

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES  
FACULTY COUNCIL**

These minutes have been approved.

A regular meeting of Faculty Council was held at 11:30 am, Tuesday, February 27, 2018, in the Lord Dalhousie Room, Henry Hicks Building.

**Present:** J. Blustein, S. Boe, V. Chappe, T. Currie, E. Denovan-Wright, A. Donaldson, M. Durier-Copp, F. Grosse, D. Groulx, L. Guibault, D. Iron, B. Johnston, B. Karten, A. Kirk (Secretary), M. Lee, M. Leonard, M. Macdonald, H. MacFadyen, R. Manett, S. Parcell, M. Pegg, L. Robinson, S. Stone, S. Wells, M. Yuksel, R. Manett

**Regrets:** P. Duinker, J. Gahagan, P. Gardiner-Barber, E. Joubert, H. Niu, V. Simedoh,

**FC 17.18.53 Call to Order and Approval of Agenda**

**It was moved by S. Parcell, seconded by L. Robinson, to approve the Faculty Council agenda for February 27, 2018 as submitted. The motion carried.**

**FC 17.18.54 Approval of the Minutes of previous Faculty Council meeting**

**It was moved by M. Durier Copp, seconded by H. MacFadyen, to approve the minutes from January 23, 2018 as circulated. The motion carried.**

**FC 17.18.55 Matters Arising**

An electronic vote was held to approve the membership composition of the Killam Postdoctoral Committee as follows: Haibo Niu, Morgan Langille, Robert Bauer, Estelle Joubert, Jo Welch and Rita Orji.

**FC 17.18.56 Reports**

**i) Dean (Marty Leonard)**

The 3-Minute Thesis competition is next week, with the finals on the evening of March 8<sup>th</sup>. Over 140 students have registered

Nomination period for the CAGS/UMI Distinguished Dissertation Award closes on Friday March 2<sup>nd</sup>, and a reminder that the nominee in each category will be the recipient of the Dalhousie Doctoral Thesis Award.

The Ombudsperson will attend April Faculty Council with a presentation, and will have a follow-up meeting about a week later which will be open to all faculty.

**ii) Associate Dean (Adam Donaldson)**

The Killam Postdoctoral Fellowship review is complete, five applicants were selected and FGS is awaiting acceptance. Four other applicants were waitlisted.

The Killam Predoctoral awards are under review, and the NSGS and CGS-M will also be done within a few weeks.

The International Differential Fee (IDF) award was announced and departments have been notified to send nominees. Nominees cannot hold a major award or an NSGS scholarship.

APCC recently approved a Prior Learning Assessment in Mental Health Addictions and a modification to the Big Text Analytics certificate.

The Graduate Calendar entry changes to the FGS regulations around directed studies and advanced placement, previously approved by Faculty Council, successfully went through Senate and will be reflected in subsequent Calendar.

**iii) Associate Dean (Eileen Denovan-Wright)**

FGS is holding a series of workshops for graduate students in thesis programs on thesis defence and thesis submissions. This year it includes a presentation from the Copyright Office.

**iv) PDF Report (Fabian Grosse)**

Plans are starting to come together for the annual post-doctoral Research Day which will be held in October or November 2018.

When new postdoctoral fellows start in your departments, it would be helpful to inform them that the PDF Society exists so they may be better engaged.

There was a reminder that regulations for hiring postdoctoral fellows (as negotiated by Dalhousie and PSAC) are available on the FGS website.

**v) DAGS (Rachele Manett)**

DAGS currently has a temporary office in the Mona Campbell building, due to the closure of The Muse.

**FC 17.18.57 Program Review policy (Fiona Black, Andrea Power)**

F. Black led a presentation discussion on the history and current state of development and implementation for a uniform policy on reviews (of units and programs). The goal of the policy is to set minimum standards for reviews, rather than change departmental or Faculty practice. It was built off the former policy, making additions to the areas of respect and inclusion, clear learning outcomes and assessments, and more detail on the clear rationale and structure required for programs to continue.

With the new process, undergraduate and graduate programs would be reviewed at the same time (which largely already happens during unit reviews). This would allow for more coherent review of concurrent, related programs. Given that most academic leaders engage in the review cycle only once during their tenure, more institutional support is being explored particularly in the area of centrally held data and analytics that can be shared with writers of self-studies at the outset of a review.

In the case of externally accredited programs (of which there are currently 53), the accreditation process would happen and the academic leader would then assess any gaps that should be reported upon and appended to the accreditation report for Senate purposes.

**FC 17.18.58 Journal Availability at Dalhousie Libraries (Heather MacFadyen, Marlo MacKay, Allison Fulford)**

H. MacFadyen gave a presentation on the current state of journal subscriptions in the Dalhousie library system, the associated financial burden and the cost implications of the current for-profit model. In consultation with Dalhousie stakeholders, a list of priority journals will be established and the library will attempt to negotiate a fair price. The list will also be informed by download, citation and survey mention statistics.

Members are being asked to provide feedback on priority journals, and this is provided by identifying the journals you use and indicating if they are crucial, nice to have, or not required. It was noted that even if someone indicates a journal is crucial, this will get it onto the priority list but does not necessarily mean it will be kept. The list of journals on the finalized priority list will be shared prior to negotiation, so the Libraries may get feedback.

**FC 17.18.59 APCC Membership**

APCC requires one member from this Council to replace an outgoing member. Please contact A. Kirk or A. Donaldson if interested.

A. Donaldson also introduced the idea of a CLT representative on APCC. Consideration needs to be made regarding voting/non-voting membership and what the role of such a representative would be on APCC: e.g. as an advisor or as a full member. A. Donaldson will inquire as to whether CLT representatives on curriculum panels have voting membership at the undergraduate level. The discussion will continue as part of new Faculty Council structure decisions are made this spring.

**FC 17.18.60 Other Business**

None

**FC 17.18.61 Next meeting – Tuesday March 27, 2018 in Lord Dalhousie Room**

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.