

## Minutes of Faculty Council Meeting – October 18, 2017

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Jane Wolff (*Chair*)

Mitchell Akiyama, Luke Andritsos (OAA), Maxim Batourine, Marienka Bishop-Kovac (AVSSU), Johnny Bui, Shirley Chan, Katy Chey, Dale Duncan, Barbara Fischer, Amelia Hartin (GALDSU), Christopher Henin, Nicholas Hoban, Ted Kesik, Jeannie Kim, Lorissa Kinna, Andrea Kristof (Alumni), David Lieberman, Sue Lloyd, Aidan Loweth (GALDSU), Fadi Masoud, Liat Margolis, Scott Markle (AVSSU), Francesco Martire, Andrea McGee, Diarmuid Nash, Heidi Pepper Coles, Victor Perez-Amado, Jay Pooley, Mauricio Quiros Pacheco, Jacqueline Raaflaub, Robert Raynor (AVSSU), Barry Sampson, Naomi Shewchuu (GALDSU), John Shnier, Dean Richard Sommer, Devin Tepleski (GALDSU), Stephen Verderber, Mason White, Shane Williamson, Rob Wright,

Adriana Arredondo (*Interim Council Secretary*)

### Call to Order

Jane Wolff calls the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Jane notes that the Faculty Council is meeting in advance of its usual December meeting to address a limited slate of subjects that cannot wait. When the Faculty Council meets in December, it will return to its regular agenda, including full reports from Program Directors and Chairs of Standing Committees.

### 1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of April 26, 2017

Moved by Jay Pooley.

Seconded by David Lieberman.

That the minutes of the previous meeting of April 26, 2017, be approved.

The motion carried unanimously.

### 2. Business Arising

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

### 3. Report of the Dean (*Richard Sommer*)

The Dean's report provides an overview of the move to One Spadina and the ambitious programs the Faculty has initiated over the past few years. The Dean notes that he and his colleagues are committed to addressing both temporary challenges and long-term issues.

The Dean provides an overview of the development process for One Spadina and thanks those who contributed to its success, including members of University governance, donors, members of the community, Barry Sampson, and many others.

The Dean provides an overview of the Faculty's budget and financial commitment to the building, along with the University's contributions.

David Lieberman thanks the Dean for his leadership in the One Spadina project, recognizing what this new building has done for the campus, for the city, and for the Faculty to move forward. Applause follows. The Dean acknowledges the patience and generosity of students, faculty, and staff.

Marienka Bishop-Kovak initiates a discussion of undergraduate and graduate tuition fees, and bursaries available to undergraduate students. The Dean notes that tuition rates are measured against the tuition rates of the Faculty of Arts & Science. As the Faculty begins to redirect fundraising activities, one of the foci will be student aid and scholarship. Andrea McGee reminds all undergraduate students that the grant application deadline for students in need is November 1, 2017. Heidi Pepper Coles notes that students can ask for help in finding financial support within Student Services. Mason White, Chair of the Awards Committee, notes that the Committee is working to ensure undergraduate students have access to additional funds. Jane Wolff suggests that the Awards Committee includes this information in its report in December.

Ted Kesik discusses the Faculty's mortgage and future expansions. The Dean notes One Spadina is double the size of the previous building, supporting the growth of the Faculty.

#### 4. Faculty Council – Constitution and By-Laws (*Didier Pomerleau*)

Didier Pomerleau presents a summary of proposed changes to the Faculty Council Constitution.

The University requires every Faculty to review its constitution every five years. The approval of constitutional changes occurs through a two-stage process: a first reading where Faculty Council gives its approval in principal, and a second reading where Faculty Council gives final approval. The constitutional changes were approved in principal by Faculty Council at the April 2017 meeting.

Changes are as follows:

- Required changes that the Governing Council Secretary has requested of all faculties, including:
  - Language around diploma and certificate programs
  - Language around teaching staff
  - Language around accreditation
- Changing the membership of Faculty Council, including:
  - Removing the Standing Committee Chairs from Faculty Council as all Standing Committee Chairs are members of the Faculty, and faculty members are members of Faculty Council
  - Removing Assistant Deans from Faculty Council. There are only two Assistant Deans; one is already a member of Faculty Council by virtue of being the Registrar, and the other will be a member of Faculty Council by virtue of being the Faculty Council Secretary
  - Rebalancing of student seats on Faculty Council to reflect the fact that in the past five years there has been a significant increase in the undergraduate program and thus it is proposed to provide an equal number of seats to GALDSU and AVSSU
- A housekeeping amendment to change the minimum number of times Faculty Council meets to two times a year. In most years it will be more, but there have

been some years where there has been no more business beyond two meetings where it does not make sense to hold the required third meeting

Moved by Rob Wright.

