

DRAFT Minutes of Faculty Council Meeting – November 27, 2019

Brian Boigon (*Acting Chair*), Dean Richard Sommer, Didier Pomerleau, Liat Margolis, Bomani Khemet, Sandy Smith, Petros Babasikas, Victor Perez-Amato, Shane Williamson, Justine Holzman, Mary Lou Lobsinger, Irene Puchalski, Shirley Chan, Aziza Chaouni, Jay Malcolm, Sean Thomas, Steven Fong, Fadi Masoud, Mitchell Akiyama, Charles Stankieveh, Mason White, Tye Farrow (Alumnus), Peter Berton (OAA), Leonardo Garcia (OALA), Jana Nitschke (GALDSU), Adam Krajewski (GALDSU), Valerie Marshall (GALDSU), Nicole Tratnik (FGSA), Grace Wong (AVSSU), Jennille Neal (AVSSU), Guershorn Kitsa (AVSSU)

Non-voting: Jacqueline Raaflaub

Kate Nelischer (*Council Secretary*)

Regrets: Jane Wolff

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Call to Order

Brian Boigon calls the meeting to order at 4:10pm.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (April 17, 2019)

Motion: THAT the minutes of the Faculty Council meeting held on April 17, 2019 be approved.

Moved: Liat Margolis

Seconded: Shane Williamson

Motion passes unanimously.

2. Report of the Dean (*Richard Sommer*)

Dean Sommer provides an overview of recent staffing changes. New positions include Manager of Workshops and Building Services, Manager of External Relations and Community Outreach, and Manager of Academic HR. Christopher Henion was recently appointed to the role of Program Coordinator (while Heather Huckfield is on leave). Additionally, Dale Duncan and Kate Nelischer will be departing the Faculty and the Dean thanks them for their service and wishes them well in future endeavours.

Didier Pomerleau notes that the Daniels Faculty has a very lean staff with the second lowest staff to faculty ratio within the University. Dean Sommer notes the Faculty wants to ensure that staff are not overworked.

Dean Sommer lists new faculty members that have joined Daniels since last year, and notes that two additional faculty members will join in January 2020. The Dean notes that three faculty searches are currently underway. These include one position in architecture (focused on



sustainability), one in Visual Studies (working across media), and one in Forestry (which will be the first new search since Forestry has joined Daniels).

Dean Sommer notes that the Faculty continues to make changes to ensure efficient use of all buildings. Additionally, the Faculty continues to address heating and cooling issues in the older part of One Spadina, lighting and sound, and the upcoming construction of a new terrace on the front lawn. Additionally, the new gallery recently launched with the New Circadia exhibition.

3. Committee Memberships

Didier Pomerleau notes that the Chair of Council and the Dean have nominated the committee slates circulated to Council.

Motion: THAT Council appoint the committee membership slates nominated by the Chair of Council and the Dean.

Moved: Didier Pomerleau

Seconded: Shane Williamson

Mary-Lou Lobsinger asks for clarification on the length of committee terms. Didier confirms that terms are three years in length. The proposed slate will run from 2019 to 2022.

Aziza Chaouni asks for clarification around the PhD and Post-Professional program representation on committees. Kate Nelischer clarifies that the PhD and Post Professional seats will be combined.

Aziza requests improved gender equity on committee slates and notes that the only committee with more women than men is the Diversity and Equity Committee. The Dean notes this will be taken into consideration. Aziza also asks why many of the committees are chaired by Robert Levit. Didier confirms the chair position on many committees is held by the Associate Dean role. Steven Fong notes that Daniels is a small Faculty so faculty members must sit on multiple committees.

Liat Margolis asks what will happen if contracts end mid-way through three-term appointments. Didier confirms that mid-term appointments would be made.

The motion passes unanimously.

4. Proposed Constitutional and By-law Amendments (*Didier Pomerleau*)

Didier Pomerleau clarifies that the motion before Council is to approve these changes in principle. Changes will be formally approved at a subsequent Council meeting, after the changes have been reviewed by the University's governing bodies.

Didier presents an overview of the proposed changes to the constitution and notes an additional change to add a seat on Faculty Council for the Ontario Professional Foresters Association (OPFA). Didier notes that Executive Committee have already reviewed the proposed changes.

Tye Farrow notes he does not support minimizing the number of alumni seats on Council, as proposed. Tye notes that Faculty Council presents a valuable opportunity for the Faculty

to engage with alumni, and this involvement allows alumni to promote the Faculty externally. Tye proposes appointing four alumni-at-large seats.

Didier notes that the Daniels Faculty Council is unusual in reserving seats for alumni, emeriti professors, and professional associations. The goal of this proposed constitutional change is to reduce the number of external seats in order to make quorum more achievable. It has been difficult in recent years to meet quorum during Council meetings, and many external members have chosen not to attend Council meetings. The goal of the proposed change is to focus Council on members who are actively engaged. Dean Sommer notes as the Faculty continues to grow and add disciplines, it needs to continue to formalize Council.

Steven Fong notes he supports the proposed reduction in seats and that there are multiple platforms for the Faculty to engage alumni. A number of other schools have Dean's Councils which engage alumni in discussion a few times a year. Dean Sommer notes that recently he engaged alumni through a campaign cabinet.

Charles Stankieveh notes there has not been discussion of alumni representation on Council from the Visual Studies program. Dean Sommer notes that proportional representation is important.

Didier proposes removing the proposed changes to alumni seats from the motion. Instead, potential changes to alumni seats will be sent back to Executive Committee for further discussion.

