

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES GENERAL MEETING 10 NOVEMBER 2015

IN ATTENDANCE: 42 members, Jackie Osterman (Assistant Dean), Christine Kawerau (Recording Secretary)

BY INVITATION: Rowena Muhic-Day (Study Abroad and Liaison Coordinator), Sabrina Wassel (Administrative Assistant, HTLC), Elizabeth Williams (Academic Advisor), Jennifer Richardson (Academic Advisor)

REGRETS: 12 regrets received

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 13 OCTOBER 2015

The dean called for any questions or comments about the minutes. There were none. M. O'Connor **MOTIONED** and I. Kucerova **SECONDED** the motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of 13 October 2015. The motion **CARRIED** unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING

Dr. A. Moro welcomed Sabrina Wassel as the new administrative assistant for HTLC, and Elizabeth Williams as the new academic advisor for the faculty.

THE PROVOST'S TASK FORCE ON FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN THE HUMANITIES, SOCIAL SCIENCES, AND SCIENCE

The task force consists of two members from each faculty conducting discussions and interviews with various people, including each of the deans and the provost, to get a sense of what the critical issues are at the moment. The task force has examined policies and institutional structures that have put barriers in place, and has been asked not to develop scenarios where those barriers might be removed. The new budget model proves to be one, but not the only barrier.

When the committee first formed, it was thought that the result might be an amalgamation. However the provost stated this is not the case. It is more about reimagining and rethinking current processes, and allowing for more interdisciplinary study. One scenario may be amalgamation. However, another may be first year only unification. Students will come into a general arts and sciences type of program, and then choose their program and faculty.

W. Waluchow added that right now it is difficult for students to take advantage of opportunities outside of their own faculty. The current structure works against this, but it must be considered whether or not merging in these ways would pose any problems.

Dr. O'Connor added that a merger of the faculties is not the goal of the committee, but it is a possible scenario that they will discuss.

D. Coleman said, based on his experience sitting on the Taskforce for Interdisciplinary Programs Committee, the focus was trying to establish teaching relationships between faculties; without access to the budget, this is difficult to do. The new budget model is creating a silo effect, making it difficult to release funds and teaching units.

D. Goellnicht said as director of the Globalization Program there were a series of ad hoc arrangements made; the result of this, with a few notable exceptions, was that Globalization was becoming a Social Sciences enterprise. The budget model seems to drive everything.

T. Flynn asked how the task force envisions change if the budget model were not a factor. Dr. O'Connor said it would begin with a discussion of pedagogy and university-wide contribution. Dr. Waluchow gave an example where more Humanities students could take courses in the sciences. Yet, currently there is motivation not to allow outside students into courses.

The report is due in February. The committee hasn't been told yet what the steps will be after that.

Discussion ensued regarding obstacles created by the new budget model. Dr. Cruikshank said if the committee is concerned about the budget, the question needs to be why the new budget model isn't working. It was in fact supposed to reward interdisciplinary efforts and reduce silo effects. Dr. O'Connor said one answer they were given was there isn't enough money in the University Fund. Dr. Baade noted the issue of the different ways in which teaching is resourced in Humanities.

P. Swett asked, in keeping with the ideal skills with which we want students to graduate, has there been any discussion regarding required literacy courses for science students, and required numeracy courses for humanities students. W. Waluchow said it certainly has come up, and it is an idea that the dean of Science found very intriguing.

Members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of amalgamating the three faculties into one, and whether this would be a beneficial or detrimental in a university that appears dominated by professional faculties.

Dr. O'Connor encouraged everyone to email her or Dr. Waluchow if there were any further comments. The dean thanked the committee for their work thus far.

