; the link will be distributed. It is hosted on the HSS website as a Youtube video.
- Dr. Hoff issued a reminder to all that the calendar change season is approaching and encouraged everyone to submit their changes early.

7. Update from Associate Dean, Research (L. Swiss)

- Dr. Swiss acknowledged the warm welcome and is looking forward to being in the Associate Dean position. He will be available to help in the short and medium term as the position is for one year.
- There are opportunities for researchers coming up this month; there are grants webinars available, and Grant Facilitation Officers Matt Milner and Heather C. O'Brien can be contacted for specific information.
- For questions or assistance, feel free to reach out directly to him.

8. Discussion and Revision of HSS Strategic Plan

There was review and discussion of the draft of HSS's Strategic Plan. All faculties were asked to align their strategic plans with the university's Strategic Plan. The HSS draft reviewed today is a "broad strokes" document issuing from a collaborative effort. Feedback received today will be considered for incorporation into the document. Any further thoughts can be sent to Dr. Craig by Friday, June 3. The Provost's Office deadline for submission is June 10.

9. Dean's Remarks

- Update on position requests: the recommendation for the position in Economics has gone to the Provost. Beyond that, we have been approved for three unallocated positions, and we have put in a request for four additional positions, especially given recent retirements within HSS.
- HSS Anti-Racism Committee Update: The committee has met again, on its own and with Dr. Mullings. The committee is developing action items and will put them before the Faculty.
- Budget update: At the end of the past fiscal year, HSS was "in the black." This helps us attend to the accrued deficit and gives us more leverage in conversations about resources with the Provost's Office.
- Thank you to everyone for the efforts during this year on behalf of the Faculty. Dr. Craig wished everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

10. Announcements, any other business, questions

- Dr. S. Roseman noted that anyone looking for great book ideas should refer to the ISER or MUN Press website.
- In response to a query on the status of work on the elevator, Ken Hopkins noted that it is being inspected, and the Dean's Office has been advised that the aim is to have it operational by September. It was stated by a Faculty member that the Faculty should re-iterate to the university administration the moral and legal obligation to provide an accessible environment for learning and working.

11. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned 2:02 p.m.

Moved/Seconded (J. Dyer/N. Pedri).

Next Faculty Council meeting: September 14, 2022 at 1 p.m.