Motion: THAT the proposed changes to the Daniels Faculty Constitution be approved in principle (minus proposed changes to alumni seats).

Moved: Andrea McGee

Seconded: Tye Farrow

Abstentions: 1

Motion approved.

Motion: THAT the proposed changes to the Daniels Faculty By-laws be approved in principle.

Didier provides an overview of proposed changes to the Faculty By-laws.

Moved: Sandy Smith

Seconded: Shane Williamson

Motion approved unanimously.

5. **GALDSU Report** (*Adam Krajewski*)

Adam Krajewski highlights challenges students are experiencing with limited workshop hours. He also requests more diversity in topics offered in the option studios.

Andrea McGee notes that ORSS has been working with students on concerns related to workshop hours. The Manager of Workshops and Building Services has extended these hours in response (and new hours are listed online).

Shane Williamson notes that there are nine studio offerings, and that he will follow up with GALDSU to discuss. Brian requests that GALDSU make a written request to discuss studios with the Program Director, and clearly define what kind of diversity GALDSU is referring to.

6. **AVSSU Report** (*Grace Wong*)

Grace Wong provides an overview of AVSSU's report and notes that AVSSU is focusing on health and wellness this year. Grace also notes that AVSSU has seen a reduction in the number of students opting out of society fees. AVSSU recently held health and wellness sessions for students, and presented studio etiquette videos to first year students (in consultation with the Faculty).

This year AVSSU plans to: host a studio dinner every other week; host another "de-stressor" week; and, organize intramural teams.

7. **MArch Report** (*Shane Williamson*)

Shane Williamson notes that the Master of Architecture program received a full 6-year accreditation earlier this year, and thanks everyone who participated in the process.

8. **MLA Report** (*Liat Margolis*)

Liat Margolis extends congratulations to two MLA thesis students who received ASLA Student Awards (from 368 submissions).

Liat also highlights the program's Truth and Reconciliation efforts. The program recently received \$1,000 from the OALA to support these efforts, in addition to \$12,000 received earlier to support Indigenous cultural competency training. Liat also notes the \$200,000 grant received from the Provost's Office to start an access program at Daniels for underrepresented students. This will include a 7-week employment program with Indigenous youth. Liat invites Council members to read the MLA program report for further details.

9. **HBA-VS and MVS Report** (*Charles Stankieveh*)

Charles Stankieveh notes that five faculty have retired from the program within the past two years. Charles provides an overview of the submitted written report, including highlights from the inaugural biennale hosted this fall, and *Afterall Journal's* 20th anniversary. Charles encourages attendance at next week's MVS Proseminar Talk, titled "Jonas Staal: Propoganda Art in the 21st Century."

10. **Post-Professional Report** (*Mason White*)

Mason White notes that the program continues to work on a name change, potentially to "Master of Design Research." This will require the creation of a new program. Dean Sommer notes that the goal is to create a shorter, research-focused program to fill a gap between the graduate professional programs and the PhD program.

11. **Forestry Report** (*Sandy Smith*)

Sandy Smith notes that the Forestry programs, faculty, and students are continuing to settle in at Daniels. Faculty members are currently working to prepare the accreditation review report for the professional graduate program, in advance of the upcoming site visit (April 1-3, 2020). Faculty are

also considering a realignment of the undergraduate program, which will be discussed by the Curriculum Committee. Upcoming program events include capstone project presentations from December 9th – 11th, and a ring ceremony on December 12th.

Nicole Tratnik (FGSA) notes that everyone is welcome to attend Tea Times, hosted by the FGSA. Additionally, the FGSA has organized an upcoming photo contest. Nicole also reported on a successful Alumni Association social event held last week.

12. HBA-AS Report (*Jeannie Kim*)

Refer to written report.

13. PhD Report (*Jessie Le Cavalier*)

No business to report.

14. MUD Report (*Mark Sterling*)

No business to report.

15. Admissions Committee Report (*Andrea McGee*)

Andrea McGee notes that ORSS will welcome a new staff member next week who will be working on admissions. Additionally, graduate and PhD applications have been extended from December 15th to January 15th.

Dean Sommer notes that the Faculty would like to align its offerings with other institutions, and therefore it is better to send out offers sooner.

16. Awards Committee Report (*Mason White*)

Mason White notes that there are not many awards at this time of year, as students have not completed work yet. Daniels students continue to do well in external awards competitions. At the end of last year, 63 applications were completed for the OGS domestic competition.

17. Research Committee (*Liat Margolis*)

Liat Margolis notes that the committee has not yet met this term, but is eager to begin work and to welcome a Forestry representative. Liat and Shirley Chan met with Forestry to identify research connections with Architecture and Landscape Architecture. The Committee's written report includes a summary of grant applications and proposals from last year.

18. Diversity and Equity Committee (*Jane Wolff*)

Refer to written report

19. Appeals Committee Report (*Robert Levit*)

No business to report.

20. Committee on Academic Standing Report (*Robert Levit*)

No business to report.

21. Other Business

Andrea McGee notes that during the Curriculum Committee meeting on November 20th the GlobalU and Sustainability certificates were approved. Dean Sommer notes that these certificates will support the University's mandate to offer students experiences outside of the city and region.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.

These notes are considered to be an accurate account of the meeting. Please note that attendance is recorded as per the sign-in sheet. If any discrepancies or omissions are noted, please contact the undersigned; otherwise these shall be deemed acceptable to all.

Kate Nelischer, Assistant Dean, Academic Planning and Governance (*Council Secretary*)