ORDER OF THE DAY: PROPOSED CHANGES FROM THE UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM AND CALENDAR COMMITTEE

i. Proposal for Bachelor of Integrated Business and Humanities (Honours)

Dr. E. Mohammad [Associate Dean, Business] presented the proposal. He pointed to issues within the business programs, and what could be done to better them. Employers are concerned with their employees' communication and leadership skills. The first business school, the Wharton School of Business, was established solely for this purpose. The goals were to teach history, philosophy, and the arts. This is what made good leaders. He approached Dr. Moro with this idea, and they have since been working on it. Dr. Moro added that the Faculty owes a debt to Dr. Mohammad for the specialized minor in commerce. Dr. Mohammad then asked for any questions.

Dr. Swett asked about the electives in the proposal, and whether those were still up for discussion and open to more course proposals. Dr. Mohammad said yes, this is absolutely still a talking point.

Dr. Moro **MOTIONED** and M. Armstrong **SECONDED** the motion to approve the proposal for the Bachelor of Integrated Business and Humanities (Honours) and bring it forward at Undergraduate Council. The motion **CARRIED** unanimously.

ii. Proposal for Revisions to the General Academic Regulations

Dr. James Gillett [Associate Dean, Social Sciences] spoke to this proposal. In Social Sciences, where time was spent looking at the relationship between 3 and 4-year programs, many students who have a GPA lower than 5 are not necessarily poor performing students. It often means they had a difficult first year, or were in a program that ended up not suiting them. The idea is to create a way where these students could be given a chance to go into Honours on a preliminary basis. Probation would be lowered to 4.0.

He clarified that this is not a request to lower the standards of our Honours programs, but rather it will make it easier to get the chance to aim for it. Social Sciences and Humanities are so connected that there is often attempts to follow each other's regulations.

In Humanities there are fewer students who would benefit from this change than in Social Sciences. Dr. Moro added that with the proposed wording, personal circumstances of students can also be considered. Limited enrolment and direct entry programs would be exempted.

Discussion then ensued among the faculty regarding this potential change. A member wondered if there would ever be circumstances where we would turn them down. Dr. Gillett said the goal is to advise students to make the best decision for them, which may mean telling students this would not work for them. The goal is to find mechanisms to help students; if it results in problems then it can be revisited. Dr. Cruikshank added that this doesn't cause a change to program requirements. What it does allow is some discretion for the advisors.

A member said that the wording did not appear overly clear, that if this were to go through, it should have a note stating that an average of a 4.0 and 4.4 may allow the student to register in an honours program on program probation for one reviewing period.

Dr. Moro **MOTIONED** and Dr. W. Renwick **SECONDED** the motion to approve the proposed changes on the addendum that the range be clarified. The motion **CARRIED**.

iii. Report from the Undergraduate Curriculum and Calendar Committee

The report was presented by the committee's chair, Dr. J. Sokalski. This year's changes are not overly heavy. Dr. Sokalski thanked Dr. Moro, Ms. Osterman, and Ms. Kalnins for their help on this report, as well as the rest of the committee. Each area requires its own motion and approval. Every program has developed its own strategy in regards to the removal of cross-listings. Revisions to courses have been made in light of this.

Studio Art

Two new courses have been opened to Multimedia students. There are three new level IV courses riding on instructors teaching similar level III courses. There are also some course deletions. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. K. Kinder **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Studio Art as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Art History

Many new courses have been added, and several new cross-listings made available from Classics. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. S. McKay **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Art History as described in this report. A member asked after the possibility of keeping cross-listed courses if desired. Dr. Sokalski replied that due to its size, it would like to keep the cross-listings it has, and this is something to which the committee agreed. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Music

Certain aspects of program requirements were revised. Solo performance exists at levels I and II, they are requesting it be required for level III as well. There is also a new course code for non-program students pursuing the Diploma in Music Performance who are taking the central course. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. Kinder **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Music as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Theatre & Film Studies

Theatre & Film created a new course list in which all former cross-listed courses will be placed. These were also added to the minor requirements. A new course in visual storytelling has been added, which hopes to provide students with the opportunity to make their own small digital films. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. M. Armstrong **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Theatre & Film Studies as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Classics