Seconded by Liat Margolis.

David Lieberman initiates a discussion on the reapportion of student seats on Faculty Council based on the future directions of the Faculty (which he raised at the April 2017 Faculty Council). Didier notes that the constitution can be reviewed and adapted as necessary.

Motion passes.

There were two abstentions (David Lieberman and Ted Kesik).

Didier notes that the amendments are not ratified immediately after this vote. The University's Academic Board and Governing Council still have to ratify these changes. These changes will most likely be proclaimed in the spring.

## 5. Reports of the Program Directors

### **Report of the Director, Master of Architecture Program** (*Shane Williamson*)

Some curricular directives that are being developed over the next few months, which will be brought forward to Faculty Council for voting, including whether or not the program will be shortened. Shane will strike a working group to address this issue.

### **Report of the Director, Master of Landscape Architecture Program** (*Liat Margolis*)

The MLA program will be up for accreditation review in 2018. The report will be due in August 2018, and the accreditation review committee will visit in October 2018 (the exact date has yet to be determined). This gives the Faculty an opportunity to complete a curricular assessment of current conditions and plans for the next five years. Core Faculty met in September and several working groups were struck to look at pedagogical streams and assess opportunities for changes. Those will be discussed in November in anticipation of the Curriculum Committee meeting in late November, and in advance of the governance process of making major curriculum modifications (if necessary).

Liat plans to be in touch with student representatives to reflect on what is being taught, what is missing from the curriculum, and how the program can be improved.

### **Report of the Director, Master of Urban Design Program** (*Mark Sterling*)

[Mark Sterling is absent as he is teaching, and he will present his report in December].

### **Report of the Director, HBA Architectural Studies Program** (*Jeannie Kim*)

This is the second full year of the new curriculum, which means that there are a number of exciting new classes. These include the second Drawing & Representation course and pilots of the new third year studios, including one in architecture and one in landscape architecture.

A full report will be presented in December.

Reviews this semester are December 13, 14, and 15.

### **Report of the Director, Visual Studies Program** (*Charles Stankievech*)

[Charles Stankievech is absent as he is teaching, and will present his report in December]

**6. Update from Graduate Student Union (GALDSU)**

Aidan Loweth presents the GALDSU report, and agrees to provide it electronically.

Aidan provides an overview of the process by which GALDSU collected student feedback and how the report was developed. Aidan hopes that this report will help the faculty and administration prepare for the upcoming Town Hall. Jane Wolff thanks Aidan, noting that it is a very thorough report.

Aidan notes his appreciation for work already completed, and requests a timeline of when items will be delivered and issues will be addressed. The Dean notes that he has been discussing both short- and long-term issues with students, as have the Program Directors. Some issues have already been addressed, but a more systematic way for addressing long-term issues is required.

Jane Wolff presents a motion to request that GALDSU and the Dean's Office work together over the next few months and report back at the December Faculty Council meeting on what has been accomplished and what concerns remain.

Motion seconded by Liat Margolis.

None opposed.

One abstention (Stephen Verderber).

Motion carries.

Stephen Verderber presents a motion that any future discussions of the facility incorporate faculty.

Motion seconded by Mason White.

None opposed.

No abstentions.

Motion carries.

Liat Margolis reminds Council of the faculty and student workshops that were held last year to design the studio layouts.

Jay Pooley presents a motion for the summary of the student workshops to be shared.

Seconded by Mauricio Quiros-Pacheco.

Motion passes unanimously.

No abstentions.

**7. Update from the Undergraduate Student Union (AVSSU)**

Markienka Bishop-Kovac presents the AVSSU report.

Marienka notes AVSSU's appreciation for the increase in undergraduate studio space, and understanding that the Faculty is in a transitional period of adjusting to the new building. Students have approached AVSSU with concerns, which are outlined in the report. Additionally, AVSSU has established monthly meetings with the HBAAS Program Director, the BVS Program Director, and ORSS.

It has been a busy few months for AVSSU with orientation, the elections process, and addressing concerns.

AVSSU requests additional desktop computer stations. The Dean notes that both issues of software access from the cloud and computer stations need to be addressed. Rob Wright notes that the Faculty is moving towards virtualization, which would allow students to access high powered computer capacity from their own devices. Maxim has been working diligently on this.

Rob Wright presents a motion to include computing issues in the discussions between students and the administration between now and December, and the report to Faculty Council in December.

Seconded by David Leiberman.

Motion carries unanimously.

No abstentions.

