

# FACULTY COUNCIL

March 2, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – via Microsoft Teams

## **Minutes approved March 30, 2023**

### Attending:

Brenda Merritt, Dean, Chair  
Marion Brown, Associate Dean Academic  
Shaun Boe, Associate Dean Research  
Melissa Helwig, Health Sciences Librarian  
Michael Kieft, Director, School of Communication Sciences and Disorders  
Tanya Packer, Director, School of Health Administration  
Lori Dithurbide, School of Health and Human Performance  
Kelly Lackie, School of Nursing  
Heidi Framp, College of Pharmacy  
David Persaud, School of Health Administration  
Jamie Eliasson, School of Health Sciences  
Niki Kiepek, School of Occupational Therapy  
Patricia Cleave, School of Communication Sciences and Disorders  
Adria Quigley, School of Physiotherapy  
Cheryl Brown, Faculty Secretary

## MEETING MINUTES

### DECISION

1. **Approval of agenda.** There were no additions to the agenda. Approved by consensus.
2. **Consent Agenda:** Through consent, the minutes from the January 2023 meeting of Faculty Council were approved.
3. **Other Decision Items:**
  - Academic Review Committee report for February 2023:
    1. Physiotherapy – Proposed revision to course descriptions and learning outcomes for the following clinical education courses in the MScPT program: PHYT 5501, PHYT 5502, PHYT 6501, PHYT 6502, and PHYT 6503. The School of Physiotherapy submitted a proposal to revise the course descriptions and learning outcomes for the courses noted above to allow for an improved alignment between academic regulations and clinical practice. This proposed change allows for more flexibility in sourcing clinical learning opportunities while also keeping with the realities of clinical practice. This change also supports the

*incremental learning model of the MSc PT curriculum and aligns with the essential competencies and the Assessment of Clinical performance (ACP) Tool. The ARC assessed the breadth of changes amount to greater than 25% of the existing course description and learning outcomes, and therefore a change of course numbers is needed. In addition, the ARC did not have quorum to vote during February's meeting, therefore an electronic vote was taken. It was moved: To recommend approval to Faculty Council the revised course description and learning outcomes for the noted clinical education courses in the MScPT program. (Sheri Price/Terrence Lewis) All in favour MOTION CARRIED*

- **Faculty Council accepts the recommendation from the Academic Review Committee.**

- Note: Item 2 in the ARC report (information) - Introduction to Research Methods: please note that the ARC February report as provided to Faculty Council lists this new course as interprofessional – this was a working title and is in error, it is an inter-disciplinary course, but the title will be *Introduction to Research Methods*.

4. **Associate Dean EDIA – Position Description** and request for committee members (Brenda Merritt)

- Dr. Merritt has been working with Cathie Smith-Gillis, Director of Human Resources for the Faculty of Health, as well as the Director of Finance, Jessica Corrigan, to make this position a reality. There is a great deal of work to be done across the Faculty in this area.
- A request was made that the position description be amended to include support to the units in the Faculty in how to achieve their EDIA goals. Dr. Merritt indicated that this is implicit in the position, but that wording would be added to make it more explicit.
- Clarification was requested on the use of the word “capacity” throughout the document. There was an attempt to explain this through the term “body, mind and spirit” to take the value noted and make it happen within the position. It was suggested that the University’s term of “inclusive excellence” be included, i.e., capacity for inclusive excellence. Another suggestion was to change it to “mobilizing inclusive excellence”.
- **Since there are a few revisions to be made, Dr. Merritt will make the changes and send it out to Faculty Council as an e-vote. She cautioned the Council to try and avoid “wordsmithing” the document, as there is a danger that the scope will become too narrow and that extensive changes will delay the process of hiring this individual.**

## DISCUSSION

5. **Revised Dalhousie equity ethos statement** (Marion)

- Marion provided information on the revised Dalhousie equity ethos statement.

- Written materials were provided in advance of the meeting and can be found on the Faculty Council Team site under the March 2, 2023, Meeting Materials folder.
  - Admissions “Think Tank” – Spring, 2023. Dr. Marion Brown noted that this had been discussed at Deans Executive this week. This would involve the Registrar’s Office and each of the Units within the Faculty of Health. The purpose would be to review and understand the equitable admissions policies/processes within each of the units and how they can be updated and promoted.
  - Dr. Brown indicated that she would be interested in hearing what the units think of this new statement and any comments on the implementation process. Faculty Council members can send any comments directly to Dr. Brown ([marion.brown@dal.ca](mailto:marion.brown@dal.ca)). The workshop/retreat will be a good place to discuss.
  - Dr. Brown was asked to update the paper to indicate that the statement has been approved at the University level. She will do so and replace the document in the Teams folder.
6. **Annual Report – Health Sciences Library** (Melissa Helwig)
- Melissa provided a verbal update to the last year’s activities within the Health Sciences Library.
  - A written report was provided and can be found on the Faculty Council Teams site under both the meeting notes for this date but also under Annual reports.
  - Melissa answered questions regarding the report and library activities.

## INFORMATION

6. **Reports:** These reports were attached to the meeting materials and can be found on the Teams site under this date.
- 6.1. Dean’s Report/Strategic Plan Update – Dr. Merritt noted that volunteers are being sought for many of the projects listed in her report. Some projects are already nearing completion. Faculty Council members were asked to share the report with their school councils and seek volunteers. Volunteers can contact [Cheryl.brown@dal.ca](mailto:Cheryl.brown@dal.ca), who will pass it on.
- 6.2. Senate Materials for Review
- 6.3. Associate Dean Academic report for February 2023

## ACTION ITEMS for March 2, 2023:

- Dr. Brenda Merritt will make the requested changes to the Position Description for the Associate Dean EDIA and send to Faculty Council members for an e-vote. Dr. Merritt asked that the search committee form included in the meeting materials be taken back to the school and that volunteers be sought to fill the committee. Names can be sent to either Dr. Merritt ([b.merritt@dal.ca](mailto:b.merritt@dal.ca)) or Cheryl Brown ([cheryl.brown@dal.ca](mailto:cheryl.brown@dal.ca)).

- Faculty Council are asked to take the University's ethos statement back to their unit council meetings for information. Any comments or questions can be directed to Dr. Marion Brown, who will also be initiating a workshop/think tank regarding equitable admissions soon.
- Dr. Brown was asked to update the ethos materials to indicate that they are now finalized and approved, rather than pending. She will update the materials on the Teams site.
- Faculty Council members are asked to take the Strategic Plan report from the Dean back to their school councils. Volunteers for any of the projects can send Cheryl Brown an email – [Cheryl.brown@dal.ca](mailto:Cheryl.brown@dal.ca).