Classics is removing some of their cross listings, while some are being added with art history. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. S. Corner **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Classics as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Communication Studies

CMST 2CC3 is being changed to a level III course to be done by the end of third year. Professional Writing is also being moved to level III to address high student enrolment. Changes to program requirements were also made in light of the removal of certain cross listings. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. A. Mactavish **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Communication Studies as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Multimedia

Last year, the curriculum changed to not allow multimedia courses for electives. However, there is enough space for students in the lighter media courses for upper-year electives. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. Mactavish **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Multimedia as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

English and Cultural Studies

Updates were made to the requirement lists due to changes in cross listings. New courses have been added, including a new seminar that builds on earlier courses in genre fiction. Deletions of courses not offered for a long time were made. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. M. O'Connor **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for English and Cultural Studies as described in this report. The motion **CARRIED** unanimously.

French

New courses were added, including one that focuses on women's writing and another in keeping with the focus on diversity. A new level II course takes up the idea of knowledge and embraces visual culture. A new level IV seminar was added, and deletions were made based on faculty retirements. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. E. Nshimiyimana **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for French as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

History

Revisions to some courses were made due to cross-list deletions. A number of new courses have been added, including a new level III course in catastrophic history, which bridges histories regarding technology and the environment. A new course offering a study abroad experience (3GH3) will take students to Morocco to learn about mother-infant health. A level IV seminar will focus on the history of criminal justice in Canada. Other housekeeping items were also made. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. Swett **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for History as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Humanities

Two new level I courses were going to be made mandatory for 2016-17, but the new building and required active learning classrooms will not be ready in time. This change in requirements has been deferred to 2017-18. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. Moro **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Humanities as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Linguistics & Languages

A new level III course will offer Arabic language as part of the studying abroad experience in Morocco. Revisions were made to courses in light of cross-list deletions. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. J. Connolly **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Linguistics & Languages as described in this report. Dr. O'Connor asked if there were funds available for the study abroad course in Morocco for Humanities students. Dr. Armstrong clarified the course is a joint initiative between Humanities and Health Sciences, and students are paying for all the expenses. Dr. Swett added that it would be beneficial to find ways to help fund students; perhaps travel scholarships are an option. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

McMaster English Language Development (MELD)

Housekeeping items were made for the MELD courses. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. Moro **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for MELD as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Peace Studies

Revisions were made in light of not being able to guarantee course offerings each year. These courses were folded into larger course lists. Course options are also being added to the options for a minor. A new level II course offers work in problem-based learning with a hands-on approach in the archival collections and research around evidence. The level III practicum course, 3PA3, allows for greater flexibility over two semesters. Other housekeeping items were also done. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. N. Doubleday **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Peace Studies as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Philosophy

Revisions were made to courses in light of cross-lists being deleted. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. W. Waluchow **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Philosophy as described in this report. Dr. Mactavish noted in the J.P.P.L course lists, it still shows CMST 3I03, which should be changed to CMST 2LW3 to reflect the new course code. With this amendment, the motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Women's Studies

Revisions were made based on the deletion of cross-lists. The way courses were listed for the minor have been changed, and is now similar to Peace Studies. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. I. Kucerova **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty approve for recommendation to

Undergraduate Council the curricular revisions for Women's Studies as described in this report. The motioned **CARRIED** unanimously.

Dr. Sokalski noted that this report and its motions for approval were brought forward on behalf of the committee, and further amendments might be needed for the calendar copy due to the deletion of some cross-listed courses. Dr. Sokalski **MOTIONED** and Dr. Moro **SECONDED** the motion that the faculty allow the assistant and associate deans' to make necessary housekeeping changes for the calendar copy. The motion **CARRIED**.

Dr. Moro thanked Dr. Sokalski for his hard work chairing the committee, and J. Osterman for her work in this as the new assistant dean.

