

Faculty Council

November 28, 2024

Via Microsoft Teams

Attending:

Brenda Merritt, Dean, Chair

Catherine Gunn, Director Representative, Health Sciences

Jamie Eliasson, Health Sciences

Janet Pothier, Social Work

Jeanna Parsons-Leigh, Health Administration

Keisha Jefferies, Nursing

Kim Sponagle, Pharmacy

Laurene Rehman, Director Representative, Health and Human Performance

Marion Brown, Associate Dean Academic

Rebecca Affoo, Communication Sciences and Disorders

Terry Lewis, Associate Dean Equity and Inclusion

Karen Gallant, Alternate Representative, Health and Human Performance

Kate Grosweiner, Alternate Representative, Physiotherapy

Brenda Began, Alternate Representative, Occupational Therapy

Cheryl Brown, Faculty Administrative Support, Dean's Office

Regrets:

Shaun Boe, Associate Dean Research

Guest:

Lori Weeks, PhD Health Coordinator

MEETING MINUTES

DECISION

1. **Agenda:** Accepted as presented.

2. **Consent Agenda:**

Minutes from October meeting were accepted with a friendly amendment, that being an incorrect date being recorded in the agenda section – should reflect the October meeting date.

3. **Other Decisions:**

3.1 **Academic Review Committee Report for November:** (Jamie Eliasson)

3.1.1 **School of Health Administration – Change MHA Admission GPA Requirement.**

School of Health administration submitted a proposal to change the admission GPA requirement for Master of Health Administration (currently 3.3) to be aligned with that of Faculty of Graduate Studies (3.0).

The purpose of the proposal is to align with academic minimums (GPA) from the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

It was moved: To recommend to Faculty Council approval of the change of MHA Admission GPA Requirement.

(Michel Ladouceur / Heidi Lauckner) all in favour MOTION CARRIED

Faculty Council accepted this recommendation. Unanimous.

3.1.2 School of Occupational Therapy – OCCU 6026.03 be Dropped and Content be Incorporated into OCCU 6014.03 and OCCU 6027.02.

School of Occupational Therapy submitted a proposal to support alter the new MScOT curriculum slated to begin in September 2025 by discontinuing/dropping OCCU 6026.03 and incorporating its learning content into OCCU 6014.03 and OCCU 6027.02.

As the school finalize syllabi for their renewed curriculum (approved MPHEC 26 Jan 2024, implementation Sept 2025), refinements are needed: OCCU 6026.03 has some material better taught as an Advanced Elective and some that fits better in Professional Practice II.

It was moved: To recommend to Faculty Council approval of discontinuing OCCU 6026.03 and incorporating its learning content into OCCU 6014.03 and OCCU 6027.02.

(Kate Grosweiner/ Kelly Lackie) all in favour MOTION CARRIED

Faculty Council accepted this recommendation. Unanimous.

3.1.3 School of Occupational Therapy – Remove MScOS as an exception to the Academic regulation 7.1.1 Pass Standard.

School of Occupational Therapy submitted a proposal to support removing MScOS as an exception to the Academic regulation 7.1.1 Pass Standard. As a reminder, the policy reads:

*Faculty of Graduate Studies regulations stipulate that graduate students must achieve a minimum grade of B- in all courses completed as part of their certificate, diploma, or degree program. A lower grade will be recorded as a failure (F). For the majority of graduate programs, a student who fails to meet these requirements in any term is immediately and automatically dismissed from the program. **Some programs allow for students to carry a failing grade for one course without automatic dismissal.** In these programs, a second failing grade will result in immediate and automatic dismissal. These programs currently include: MACSc, MArch, MAsc in engineering disciplines (except Biomedical Engineering), MBA, MBA-FINS, MBA-FINL, MCSc, MDI, MEng, MI, MIM, MPA, MPA-MGMT, and **MScOS.***

The purpose of the proposal is to *remove MScOS* from the list above, which means students *cannot* carry a failing grade. The rationale is that with courses for both the thesis-stream and course-stream are only offered 1x/year. Carrying one fail would significantly delay progress

through the program. In addition, with a small cohort of students, faculty provide targeted feedback and support to students who are at risk of failing.

It was moved: To recommend to Faculty Council approval of removing MScOS as an exception to the Academic regulation 7.1.1 Pass Standard.

(Kate Grosweiner / Jamie Eliasson) 5 in favour 1 abstain MOTION CARRIED

Faculty Council accepted this recommendation. Unanimous.

3.1.4 School of Occupational Therapy – Co-locate OCCU 4500 as a graduate level course.

School of Occupational Therapy submitted a proposal to co-locate OCCU 4500 as a graduate level course (OCCU 5500).

The rationale for this change is that the school anticipates graduate students in other Dalhousie programs will be more likely to consider this a suitable elective.

It was moved: To recommend to Faculty Council approval of co-locating OCCU 4500 as a graduate level course.

(Michel Ladouceur / Kelly Lackie) all in favour MOTION CARRIED

Faculty Council accepted this recommendation. Unanimous.

3.2 Holistic Review of Teaching, Version 4: (Marion Brown)

Marion outlined the changes from V.3 to V.4 and the reasoning behind them. Feedback was sought, and received, from all units in the Faculty. Because the document has not been part of the collective bargaining materials to date, it will be used as a guideline only. It is agreed that it is difficult to take all feedback and include it, as feedback is continuing. It was suggested that Council vote on the document today and add a proviso to the motion that the document be reviewed each time there is a collective agreement process. This will allow for the document to continually grow and improve. Another suggestion was to look at creating similar documents around the research portion or service portion of positions, making it easier to recap those for T&P.

MOTION: That Faculty Council approve the Holistic Review of Teaching document, version 4, as presented, with the proviso that it be reviewed periodically, ideally after each time that collective bargaining takes place.

Moved: Marion Brown, Seconded: Rebecca Affoo

Motion carried, unanimously.

3.3 Governing Council, new representatives: (Lori Weeks)

This item was moved from **DISCUSSION** to **DECISION**.

Two individuals were put forward for consideration for two positions open. There were no objections to the individuals, and they were, therefore, voted into the positions by acclamation. It was noted, however, that the ideal mix of governing committee members would represent each of the units in the Faculty of Health, but this was not possible at this time.

MOTION: That Faculty Council agrees to accept by acclamation the two candidates presented for vacancies in the PhD in Health Governing Committee.

Moved: Brenda Beagan, Seconded: Marion Brown
Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION

4 PhD Health Senate Review: (Lori Weeks)

Lori reviewed each of the recommendations from the Senate review committee, discussing and seeking feedback from Faculty Council members. This feedback will be taken back to the PhD Health Governing Committee, to incorporate into the response. This response will come back to Faculty Council early in the new year before being sent to Faculty of Graduate Studies and Senate.

Motion to adjourn: 11:33 a.m. by Marion Brown