

## FACULTY COUNCIL

May 23, 2024

Via Microsoft Teams

### Attending:

Brenda Merritt, Dean, Chair

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

Niki Kiepek, School of Occupational Therapy

Janet Pothier, School of Social Work

Sujita Pandey, Student Representative, Non-ETP

Lauren Rehman, Director Representative, School of Health and Human Performance

Matthew Numer, School of Health and Human Performance

Heidi Framp, College of Pharmacy

Rebecca Affoo, School of Communications Science and Disorders

Melissa Helwig, Health Sciences Librarian

Shaun Boe, Associate Dean Research

Jeanna Parsons Leigh, School of Health Administration

### Guests:

Matthew Burke, School of Health Sciences (standing in for Jamie Eliasson)

Michel Ladouceur, on behalf of Academic Review Committee

## MEETING MINUTES

### DECISION

#### 1. **Approval of Agenda:**

Question was asked regarding the proposed changes to the annual workload report, sent in advance of the meeting by the Associate Dean Academic, who requested feedback. Dr. Merritt emphasized that the workload document cannot come to Faculty Council for approval without first being vetted by Deans Executive and by the Human Resources Director. Feedback would be welcome and should be directed to Dr. Marion Brown. This discussion topic was not added to the agenda at this point.

**MOTION: That Faculty Council approves the agenda for the May 23, 2024, meeting as presented.**

Approved unanimously.

#### 2. **Consent Agenda:**

The meeting minutes from the April 25, 2024, meeting of Faculty Council were approved by consent.

### 3. Other Decisions:

#### **ARC Report for May 2024:**

1. PhD Health – Modify course title, course description and student learning outcomes for HLTH 6000 and HLTH 6100.

PhD Health submitted a proposal to modify the course title, course description and student learning outcomes for HLTH 6000 and HLTH 6100.

The purpose of the proposal is to respond to feedback received from students and faculty involved with this program, including documentation in the self-study report from the program review that is in progress.

**It was moved:** To recommend to Faculty Council approval of the proposal to modify the course title, course description, and student learning outcomes for HLTH 6000 and HLTH 6100.

HLTH 6000: (Jamie Eliasson/Michel Ladouceur) All in favour. MOTION CARRIED.

HLTH 6100: (Kyle Wilby/Jamie Eliasson) All in favour. MOTION CARRIED.

#### Discussion:

A request was made by a Faculty Council member to review what the actual changes are; Michel shared the details as provided to the Academic Review Committee by the PhD Health program. It was noted that the changes are as a result of a request from the students and once approved by Faculty Council, the results can be shared with the student society.

**Faculty Council voted to accept the recommendation, with one abstention from the Associate Dean Research, who is on the governance committee for the PhD Health program.**

2. School of Physiotherapy – increase in credit hours to PHYT 5501, PHYT 5502, PHYT 6501, PHYT 6502 AND PHYT 6503.

The School of Physiotherapy submitted a proposal for increasing credit hours to PHYT 5501, PHYT 5502, PHYT 6501, PHYT 6502 AND PHYT 6503 from 3 to 6 credit hours. The purpose of the proposed change is aligning course credits to more closely reflect learning time in clinical placements. This change is also supported by international physiotherapy training expectations.

**It was moved:** To recommend to Faculty Council approval of the proposal to increase credit hours to PHYT 5501, PHYT 5502, PHYT 6501, PHYT 6502 AND PHYT 6502 from 3 to 6 credit hours.

(Terrence Lewis/Michel Ladouceur) All in favour. MOTION CARRIED.

**Faculty Council voted to accept the recommendation unanimously.**

## DISCUSSION

### 4. **Governance Model for Healthy Populations Institute** (Matt Numer)

The current Scientific Director's second term has finished, and a decision has been made by the Management Advisory Committee and the Governance Committee for HPI to delay filling the position for a period of one year to allow for a review of the funding model.

Matt expressed concern that an interim Director was not to be appointed and asked for clarification regarding the funding concerns and how the delay would affect the unit.

Dean Merritt noted that HPI is robustly supported financially by the Faculties of Health, Medicine and Dentistry, but the bulk of the funding and support comes from Health. With recent budget cuts from the University and also from the Nova Scotia government, time is needed to review the current funding model and find a way to support the unit in a way that works for all. The current model is not sustainable as it is very costly for the Faculty. Dr. Boe noted that the governance committee was fully consulted before making the decision. He noted that the model at HPI has changed significantly over the years from being largely self-sustaining through the grants of its participating scientists to being almost fully funded by the Faculties, the lion's share of which has fallen to Health over the past few years. There is a strong wish to figure out how to make sure the impact of HPI is maintained while making it sustainable financially.

As a side note, the Management Advisory committee is made up of the ADRs from each faculty, the scientific director and the executive director, while the Governance Committee consists of the Deans of the three supporting Faculties and the AVP of Research. These two committees are responsible for the overall operation and support for the unit. These teams are compliant with the Senate policy for management of scientific units within the University.

There is a need for a reset; the HPI community needs to pull together, get input from everyone involved, glean recommendations for sustainability. This will need to include all researchers working within the Institute, not just the two management groups.

### 5. **Other Discussion:**

#### *Faculty Council Information Sessions/Training:*

There was a short discussion around possible topics for Faculty Council sessions for professional development. Such sessions could also be opened to others, such as faculty members, Deans Executive, and other relevant personnel. Suggestions included:

- The use of artificial intelligence in academic integrity situations
- Sexual Health advisor – updates and training
- Digital security
- Best practices in regard to enrolment and recruitment
- Promoting our programs

These sessions need planning; Dr. Merritt and Cheryl Brown will work to provide several of these sessions beginning with the meetings in the Fall semester.

## INFORMATION

### 6. Teaching Awards Committee Terms of Reference:

Dr. Merritt noted that the Teaching Awards Committee Terms of Reference are being updated; a copy of the document with proposed changes was provided in the meeting materials and Faculty Council members are asked to share this with colleagues in their units and to provide feedback to Dr. Marion Brown ([marion.brown@dal.ca](mailto:marion.brown@dal.ca)) prior to the next Faculty Council meeting at the end of June.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Matthew Numer, 10:44 a.m.

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

Faculty Council members are asked to share the Faculty of Health Teaching Awards Committee Terms of Reference with proposed updates with colleagues in their units and to provide feedback to Dr. Marion Brown ([marion.brown@dal.ca](mailto:marion.brown@dal.ca)) prior to the next Faculty Council meeting at the end of June.

### OFFICE OF THE DEAN

FACULTY OF HEALTH | Burbidge Building, 3rd Floor | 5968 College Street | PO Box 15000 | Halifax NS B3H 4R2 Canada  
902.494.3327 | FAX: 902.494.1966 | [dal.ca/fhp](http://dal.ca/fhp)

**DAL.CA**