PROPOSAL FOR PH.D. IN COMMUNICATION, NEW MEDIA, AND CULTURAL STUDIES

Dr. Mactavish presented the proposal, which is a collaboration between the departments of Communication Studies and Multimedia and English and Cultural Studies. The three principal writers of this proposal are Drs. C. Baade, M. O'Connor, and S. O'Brien, along with Dr. P. Walmsley and himself.

The program is aimed to help prepare students for what is being called the digital economy. It is a small program that would accept three students annually, and is budget friendly. It has received much support from the university and is listed in the strategic mandate. Both the faculty and the School of Graduate Studies have been very helpful in bringing this forward. Dr. Mactavish **MOTIONED** for the approval of the proposal by the faculty, and Dr. O'Connor **SECONDED** the motion. Dr. McKay asked if there would be any Teaching Assistantships offered. Dr. Mactavish replied yes, the students would be funded. Dr. Sokalski added that there is growing interest in digital humanities, and wondered if the title of the Ph.D. could reflect that. Dr. Mactavish responded that digital humanities as a term is fairly contested. Also, there is already an M.A. program in Digital Media, so the current title helps to keep things consistent. Dr. Baade added that this program will help to foster the faculty's relationship with the Sherman Centre. The motion **CARRIED** unanimously.

REPORT FROM THE GRADUATE CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Dr. Swett presented the report. The committee will be meeting again in the coming days, so many programs haven't yet come forward yet. One is the aforementioned Ph.D. program. There are also two new English and Cultural Studies courses being added that reflect changing research. History has some housekeeping items, and two new courses being offered by the new Wilson Chair, who was recently appointed for January 1.

Dr. Swett **MOTIONED** and Dr. O'Connor **SECONDED** the motion for the approval of the changes brought forth through the report from the Graduate Curriculum and Policy Committee. The motion **CARRIED**.

MOTION: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES BY-LAWS

The proposed change to the by-laws reflects the desire of the Essay Prize Committee to allow for one competition instead of two. Dr. Cruikshank **MOTIONED** and Dr. M. Armstrong

SECONDED the motion to approve of the by-law changes to go forward to senate. The motion **CARRIED**.

DEAN'S REMARKS

Dr. Cruikshank had no remarks for the meeting. He noted that our program numbers reported on November 1 showed a slight decline, but not by very much.

ASSOCIATE DEAN'S REMARKS

Dr. Moro reminded everyone about Fall Preview coming up on the 21st. Lots of feedback has been received from the first Fall Preview in October, and changes will be made based on this. Dr. Moro has been helping to organize a teaching and learning event that will highlight teaching across the faculty. An invitation will go out to everyone. The tentative date has been set for December 1st.

ACTING ASSOCIATE DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH'S REMARKS

Dr. Swett announced the event, 'Setting Directions for Digital Scholarship in the Humanities', scheduled for December 4 in the Sherman Centre. A formal invitation would be forthcoming [this event was later rescheduled to 15 January 2016].

UPDATE FROM SENATE

Dr. E. Grodek gave the faculty an update from senate. The President's opening remarks addressed current initiatives of the university, and highlighted a variety of seminars and symposiums happening across campus. He gave an update on the Forward With Integrity mission, indicating that research would continue to be the focus. The President attended a meeting with Premier Kathleen Wynne, which focussed on the student experience and preparation for entrance into the workforce.

McMaster continues its participation in the second round of the Canada First Research Excellence Fund. The letter of intent was submitted on November 9. The success of this is critical not only for funding research but also because the successful university will be perceived as worth of further funding.

The search for the Vice-President (Research) continues, the incumbent should be known by July of 2016.

New scholarships were announced in the School of Business, the School of Social Work, and the Department of Kinesiology.

Dr. Jeremiah Hurley has been recommended as the new dean of Social Sciences. This has been approved and announced university-wide.

CHAIRS' AND DIRECTORS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at approximately 3:30 p.m.