

## FACULTY COUNCIL

April 24, 2024 – ***Approved by Faculty Council May 22, 2025***

CHEB C150

Attending:

Brenda Merritt, Dean, Chair

Jamie Eliasson, School of Health Sciences

Niki Kiepek, School of Occupational Therapy

Lori Dithurbide, School of Health and Human Performance

Marion Brown, Associate Dean Academic

Rebecca Affoo, School of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Terrence Lewis, Associate Dean Equity and Inclusion

Janet Pothier, School of Social Work

Adria Quigley, School of Physiotherapy

Heidi Framp, College of Pharmacy

Daniel Rainham, Interim Associate Dean Research

Cheryl Brown, Faculty Council Administrative Support, Dean's Office

Regrets: Laurene Rehman, Catherine Gunn, Jodi Langley, Melissa Helwig

## MEETING MINUTES

### DECISION

1. **Agenda:** There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

**MOTION:** That the Faculty of Health Faculty Council approves the agenda for the April 24, 2025, meeting as presented.

Moved: Marion Brown; Seconded: Rebecca Affoo. Approved. Unanimous.

2. **Consent Agenda:**

The minutes from the March 27, 2025, meeting of Faculty Council were approved by consent.

3. **Other Decision Items:**

a. Academic Review Committee Report for April 2025 (Marion Brown)

**School of Social Work – Submitted a BSW Major Modifications proposal.**

The School of Social Work is submitting a proposal for major modifications to the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program. The proposed changes reflect a comprehensive curriculum revision aimed

at strengthening anti-oppressive, anti-racist, Afrocentric, decolonizing, and socially responsive theory and practice throughout the program. This proposal is informed by extensive consultations with students, alumni, field partners, and community stakeholders, as well as by the updated accreditation standards from the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE). The last major curriculum modification to the BSW program occurred in 2009.

Key modifications include the integration of several existing elective courses into the core curriculum. These include courses focused on mental health and substance use, disability justice, 2SLGBTQIA+ resilience, and Indigenous perspectives. A new, core course, *Preparing for Practice*, is also being introduced to better prepare students for their 700-hour field placement.

There is no change to the overall number of required courses. Credit hours (60 in social work + 60 general social sciences) and graduation requirements are not changing.

Simulations are now written into learning outcomes for several courses. This will mean social work will have requests of the C3LR, more than existing, which has been sporadic and not regular. The School of Social Work also undertakes simulations outside the C3LR; they don't expect all simulation needs to be met by them.

**It was moved:** To recommend approval to Faculty Council to approve major modifications to the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program.

**(Kelly Lackie / Heidi Lauckner)      5 in favour. MOTION CARRIED**

**Faculty Council agreed unanimously with the recommendation from the Academic Review Committee.**

**b. Equity and Inclusion Terms of Reference Revisions (Terrence Lewis)**

Terms of reference were shared with Faculty Council in March, taken back to the committee with some friendly amendments. The committee working group took the feedback and cleaned up the language in the document, resubmitting it to Faculty Council for approval on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION:      That the Faculty of Health Faculty Council approves the changes made to the Terms of Reference for the Equity and Inclusion Committee, as presented.**

Moved: Terrence Lewis; Seconded: Marion Brown. Unanimously approved.

**c. MicroResearch Institute (Daniel Rainham)**

The MicroResearch Institute is being established by Doctors Robert Bortolussi and Noni MacDonald. A letter of support has been sent to Senate from the Dean; Faculty Council approval is also required. The letter of support from the Dean was shared. The Institute has been around for many years, recognized by the IWK, the goal is to also be recognized by Dalhousie. They have been doing international work for years. The benefits of affiliation with Dalhousie will be for researchers; those who want to get started in micro research or for

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students who are showing an interest in research, the Institute can provide guidance. They can also help to get funding for research into communities outside of Dalhousie.

**MOTION: That the Faculty of Health Faculty Council supports the recognition of the MicroResearch Institute at Dalhousie as proposed by Drs. Robert Bortolussi and Noni MacDonald.**

Moved: Daniel Rainham; Seconded: Jamie Eliasson. Unanimously accepted.

## DISCUSSION

### 4. Holistic Review of Teaching (Marion Brown)

Proposed document from Health was not accepted by Senate, stating that our suggested procedures contravene Senate procedures.

A discussion between Senate and Dalhousie Faculty Association is needed to clarify the fact that Senate requires peer evaluation, and DFA state that it is not a negotiated requirement for faculty members.

Laura Neals has confirmed that Senate can require the peer evaluations, as stated; the DFA is responsible for establishing how these reviews/evaluations must be made.

Faculty Council members are asked to provide their units with an update, review the current document and get feedback and responses. A word version of the document will be uploaded to the Faculty Council Teams page, available for live edits from FC members. Cathie Smith-Gillis will be asked to read the document first, as she has a strong grounding in the DFA Collective Agreement.

The Growing the Garden group is looking at further session for the Fall 2025 regarding peer evaluation.

## INFORMATION

### 5. Dean Update:

Dates have been set for the DFA collective agreement bargaining. Brenda Merritt is part of the bargaining team for Dalhousie. The agreement expires the end of June 2025. The collective agreements for other employee groups (such as NSGEU and CUPE) are also expiring this summer, so those will also be negotiated.

Engagement Day for Dalhousie is coming up; Faculty Council are encouraged to attend.

Financial discussions are still going on within the University and with funders. The Faculty of Health has a massive amount of reporting to do, and it is taxing the time of many within the Faculty, particularly as it relates to the bilateral agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia. The work being done will help inform the final budget for the Faculty. Once the budget expectations are set, we can go to HR planning. Health has the biggest projection of growth

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within the University because of the programs that will be increasing enrolment to meet Province requests. This will result in an increase in revenue, which will help with requests for additional faculty and staff to meet the new needs.

Wanda Costen's office has plans to review all workloads throughout the University.

There are planned changes and expansions for the Social Work clinic, including a potential name change to reflect the other groups that are now working within the environment.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Marion Brown, 10:55 a.m.