The Dean thanks Maxim and his team for their work and notes that the IT services and capacities here are beyond those of many other divisions, and thanks Johnny and his team for their work. Rob Wright notes that Daniels is used as an example of what the University would like central computing to be across the campus.

John Shnier requests a single conduit for faculty members to submit questions or suggestions to be included in the discussions of the building. John notes that he does not expect answers to the emails submitted, but asks that they be compiled and passed along to the meetings regarding building issues. The Dean notes that there was a committee process for the development of the building and that instructors have been asked to flag issues with the correct staff or faculty members. The position of Assistant Dean, Academic and Outreach will be filled in a few weeks, and that person should be the liaison between the students, faculty, and staff to ensure that feedback is collected. Jay Pooley offers to accept all emails about the building until the Assistant Dean, Academic and Outreach Programs begins.

Andrea McGee notes that Didier Pomerleau's recent construction update addressed many of the concerns raised. Didier notes that additional construction updates will be provided in November and December.

Zeynep Celik Alexander notes that Didier holds a meeting every Wednesday morning with senior administrators and senior academic leaders. If an email is sent to the Registrar, Johnny, or Maxim, then that item will be brought up in the Wednesday morning meetings with Didier.

Stephen Verderber suggests that a walk through the space be held with faculty and students to discuss issues.

Markienka Bishop-Kovac notes that AVSSU has scheduled a Town Hall for November 15, from 4pm – 6pm. Didier notes that the Town Halls are vehicles for students and faculty to participate in discussions. The Faculty is also encouraging programs to meet, which will provide an opportunity to discuss curriculum. There is also a Computer and Media Committee which exists to advise the Director of

Technology and Media Services on the technology needs, which meets once or twice a year. This last year, the Faculty purchased almost \$300,000 of hardware and software based on the recommendations of that committee.

## 8. Updates from Chair of the Curriculum Committee (*Zeynep Celik Alexander*)

The report is presented by Zeynep Celik Alexander, co-chair of the committee with Jeannie Kim.

The Committee is working on revisions to the M.Arch and MLA programs, noted earlier by Shane Williamson and Liat Margolis.

The two major projects are the PhD Program Proposal and the Post-Professional Programs.

The PhD Proposal has been around for a long time, and Zeynep and Jeannie have recently been working on it again. They have sent it to the Provost's Office once and recently received feedback. The proposal is currently being considered by the faculty who will be most closely engaged with the PhD program. A meeting will be held with these faculty members next week. The Committee hopes to present the proposal at the Faculty Meeting on November 8, 2017. Subsequently, the Curriculum Committee hopes to vote on the new PhD courses at the upcoming meeting on November 29, 2017. The proposal will then be brought to the Faculty Council meeting in December for discussion. The Dean notes that the University is expecting PhD students to arrive in fall 2019.

Zeynep provides a brief summary of the PhD proposal and notes that she and Jeannie are in the process of consulting with other faculties, which have been very amenable. The Dean notes that the proposal has been brought forward to Faculty Council before and that hopefully it will not require an extensive discussion. Additionally, it is a flexible proposal so once it is passed the program can be adjusted. Rob Wright notes that there are many items on the agenda for the December Faculty Council meeting, so discussions will need to be focused.

Mason White provides an update on the Post-Professional Programs. Minor modifications will allow these programs to be more relevant and anchored in specializations. A more comprehensive report will likely come forward in December, focusing on the M.Arch and MLA post-professional programs. The Dean notes that the M.Arch and MLA programs are up for accreditation reviews next year. Rob Wright notes that there is an appetite for innovation at the University, and the Province is revising its approach to PhD and Master's programs. Mason notes that the Faculty needs to develop the curriculum structure to implement these changes incrementally, which will provide flexibility.

## 9. Other Business

Barry Sampson provides an overview of the success of the One Spadina project. He notes that it was a result of the University realizing it had a neglected site, and the Dean recognizing the potential of the site. He compliments the Dean's leadership in driving this project, which resulted in the University lending support and contributing significant human and financial capital.

Barry notes that although the project was developed through consultation meetings with faculty, challenges are to be expected with any project. There is a responsibility of members of the collegiate and the community to address any challenges by conferring with leadership. He notes these are the best facilities in Canada and probably the best in North America, and the Faculty needs to work as a community to make the most out of it. Applause follows.

David Leiberman notes that next week Professor Wright and his colleagues launch Third Coast Atlas: Prelude to a Plan.

### **Adjournment**

Moved by Jay Pooley.

Seconded by Rob Wright.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 pm.

**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 and Outreach Programs (*Council Secretary*)